

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1016171

Details

Other names	HACKNEY LAW CENTRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	02662363
Registered	1993-01-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address Hackney Law Centre
8 Lower Clapton Road
London
E5 0PD

Phone 02089855236

Email admin@hclc.org.uk

Website www.hclc.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The objects (the Objects) of the Charity are: 3.1.1 to relieve the poverty of persons who are resident, working or studying in the London Borough of Hackney and Greater London (the designated area), with priority to be given to those resident, working or studying in the London Borough of Hackney by providing such persons, and in exceptional circumstances, persons outside the designated area, with legal services which they could not otherwise obtain due to lack of means; 3.1.2 to advance the education of persons resident, working or studying in the London Borough of Hackney; 3.1.3 to advance any charitable purposes beneficial to the community for persons resident, working or studying in the London Borough of Hackney.

Activities: The charity's objects and its principal activity continues to be that of providing free accessible legal advice and representation to the local community in London Borough of Hackney.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY AND GREATER LONDON
- Hackney

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£696,856	£580,991	£1,509,486	10
2024-03-31	£684,721	£498,465	£1,393,621	10
2023-03-31	£593,819	£559,693	£1,207,365	11
2022-03-31	£622,334	£530,001	£1,173,239	11
2021-03-31	£872,845	£509,000	£1,080,906	11

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
IAN RATHBONE	Chair	
DENIZ OGUZKANLI		2015-05-21
Faruk Tinaz		2024-10-02
Ian Jeffrey Browne		2017-12-04
THOMAS HENRY GEORGE STOATE		2017-12-04
VICTOR ALPHONSO MCALLISTER		2013-07-31

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1016171

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1016171

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

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for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
for the year ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEES
I Rathbone
V A McAllister
Cllr D Oguzkanli
T H G Stoate
I J Browne
Ms A S Holt (resigned 1.2.25)

COMPANY SECRETARY S Canning

REGISTERED OFFICE
8 Lower Clapton Road
Hackney
London
E5 0PD

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 02662363 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1016171

AUDITORS
Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objects and its principal activity continues to be that of providing free accessible legal advice and representation to the local community in the London Borough of Hackney. The charity has the general aim of improving the quality of life for Hackney residents and those in the wider area who are on low incomes by working towards its principal activity, and improving rights and access of those rights by the wider community.

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are to:

- (i) Target communities of need for social welfare law advice with high quality specialist services of salaried staff and volunteers;
- (ii) Encourage participation in governance of the law centre by local residents;
- (iii) Where possible to bring test cases that are capable of bringing about widespread changes to residents' rights;
- (iv) Improving residents' knowledge of their rights through education and policy work.

Development, activities and achievements this year

The Law Centre continues to operate hybrid working for staff and face to face services. Access to legal advice was transacted through our daily telephone advice service and appointments only.

Overall, the Law Centre helped over 3,000 people and conducted casework and representation in the areas of housing, immigration, employment, and welfare benefits. In addition, our daily telephone help line provided immediate practical advice and information in all general areas of law.

We continued to deliver advice services in collaboration with our Hackney Advice Network partners and Hackney Council ensuring that residents were able to access specialist legal advice. Our social welfare team have been providing advice and support to vulnerable families and households in Hackney supported by the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

We also hold weekly housing advice sessions at the Waltham Forest Advice Hub.

Future developments

Building on existing achievements the Law Centre hopes to achieve the following:

- * Expand its housing advice service building on its work with Waltham Forest Advice Hub
- * Build on its partnership with Hackney Advice Network
- * To seek and attract new sources of funding

Following pressures on local authority funding Hackney Council have launched a new grant funded advice programme for 2026. Current funding will terminate in December 2025.

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and aims of the charity described above, enable it to meet its obligations to the Charity Commission to deliver aid and assistance to the local community in Hackney.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The principal funding source of the Law Centre continues to be the London Borough of Hackney and the Legal Aid Agency. We acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of those who give grant funding to the Law Centre including the City Bridge Trust and the National Lottery Fund.

We also receive donations from city law firms which help to support volunteer legal surgeries at the Law Centre.

The Law Centre has continued efforts to secure funds and develop projects such as expanding access to justice for people from BME communities and tackling problems associated with youth homelessness. Professional legal services provided by salaried staff, and volunteer services and community work has been maintained.

The Centre's gross income was higher this year at £696,856 against £684,721 while expenditure increased to £580,991 from £498,465. This resulted in a decrease in net incoming resources of £115,865 against £186,256 for the previous year. At the year end restricted funds amount to £Nil (2024: £Nil.), whilst unrestricted funds which were £593,621 at the previous year's end, increased to a balance of £609,486 and with designated funds of £900,000 this makes the total unrestricted funds of £1,509,486.

There has been a significant change to the operation of the Contract with the Legal Services Agency(LAA). Payments under the contract are now paid in arrears, leaving the Centre with a significant sum shown as work in progress in the accounts. This has left a new challenge in managing cash flow, which has been met admirably and remains a high management priority.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a level of reserves equivalent to at least six months operating costs in order to plan for any shortfalls or reductions in funding during the year, excluding designated funds. Current reserves at 31 March 2025 were £609,486. Designated funds which is for staff and premises contingencies increased to £900,000.

FUTURE PLANS

The Directors and Trustees aim to secure stability of the Law Centre in order that services to the local community can be maintained and where possible improved upon.

The impact of the current cost of living crisis and the anticipated contraction in funding poses significant challenges for the organisation in the next two years. We have recently secured a National Lottery grant for five years which started in 2023 and a grant from the City Bridge Trust.

The Law Centre continues to maintain improvements in efficiency to maximising legal aid as a source of revenue including ensuring that we maintain compliance with the LAA's Client and Cost Management System (CCMS) for all certificated work. At the time of the financial audit the Legal Aid Agency's portal was suspended following a major cyber security breach. This has had a major disruptive impact on our current work as we have been unable to submit legal aid bills since May 2025 through the portal. To mitigate the impact, the LAA has introduced contingency arrangements to process payments and transact new work and instructions. The LAA has announced that it aims to restore access to the system from September 2025 following enhanced security improvements.

We have recently reviewed and updated our memorandum and articles of association to bring them up to date with current Charity Commission requirements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company is a charity and is limited by guarantee, and not having a share capital, each member undertakes to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up. The company is bound by its memorandum and articles of association.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The company is controlled by a board of directors (trustees) who are independent and receive no remuneration for their involvement. Day to day management is delegated to the Manager, Sean Canning.

The Directors and Trustees of the Law Centre carry out an Annual Review of the Law Centre's service, provision, finances and strategic approach in the course of approving the Law Centre's three-year rolling Business Plan.

An aspect of this is the consideration of the challenges and risks that the Law Centre will be facing and the strategies which are appropriate in order to mitigate those risks.

Systems and procedures are established to limit identified risks and to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of those risks materialise.

The Trustees also considered ongoing risks and the systems and procedures in place to mitigate them. Consideration of the risk of legal action focused on showing that adequate systems were in place to ensure that advice and legal work provided by the Law Centre met criteria laid down by the Law Society Lexcel Practice Management Standards and LAA to ensure good quality service delivery and sound management systems. Procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with service level agreements with other funders including London Borough of Hackney and the LAA. Professional indemnity cover is now in line with LAA's requirements to £2,000,000 per case.

A review of the office insurance and management systems was also considered and monitored on an ongoing basis to :-

a) minimise detrimental financial impact due to accidents or other unforeseen events such as theft, fire, flood or loss of data and;

b) find best value for money.

Financial monitoring systems are monitored regularly both internally and externally. Regular weekly checks by staff and monthly reports to Directors and Trustees minimise unforeseen financial contingencies. External auditing and monitoring by an independent auditor, the London Borough of Hackney Grants Officer, and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), the LAA and Charities Commission provide external checks.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on the legal obligations under charity and company law, the constitutional documents, decision making processes, business planning and financial procedures and performance.

Key management remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Key management compensation in year	<u>106,738</u>	<u>106,738</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees are satisfied that strategic planning, careful consideration by the Directors of the financial results, variance from budgets and reviews of substantive casework, together with an effective complaints systems and the appropriate delegation of authority to staff, minimises the identified risks.

Acknowledgement of the risks involves consideration of the type of risks that the Law Centre might face, the level of risks which are regarded as acceptable, the likelihood of the risks materialising and the Law Centre's ability to reduce the incidence of business risks that do materialise on the one hand and the costs of averting the materialisation of those risks on the other.

The primary risk that the project faces is financial, due to continued cuts or withdrawal of funding from either of our two major funders, the London Borough of Hackney or the funding provided by the Legal Aid Agency. To mitigate this, the trustees have set up two designated funds to maintain reserves. The property fund was significantly increased to mitigate the risk of losing the current premises.

Through prudence and good financial management, we have managed to accumulate reserves to help us to put the law centre on a longer term firm financial footing. Prior to the pandemic we explored through purchasing via part-mortgaging, our own premises, close to the administrative centre of Hackney where many of our clients have to go to deal with their housing and benefits situations. We continue to explore potential options given the constraints of the property market.

Like many of our clients, we too are subject to the burgeoning property market that has grown in Hackney in recent years, leading to inflated property prices and rents.

As we continue to explore the property market situation, we have decided to keep the funds as a property fund. Should we ever decide to take an alternative route and move to new rented premises, we would have to use some of these funds to supplement payment of any rent. At present we have not had to pay rent through a negotiated settlement more than 20 years ago with Hackney Council regarding our current premises.

We are very aware of the need to be responsible for the particular survival of the law centre as the place where those in Hackney who are poor and vulnerable and seeking access to justice can find that aspiration fulfilled.

The effects of changes in how public funding of legal services are financed are also considered at length and in depth with respect to how this may affect a) total funding b) funding patterns (cashflow).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hackney Community Law Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

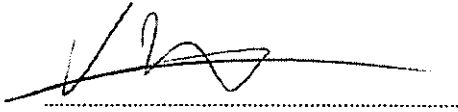
In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Berringers LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30.9.25 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
V.A. McAllister - Trustee

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Community Law Centre (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the independent auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report or in preparing the Report of the trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the independent auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and error, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, control environment and business performance;
- results of our enquiries to management about their own assessment of the risks of fraud and error;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud may occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

Our procedures to respond to risk include the following:

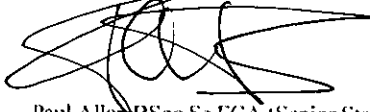
- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected areas that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error;
- addressing the risk of fraud and error through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journals, assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Allan BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

Date: 30/9/2025

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	7,433	-	-	7,433	12,714
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	4	454,880	-	186,510	641,390	654,573
Investment income	3	48,033	-	-	48,033	17,434
Total		<u>510,346</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>186,510</u>	<u>696,856</u>	<u>684,721</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	5	394,481	-	186,510	580,991	498,465
NET INCOME						
Transfers between funds	14	115,865 (100,000)	- 100,000	- -	115,865 -	186,256 -
Net movement in funds		<u>15,865</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>115,865</u>	<u>186,256</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		593,621	800,000	-	1,393,621	1,207,365
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>609,486</u></u>	<u><u>900,000</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,509,486</u></u>	<u><u>1,393,621</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

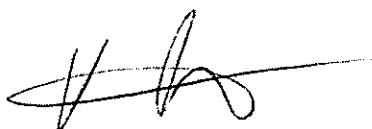
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	10	5,484	-	-	5,484	6,433
CURRENT ASSETS						
Work in progress	11	53,949	100,000	-	153,949	198,412
Debtors	12	216,205	-	-	216,205	190,429
Cash at bank		391,656	800,000	-	1,191,656	1,050,941
		<u>661,810</u>	<u>900,000</u>	-	<u>1,561,810</u>	<u>1,439,782</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(57,808)	-	-	(57,808)	(52,594)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>604,002</u>	<u>900,000</u>	-	<u>1,504,002</u>	<u>1,387,188</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>609,486</u>	<u>900,000</u>	-	<u>1,509,486</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>609,486</u>	<u>900,000</u>	-	<u>1,509,486</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>
FUNDS						
Unrestricted funds	14				<u>1,509,486</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>1,509,486</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30.9.25 and were signed on its behalf by:



V.A. McAllister - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	95,777	182,562
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>95,777</u>	<u>182,562</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,095)	(3,501)
Interest received		48,033	17,434
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>44,938</u>	<u>13,933</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		140,715	196,495
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>1,050,941</u>	<u>854,446</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>1,191,656</u></u>	<u><u>1,050,941</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of financial activities)	115,865	186,256
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,044	3,466
Interest received	(48,033)	(17,434)
Decrease/(increase) in work in progress	44,463	(18,336)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(25,776)	10,247
Increase in creditors	5,214	18,363
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash provided by operations	95,777	182,562
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Cash flow	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	1,050,941	140,715	1,191,656
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,050,941	140,715	1,191,656
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1,050,941	140,715	1,191,656
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions under the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance and 20% on cost

Work in progress

Work in progress is valued at the rate it is expected to be received.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		2025	2024
		£	£
Donations		<u>7,433</u>	<u>12,714</u>
3. INVESTMENT INCOME		2025	2024
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>48,033</u>	<u>17,434</u>
4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2025	2024
	Activity	£	£
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	Provision of legal services and advice	296,880	357,360
Grants	Provision of legal services and advice	<u>344,510</u>	<u>297,213</u>
		<u>641,390</u>	<u>654,573</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:			
		2025	2024
		£	£
London Legal Support Trust		10,000	10,000
London Borough of Hackney		148,000	148,000
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)		98,121	75,265
City Bridge Trust Grant		53,333	52,167
Waltham Forest Community Hub		<u>35,056</u>	<u>11,781</u>
		<u>344,510</u>	<u>297,213</u>
5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS		2025	2024
		£	£
Staff costs		467,204	398,032
Accommodation costs		37,105	28,524
Other support costs		<u>72,382</u>	<u>67,609</u>
		<u>576,691</u>	<u>494,165</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

6. SUPPORT COSTS

		Governance costs £
Provision of legal services and advice		<u>4,300</u>
Other		
	2025	2024
	£	£
	Support	Total
	costs	activities
Practicing certificates	1,191	1,011
Staff welfare	2,762	3,314
Telephone	4,010	4,665
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,035	8,090
Computer accessories, software & support	15,230	13,333
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	6,684	6,617
Accountancy	3,150	3,125
Miscellaneous expenses	6,876	6,661
Recruitment & training	18,260	11,987
Legal & professional fees	2,140	5,340
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	4,044	3,466
	<u>72,382</u>	<u>67,609</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	4,300	4,300
Depreciation - owned assets	4,044	3,466
	<u>8,344</u>	<u>7,766</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

9. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	401,429	345,753
Social security costs	37,950	30,686
Other pension costs	27,825	21,593
	<u>467,204</u>	<u>398,032</u>

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

	2025	2024
Legal Advisors	8	8
Administrative	2	2
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 April 2024	80,822
Additions	3,095
At 31 March 2025	<u>83,917</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2024	74,389
Charge for year	4,044
At 31 March 2025	<u>78,433</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,484</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>6,433</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

11. WORK IN PROGRESS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Work in Progress	<u>153,949</u>	<u>198,412</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	199,677	172,220
Prepayments and accrued income	9,167	8,833
Prepayments	<u>7,361</u>	<u>9,376</u>
	<u>216,205</u>	<u>190,429</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	5,906	9,501
VAT	18,859	9,318
Other creditors	264	488
Accruals and deferred income	<u>24,344</u>	<u>25,088</u>
Accrued expenses	<u>8,435</u>	<u>8,199</u>
	<u>57,808</u>	<u>52,594</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	593,621	115,865	(100,000)	609,486
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Premises fund	<u>700,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>
	<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>115,865</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,509,486</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>115,865</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,509,486</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	510,346	(394,481)	115,865
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	98,121	(98,121)	-
Tribunals Caseworker	53,333	(53,333)	-
Triage Coordinator	35,056	(35,056)	-
	<u>186,510</u>	<u>(186,510)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>696,856</u>	<u>(580,991)</u>	<u>115,865</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	407,365	186,256	593,621
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	100,000
Premises fund	700,000	-	700,000
	<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>186,256</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>186,256</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	545,508	(359,252)	186,256
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	75,265	(75,265)	-
Tribunals Caseworker	52,167	(52,167)	-
Triage Coordinator	11,781	(11,781)	-
	<u>139,213</u>	<u>(139,213)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>684,721</u>	<u>(498,465)</u>	<u>186,256</u>

Reaching Communities. This was funded by National Lottery Fund to offer specialist housing and welfare benefits services.

Triage Coordinator. This was funded by Waltham Forest Community Hub in partnership with Trust for London.

Tribunals Caseworker. This was funded by The City Bridge Trust for a Tribunals Caseworker to provide advice and support benefit clients on appeals to the First- and Upper-Tier Tribunals, and as a small contribution to overheads.

Transfers between funds

The Trustees have provided £100,000 for a staff contingency fund to cover additional staff costs relating to recruitment and retention of staff which reflect costs of living pressures and have decided to maintain the current allocation.

Additionally the Trustees have set aside £800,000 to cover future building and maintenance costs associated with the current premises at 8 Lower Clapton Road,.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	7,433	12,714
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	48,033	17,434
Charitable activities		
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	296,880	357,360
Grants	344,510	297,213
	<u>641,390</u>	<u>654,573</u>
Total incoming resources	696,856	684,721
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages & locums	401,429	345,753
Social security	37,950	30,686
Pensions	27,825	21,593
Rates and water	4,990	5,120
Insurance	3,184	2,904
Light and heat	6,734	12,037
Repairs, renewals & maintenance	22,197	8,463
Practicing certificates	1,191	1,011
Staff welfare	2,762	3,314
Telephone	4,010	4,665
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,035	8,090
Computer accessories, software & support	15,230	13,333
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	6,684	6,617
Accountancy	3,150	3,125
Miscellaneous expenses	6,876	6,661
Recruitment & training	18,260	11,987
Legal & professional fees	2,140	5,340
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	4,044	3,466
	<u>576,691</u>	<u>494,165</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	4,300	4,300
Total resources expended	580,991	498,465
Net income	115,865	186,256

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1016171

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1016171

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

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for the year ended 31 March 2024**

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HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
for the year ended 31 March 2024

TRUSTEES	I Rathbone V A McAllister Ms H A A Ojo (resigned 15.11.2023) Cllr D Oguzkanli T H G Stoate I J Browne Ms A S Holt
COMPANY SECRETARY	S Canning
REGISTERED OFFICE	8 Lower Clapton Road Hackney London E5 0PD
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1016171
AUDITORS	Berringers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Lygon House 50 London Road Bromley Kent BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objects and its principal activity continues to be that of providing free accessible legal advice and representation to the local community in the London Borough of Hackney. The charity has the general aim of improving the quality of life for Hackney residents and those in the wider area who are on low incomes by working towards its principal activity, and improving rights and access of those rights by the wider community.

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are to:

- (i) Target communities of need for social welfare law advice with high quality specialist services of salaried staff and volunteers;
- (ii) Encourage participation in governance of the law centre by local residents;
- (iii) Where possible to bring test cases that are capable of bringing about widespread changes to residents' rights;
- (iv) Improving residents' knowledge of their rights through education and policy work.

Development, activities and achievements this year

As the impact of Covid-19 recedes, the Law Centre continues to operate hybrid working for staff and face to face services. Access to legal advice was transacted through our daily telephone advice service and appointments only.

Overall, during the pandemic caseworkers at the Law Centre helped over 3,000 people and opened over 1,000 new cases in the areas of housing, immigration, employment, and welfare benefits. In addition, our daily telephone help line provided immediate practical advice and information in all general areas of law.

We continued to deliver advice services in collaboration with our Hackney Advice Network partners and Hackney Council ensuring that residents were able to access specialist legal advice. Our social welfare team have been providing advice and support to vulnerable families and households in Hackney supported by the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

Future developments

Building on existing achievements the Law Centre hopes to achieve the following:

- * Expand its housing advice service building on its work with Waltham Forest Advice Hub
- * Build on its partnership with Hackney Advice Network
- * To seek and attract new sources of funding

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and aims of the charity described above, enable it to meet its obligations to the Charity Commission to deliver aid and assistance to the local community in Hackney.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The principal funding source of the Law Centre continues to be the London Borough of Hackney and the Legal Aid Agency. We acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of those who give grant funding to the Law Centre including the City Bridge Trust and the National Lottery Fund.

We also receive donations from city law firms which help to support volunteer legal surgeries at the Law Centre.

The Law Centre has continued efforts to secure funds and develop projects such as expanding access to justice for people from BME communities and tackling problems associated with youth homelessness. Professional legal services provided by salaried staff, and volunteer services and community work has been maintained.

The Centre's gross income was higher this year at £684,721 against £593,819 whilst expenditure decreased to £498,465 from £559,693. This resulted in an increase in net incoming resources of £186,256 against £34,126 for the previous year. At the year end, restricted funds amount to £Nil (2023: £Nil), whilst unrestricted funds, which were £407,365 at the previous year's end have increased to a balance of £593,621 and with designated funds of £800,000 this makes the total unrestricted funds of £1,393,621.

There has been a significant change to the operation of the Contract with the Legal Services Agency(LAA). Payments under the contract are now paid in arrears, leaving the Centre with a significant sum shown as work in progress in the accounts. This has left a new challenge in managing cash flow, which has been met admirably and remains a high management priority.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a level of reserves equivalent to at least six months operating costs in order to plan for any shortfalls or reductions in funding during the year, excluding designated funds. Current reserves at 31 March 2024 were £593,621. Designated funds which is for staff and premises contingencies remained the same to £800,000.

FUTURE PLANS

The Directors and Trustees aim to secure stability of the Law Centre in order that services to the local community can be maintained and where possible improved upon.

The impact of the current cost of living crisis and the anticipated contraction in funding poses significant challenges for the organisation in the next two years. We have recently secured a National Lottery grant for five years which started in 2023 and a grant from the City Bridge Trust.

The Law Centre continues to maintain improvements in efficiency to maximising legal aid as a source of revenue including ensuring that we maintain compliance with the LAA's Client and Cost Management System (CCMS) for all certificated work.

We have recently reviewed and updated our memorandum and articles of association to bring them up to date with current Charity Commission requirements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company is a charity and is limited by guarantee, and not having a share capital, each member undertakes to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up. The company is bound by its memorandum and articles of association.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The company is controlled by a board of directors (trustees) who are independent and receive no remuneration for their involvement. Day to day management is delegated to the Manager, Sean Canning.

The Directors and Trustees of the Law Centre carry out an Annual Review of the Law Centre's service, provision, finances and strategic approach in the course of approving the Law Centre's three-year rolling Business Plan.

An aspect of this is the consideration of the challenges and risks that the Law Centre will be facing and the strategies which are appropriate in order to mitigate those risks.

Systems and procedures are established to limit identified risks and to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of those risks materialise.

The Trustees also considered ongoing risks and the systems and procedures in place to mitigate them. Consideration of the risk of legal action focused on showing that adequate systems were in place to ensure that advice and legal work provided by the Law Centre met criteria laid down by the Law Society Lexcel Practice Management Standards and LAA to ensure good quality service delivery and sound management systems. Procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with service level agreements with other funders including London Borough of Hackney and the LAA. Professional indemnity cover is now in line with LAA's requirements to £2,000,000 per case.

A review of the office insurance and management systems was also considered and monitored on an ongoing basis to :-

- a) minimise detrimental financial impact due to accidents or other unforeseen events such as theft, fire, flood or loss of data and;
- b) find best value for money.

Financial monitoring systems are monitored regularly both internally and externally. Regular weekly checks by staff and monthly reports to Directors and Trustees minimise unforeseen financial contingencies. External auditing and monitoring by an independent auditor, the London Borough of Hackney Grants Officer, and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), the LAA and Charities Commission provide external checks.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on the legal obligations under charity and company law, the constitutional documents, decision making processes, business planning and financial procedures and performance.

Key management remuneration

	2024	2023
	£	£
Key management compensation in year	<u>106,738</u>	<u>103,278</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees are satisfied that strategic planning, careful consideration by the Directors of the financial results, variance from budgets and reviews of substantive casework, together with an effective complaints systems and the appropriate delegation of authority to staff, minimises the identified risks.

Acknowledgement of the risks involves consideration of the type of risks that the Law Centre might face, the level of risks which are regarded as acceptable, the likelihood of the risks materialising and the Law Centre's ability to reduce the incidence of business risks that do materialise on the one hand and the costs of averting the materialisation of those risks on the other.

The primary risk that the project faces is financial, due to continued cuts or withdrawal of funding from either of our two major funders, the London Borough of Hackney or the funding provided by the Legal Aid Agency. To mitigate this, the trustees have set up two designated funds to maintain reserves. The property fund was significantly increased to mitigate the risk of losing the current premises.

Through prudence and good financial management, we have managed to accumulate reserves to help us to put the law centre on a longer term firm financial footing. Prior to the pandemic we explored through purchasing via part-mortgaging, our own premises, close to the administrative centre of Hackney where many of our clients have to go to deal with their housing and benefits situations. We continue to explore potential options given the constraints of the property market.

Like many of our clients, we too are subject to the burgeoning property market that has grown in Hackney in recent years, leading to inflated property prices and rents.

As we continue to explore the property market situation, we have decided to keep the funds as a property fund. Should we ever decide to take an alternative route and move to new rented premises, we would have to use some of these funds to supplement payment of any rent. At present we have not had to pay rent through a negotiated settlement more than 20 years ago with Hackney Council regarding our current premises.

We are very aware of the need to be responsible for the particular survival of the law centre as the place where those in Hackney who are poor and vulnerable and seeking access to justice can find that aspiration fulfilled.

The effects of changes in how public funding of legal services are financed are also considered at length and in depth with respect to how this may affect a) total funding b) funding patterns (cashflow).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hackney Community Law Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

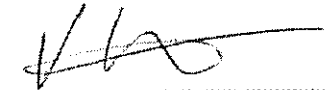
In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Berringers LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 2.10.24 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
V A McAllister - Trustee

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Community Law Centre (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the independent auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report or in preparing the Report of the trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the independent auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and error, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, control environment and business performance;
- results of our enquiries to management about their own assessment of the risks of fraud and error;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud may occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

Our procedures to respond to risk include the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected areas that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error;
- addressing the risk of fraud and error through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journals, assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Allen BSc Sc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

Date: 2/10/24

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	12,714	-	-	12,714	10,339
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	4	515,360	-	139,213	654,573	577,963
Investment income	3	17,434	-	-	17,434	5,517
Total		<u>545,508</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>139,213</u>	<u>684,721</u>	<u>593,819</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	5	359,252	-	139,213	498,465	559,693
NET INCOME		<u>186,256</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>186,256</u>	<u>34,126</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		407,365	800,000	-	1,207,365	1,173,239
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>593,621</u>	<u>800,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

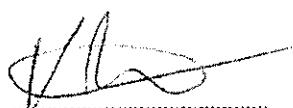
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET
31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	10	6,433	-	-	6,433	6,398
CURRENT ASSETS						
Work in progress	11	98,412	100,000	-	198,412	180,076
Debtors	12	190,429	-	-	190,429	200,676
Cash at bank		350,941	700,000	-	1,050,941	854,446
		<u>639,782</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,439,782</u>	<u>1,235,198</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(52,594)	-	-	(52,594)	(34,231)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>587,188</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,387,188</u>	<u>1,200,967</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>593,621</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>593,621</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>
FUNDS						
Unrestricted funds	14				<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>1,393,621</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21.3.24 and were signed on its behalf by:



V A McAllister - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>182,562</u>	<u>71,014</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>182,562</u>	<u>71,014</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(3,501)</u>	<u>(1,350)</u>
Interest received		<u>17,434</u>	<u>5,517</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>13,933</u>	<u>4,167</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>196,495</u>	<u>75,181</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>854,446</u>	<u>779,265</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>1,050,941</u></u>	<u><u>854,446</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2024	2023	
	£	£	
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of financial activities)	186,256	34,126	
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges	3,466	3,481	
Interest received	(17,434)	(5,517)	
Increase in work in progress	(18,336)	(39,080)	
Decrease in debtors	10,247	106,070	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	18,363	(28,066)	
	<u>182,562</u>	<u>71,014</u>	
Net cash provided by operations	<u>182,562</u>	<u>71,014</u>	
2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS			
	At 1.4.23	Cash flow	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	854,446	196,495	1,050,941
	<u>854,446</u>	<u>196,495</u>	<u>1,050,941</u>
Total	<u>854,446</u>	<u>196,495</u>	<u>1,050,941</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions under the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance and 20% on cost

Work in progress

Work in progress is valued at the rate it is expected to be received.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		2024	2023
		£	£
Donations		<u>12,714</u>	<u>10,339</u>
3. INVESTMENT INCOME		2024	2023
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>17,434</u>	<u>5,517</u>
4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2024	2023
	Activity	£	£
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	Provision of legal services and advice	357,360	349,369
Grants	Provision of legal services and advice	<u>297,213</u>	<u>228,594</u>
		<u>654,573</u>	<u>577,963</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:			
		2024	2023
		£	£
London Legal Support Trust		10,000	10,000
Hackney Parochial Charities		-	26,000
London Borough of Hackney		148,000	148,606
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)		75,265	-
Access to Justice Foundation		-	12,196
City Bridge Trust Grant		52,167	8,667
Waltham Forest Community Hub		11,781	23,125
		<u>297,213</u>	<u>228,594</u>
5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS		2024	2023
		£	£
Staff costs		398,032	456,804
Accommodation costs		28,524	40,692
Other support costs		67,609	58,097
		<u>494,165</u>	<u>555,593</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

6. SUPPORT COSTS

		Governance costs £
Provision of legal services and advice		<u>4,300</u>
Other		
	2024	2023
	£	£
	Support	Total
	costs	activities
Practicing certificates	1,011	1,580
Staff welfare	3,314	6,853
Telephone	4,665	5,180
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,090	8,507
Computer accessories, software & support	13,333	12,327
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	6,617	6,982
Accountancy	3,125	3,650
Miscellaneous expenses	6,661	4,884
Recruitment & training	11,987	2,413
Legal & professional fees	5,340	2,240
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,466	3,481
	<u>67,609</u>	<u>58,097</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	4,300	4,100
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>3,466</u>	<u>3,481</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

9. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	345,753	367,159
Social security costs	30,686	34,929
Other pension costs	21,593	54,716
	<u>398,032</u>	<u>456,804</u>

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

	2024	2023
Legal Advisors	8	8
Administrative	2	3
	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 April 2023	77,321
Additions	3,501
At 31 March 2024	<u>80,822</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2023	70,923
Charge for year	3,466
At 31 March 2024	<u>74,389</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	<u>6,433</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>6,398</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

11. WORK IN PROGRESS		2024	2023
		£	£
Work in Progress		<u>198,412</u>	<u>180,076</u>
12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		2024	2023
		£	£
Trade debtors		172,220	191,015
Prepayments and accrued income		8,833	-
Prepayments		<u>9,376</u>	<u>9,661</u>
		<u>190,429</u>	<u>200,676</u>
13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		2024	2023
		£	£
Trade creditors		9,501	5,542
VAT		9,318	15,754
Other creditors		488	347
Accruals and deferred income		25,088	4,333
Accrued expenses		<u>8,199</u>	<u>8,255</u>
		<u>52,594</u>	<u>34,231</u>
14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			
		Net	
	At 1.4.23	movement	At
	£	in funds	31.3.24
		£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	407,365	186,256	593,621
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	100,000
Premises fund	700,000	-	700,000
	<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>186,256</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>186,256</u>	<u>1,393,621</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	545,508	(359,252)	186,256
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	75,265	(75,265)	-
Tribunals Caseworker	52,167	(52,167)	-
Triage Coordinator	11,781	(11,781)	-
	<u>139,213</u>	<u>(139,213)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>684,721</u>	<u>(498,465)</u>	<u>186,256</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	373,239	34,126	407,365
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	100,000
Premises fund	700,000	-	700,000
	<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>34,126</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>34,126</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	536,027	(501,901)	34,126
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Charities	26,000	(26,000)	-
Tribunals Caseworker	8,667	(8,667)	-
Triage Coordinator	23,125	(23,125)	-
	<u>57,792</u>	<u>(57,792)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>593,819</u>	<u>(559,693)</u>	<u>34,126</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Hackney Parochial Charities. The grant funded by the Hackney Parochial Charities was to support core funding.

Reaching Communities. This was funded by National Lottery Fund to offer specialist housing and welfare benefits services.

Triage Coordinator. This was funded by Waltham Forest Community Hub in partnership with Trust for London.

Tribunals Caseworker. This was funded by The City Bridge Trust for a Tribunals Caseworker to provide advice and support benefit clients on appeals to the First- and Upper-Tier Tribunals, and as a small contribution to overheads.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	12,714	10,339
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	17,434	5,517
Charitable activities		
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	357,360	349,369
Grants	297,213	228,594
	<u>654,573</u>	<u>577,963</u>
Total incoming resources	684,721	593,819
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages & locums	345,753	367,159
Social security	30,686	34,929
Pensions	21,593	54,716
Rates and water	5,120	4,557
Insurance	2,904	5,307
Light and heat	12,037	4,477
Repairs, renewals & maintenance	8,463	26,351
Practicing certificates	1,011	1,580
Staff welfare	3,314	6,853
Telephone	4,665	5,180
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,090	8,507
Computer accessories, software & support	13,333	12,327
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	6,617	6,982
Accountancy	3,125	3,650
Miscellaneous expenses	6,661	4,884
Recruitment & training	11,987	2,413
Legal & professional fees	5,340	2,240
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,466	3,481
	<u>494,165</u>	<u>555,593</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	4,300	4,100
Total resources expended	<u>498,465</u>	<u>559,693</u>
Net income	<u>186,256</u>	<u>34,126</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1016171

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1016171

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

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for the year ended 31 March 2023

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HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

TRUSTEES	I Rathbone V A McAllister Ms H A A Ojo Cllr D Oguzkanli T H G Stoate I J Browne Ms A S Holt
COMPANY SECRETARY	S Canning
REGISTERED OFFICE	8 Lower Clapton Road Hackney London E5 0PD
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1016171
AUDITORS	Berringers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Lygon House 50 London Road Bromley Kent BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objects and its principal activity continues to be that of providing free accessible legal advice and representation to the local community in the London Borough of Hackney. The charity has the general aim of improving the quality of life for Hackney residents and those in the wider area who are on low incomes by working towards its principal activity, and improving rights and access of those rights by the wider community.

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are to:

- (i) Target communities of need for social welfare law advice with high quality specialist services of salaried staff and volunteers;
- (ii) Encourage participation in governance of the law centre by local residents;
- (iii) Where possible to bring test cases that are capable of bringing about widespread changes to residents' rights;
- (iv) Improving residents' knowledge of their rights through education and policy work.

Development, activities and achievements this year

The ongoing impact of the Covid-19 threat meant that the Law Centre had to operate remote working for staff and suspend face to face services for most of the year. Access to legal advice was transacted through our daily telephone advice service and appointments only.

Overall, during the pandemic caseworkers at the Law Centre helped over 3,000 people and opened over 1,000 new cases in the areas of housing, immigration, employment, and welfare benefits. In addition, our daily telephone help line provided immediate practical advice and information in all general areas of law.

We continued to deliver advice services in collaboration with our Hackney Advice Network partners and Hackney Council ensuring that residents were able to access specialist legal advice. Our social welfare team have been providing advice and support to vulnerable families and households in Hackney supported by the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

Future developments

Building on existing achievements the Law Centre hopes to achieve the following:

- * Continue to adapt its advice provision to ensure safe access as the Covid threat recedes, including a mix of face to face and remote appointments
- * Expand its housing advice service building on its work with Waltham Forest Advice Hub
- * Build on its partnership with Hackney Advice Network
- * To seek and attract new sources of funding

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and aims of the charity described above, enable it to meet its obligations to the Charity Commission to deliver aid and assistance to the local community in Hackney.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal funding source of the Law Centre continues to be the London Borough of Hackney and the Legal Aid Agency. We acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of those who give grant funding to the Law Centre including the Trust for London, and the National Lottery Fund.

We also receive donations from city law firms which help to support volunteer legal surgeries at the Law Centre.

The Law Centre has continued efforts to secure funds and develop projects such as expanding access to justice for people from BME communities and tackling problems associated with youth homelessness. Professional legal services provided by salaried staff, and volunteer services and community work has been maintained.

The Centre's gross income was lower this year at £593,819 against £622,334 whilst expenditure increased minimally to £559,693 from £530,001. This resulted in a decrease in net incoming resources of £34,126 against £92,333 for the previous year. At the year end, restricted funds amount to £Nil (2022: £Nil), whilst unrestricted funds, which were £373,239 at the previous year's end have increased to a balance of £407,365. With designated funds of £800,000 this makes the total unrestricted funds of £1,207,365.

There has been a significant change to the operation of the Contract with the Legal Services Agency(LAA). Payments under the contract are now paid in arrears, leaving the Centre with a significant sum shown as work in progress in the accounts. This has left a new challenge in managing cash flow, which has been met admirably and remains a high management priority.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a level of reserves equivalent to at least six months operating costs in order to plan for any shortfalls or reductions in funding during the year, excluding designated funds. Current reserves at 31 March 2023 were £407,365. Designated funds remained the same to £800,000.

FUTURE PLANS

The Directors and Trustees aim to secure stability of the Law Centre in order that services to the local community can be maintained and where possible improved upon.

The impact of Covid-19 poses significant challenges for the organisation in the next two years. We have recently secured a National Lottery grant for five years starting in 2023 and a grant from the City Bridge Trust.

The Law Centre continues to maintain improvements in efficiency to maximising legal aid as a source of revenue including ensuring that we maintain compliance with the LAA's Client and Cost Management System (CCMS) for all certificated work.

Following the implementation of data protection changes as result of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the Law Centre has reviewed and updated its data protection procedures across all areas of the business to maintain compliance with Lexcel and Charity Commission requirements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company is a charity and is limited by guarantee, and not having a share capital, each member undertakes to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up. The company is bound by its memorandum and articles of association.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The company is controlled by a board of directors (trustees) who are independent and receive no remuneration for their involvement. Day to day management is delegated to the Manager, Sean Canning.

The Directors and Trustees of the Law Centre carry out an Annual Review of the Law Centre's service, provision, finances and strategic approach in the course of approving the Law Centre's three-year rolling Business Plan.

An aspect of this is the consideration of the challenges and risks that the Law Centre will be facing and the strategies which are appropriate in order to mitigate those risks.

Systems and procedures are established to limit identified risks and to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of those risks materialise.

The Trustees also considered ongoing risks and the systems and procedures in place to mitigate them. Consideration of the risk of legal action focused on showing that adequate systems were in place to ensure that advice and legal work provided by the Law Centre met criteria laid down by the Law Society Lexcel Practice Management Standards and LAA to ensure good quality service delivery and sound management systems. Procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with service level agreements with other funders including London Borough of Hackney and the LAA. Professional indemnity cover is now in line with LAA's requirements to £2,000,000 per case.

A review of the office insurance and management systems was also considered and monitored on an ongoing basis to :-

- a) minimise detrimental financial impact due to accidents or other unforeseen events such as theft, fire, flood or loss of data and;
- b) find best value for money.

Financial monitoring systems are monitored regularly both internally and externally. Regular weekly checks by staff and monthly reports to Directors and Trustees minimise unforeseen financial contingencies. External auditing and monitoring by an independent auditor, the London Borough of Hackney Grants Officer, and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), the LAA and Charities Commission provide external checks.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on the legal obligations under charity and company law, the constitutional documents, decision making processes, business planning and financial procedures and performance.

Key management remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Key management compensation in year	<u>103,278</u>	<u>97,703</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees are satisfied that strategic planning, careful consideration by the Directors of the financial results, variance from budgets and reviews of substantive casework, together with an effective complaints systems and the appropriate delegation of authority to staff, minimises the identified risks.

Acknowledgement of the risks involves consideration of the type of risks that the Law Centre might face, the level of risks which are regarded as acceptable, the likelihood of the risks materialising and the Law Centre's ability to reduce the incidence of business risks that do materialise on the one hand and the costs of averting the materialisation of those risks on the other.

The primary risk that the project faces is financial, due to continued cuts or withdrawal of funding from either of our two major funders, the London Borough of Hackney or the funding provided by the Legal Aid Agency. To mitigate this, the trustees have set up two designated funds to maintain reserves. The property fund was significantly increased to mitigate the risk of losing the current premises.

Through prudence and good financial management, we have managed to accumulate reserves to help us to put the law centre on a longer term firm financial footing. Prior to the pandemic we explored through purchasing via part-mortgaging, our own premises, close to the administrative centre of Hackney where many of our clients have to go to deal with their housing and benefits situations. We continue to explore potential options given the constraints of the property market.

Like many of our clients, we too are subject to the burgeoning property market that has grown in Hackney in recent years, leading to inflated property prices and rents.

As we continue to explore the property market situation, we have decided to keep the funds as a property fund. Should we ever decide to take an alternative route and move to new rented premises, we would have to use some of these funds to supplement payment of any rent. At present we have not had to pay rent through a negotiated settlement more than 20 years ago with Hackney Council regarding our current premises.

We are very aware of the need to be responsible for the particular survival of the law centre as the place where those in Hackney who are poor and vulnerable and seeking access to justice can find that aspiration fulfilled.

The effects of changes in how public funding of legal services are financed are also considered at length and in depth with respect to how this may affect a) total funding b) funding patterns (cashflow).

Reserves

To ensure the future sustainability of the organisation within the context of ongoing global pandemic challenges trustees are committed to ensuring that we maintain an appropriate level of reserves based on twelve months' running costs.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hackney Community Law Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Berringers LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25.9.23 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
V A McAllister - Trustee

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Community Law Centre (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the independent auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report or in preparing the Report of the trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the independent auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and error, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, control environment and business performance;
- results of our enquiries to management about their own assessment of the risks of fraud and error;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud may occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

Our procedures to respond to risk include the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected areas that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error;
- addressing the risk of fraud and error through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journals, assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Allan BSoc Sc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

Date: 25/9/2023

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	10,339	-	-	10,339	13,798
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	4	520,171	-	57,792	577,963	607,916
Investment income	3	5,517	-	-	5,517	620
Total		<u>536,027</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,792</u>	<u>593,819</u>	<u>622,334</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Raising funds	5	-	-	-	-	500
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	6	501,901	-	57,792	559,693	529,501
Total		<u>501,901</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,792</u>	<u>559,693</u>	<u>530,001</u>
NET INCOME		34,126	-	-	34,126	92,333
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		373,239	800,000	-	1,173,239	1,080,906
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>407,365</u></u>	<u><u>800,000</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,207,365</u></u>	<u><u>1,173,239</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

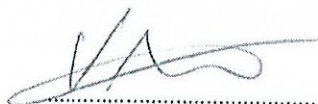
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	11	6,398	-	-	6,398	8,529
CURRENT ASSETS						
Work in progress	12	80,076	100,000	-	180,076	140,996
Debtors	13	200,676	-	-	200,676	306,746
Cash at bank		154,446	700,000	-	854,446	779,265
		<u>435,198</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,235,198</u>	<u>1,227,007</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(34,231)	-	-	(34,231)	(62,297)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>400,967</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,200,967</u>	<u>1,164,710</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>407,365</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>407,365</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>
FUNDS						
Unrestricted funds	15				<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>1,207,365</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25.3.23 and were signed on its behalf by:



V A McAllister - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>71,014</u>	<u>(24,214)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>71,014</u>	<u>(24,214)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(1,350)</u>	-
Interest received		<u>5,517</u>	<u>620</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>4,167</u>	<u>620</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>779,265</u>	<u>802,859</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>854,446</u></u>	<u><u>779,265</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of financial activities)	34,126	92,333
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,481	3,282
Interest received	(5,517)	(620)
(Increase)/decrease in work in progress	(39,080)	56,778
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	106,070	(216,275)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(28,066)	40,288
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>71,014</u>	<u>(24,214)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Cash flow	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>779,265</u>	<u>75,181</u>	<u>854,446</u>
	<u>779,265</u>	<u>75,181</u>	<u>854,446</u>
Total	<u>779,265</u>	<u>75,181</u>	<u>854,446</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions under the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance and 20% on cost

Work in progress

Work in progress is valued at the rate it is expected to be received.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		2023	2022
		£	£
Donations		<u>10,339</u>	<u>13,798</u>
3. INVESTMENT INCOME		2023	2022
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>5,517</u>	<u>620</u>
4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2023	2022
	Activity	£	£
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	Provision of legal services and advice	349,369	323,140
Grants	Provision of legal services and advice	<u>228,594</u>	<u>284,776</u>
		<u>577,963</u>	<u>607,916</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:			
		2023	2022
		£	£
London Legal Support Trust		10,000	-
Trust for London		-	38,500
Hackney Parochial Charities		26,000	30,000
London Borough of Hackney		148,606	115,000
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)		-	101,276
Access to Justice Foundation		12,196	-
City Bridge Trust Grant		8,667	-
Waltham Forest Community Hub		23,125	-
		<u>228,594</u>	<u>284,776</u>
5. RAISING FUNDS			
Raising donations and legacies		2023	2022
		£	£
Website costs		<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	456,804	446,359
Accommodation costs	40,692	23,528
Other support costs	58,097	55,614
	<u>555,593</u>	<u>525,501</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Provision of legal services and advice	<u>4,100</u>

Other

	2023	2022
	£	£
	Support costs	Total activities
Practicing certificates	1,580	2,454
Staff welfare	6,853	2,031
Telephone	5,180	6,783
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,507	9,318
Computer accessories, software & support	12,327	9,749
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	6,982	9,911
Accountancy	3,650	3,500
Miscellaneous expenses	4,884	4,489
Recruitment & training	2,413	4,097
Legal & professional fees	2,240	-
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,481	3,282
	<u>58,097</u>	<u>55,614</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	4,100	4,000
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>3,481</u>	<u>3,282</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

10. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	367,159	387,646
Social security costs	34,929	36,628
Other pension costs	54,716	22,085
	<u>456,804</u>	<u>446,359</u>

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

	2023	2022
Legal Advisors	8	8
Administrative	3	3
	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 April 2022	75,971
Additions	1,350
At 31 March 2023	<u>77,321</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2022	67,442
Charge for year	3,481
At 31 March 2023	<u>70,923</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	<u>6,398</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>8,529</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

12. WORK IN PROGRESS			
		2023	2022
		£	£
Work in Progress		<u>180,076</u>	<u>140,996</u>
13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
		2023	2022
		£	£
Trade debtors		191,015	290,117
Prepayments		<u>9,661</u>	<u>16,629</u>
		<u>200,676</u>	<u>306,746</u>
14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
		2023	2022
		£	£
Trade creditors		5,542	27,193
VAT		15,754	26,894
Other creditors		347	450
Accruals and deferred income		4,333	-
Accrued expenses		<u>8,255</u>	<u>7,760</u>
		<u>34,231</u>	<u>62,297</u>
15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			
		Net	
	At 14.22	movement	At
	£	in funds	31.3.23
		£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	373,239	34,126	407,365
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	100,000
Premises fund	700,000	-	700,000
	<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>34,126</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>34,126</u>	<u>1,207,365</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	536,027	(501,901)	34,126
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Charities	26,000	(26,000)	-
Tribunals Caseworker	8,667	(8,667)	-
Triage Coordinator	23,125	(23,125)	-
	<u>57,792</u>	<u>(57,792)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>593,819</u>	<u>(559,693)</u>	<u>34,126</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	580,906	92,333	(300,000)	373,239
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Premises fund	400,000	-	300,000	700,000
	<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>92,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>92,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	452,558	(360,225)	92,333
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Charities	30,000	(30,000)	-
Trust for London	38,500	(38,500)	-
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	101,276	(101,276)	-
	<u>169,776</u>	<u>(169,776)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>622,334</u>	<u>(530,001)</u>	<u>92,333</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Trust for London. Trust for London funded the grant for Employment service.

Hackney Parochial Charities. The grant funded by the Hackney Parochial Charities was to support core funding.

Reaching Communities. This was funded by National Lottery Fund to offer specialist housing and welfare benefits services.

Triage Coordinator. This was funded by Waltham Forest Community Hub in partnership with Trust for London.

Tribunals Caseworker. This was funded by The City Bridge Trust for a Tribunals Caseworker to provide advice and support benefit clients on appeals to the First- and Upper-Tier Tribunals, and as a small contribution to overheads.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	10,339	13,798
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	5,517	620
Charitable activities		
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	349,369	323,140
Grants	228,594	284,776
	<u>577,963</u>	<u>607,916</u>
Total incoming resources	593,819	622,334
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Website costs	-	500
Charitable activities		
Wages & locums	367,159	387,646
Social security	34,929	36,628
Pensions	54,716	22,085
Rates and water	4,557	4,557
Insurance	5,307	4,966
Light and heat	4,477	3,142
Repairs, renewals & maintenance	26,351	10,863
Practicing certificates	1,580	2,454
Staff welfare	6,853	2,031
Telephone	5,180	6,783
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,507	9,318
Computer accessories, software & support	12,327	9,749
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	6,982	9,911
Accountancy	3,650	3,500
Miscellaneous expenses	4,884	4,489
Recruitment & training	2,413	4,097
Legal & professional fees	2,240	-
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,481	3,282
	<u>555,593</u>	<u>525,501</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	4,100	4,000
Total resources expended	559,693	530,001
Net income	34,126	92,333

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1016171

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1016171

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

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for the year ended 31 March 2022**

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HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

TRUSTEES	I Rathbone V A McAllister Ms H A A Ojo Cllr D Oguzkanli T H G Stoate I J Browne Ms A S Holt
COMPANY SECRETARY	S Canning
REGISTERED OFFICE	8 Lower Clapton Road Hackney London E5 0PD
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1016171
AUDITORS	Berringers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Lygon House 50 London Road Bromley Kent BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objects and its principal activity continues to be that of providing free accessible legal advice and representation to the local community in the London Borough of Hackney. The charity has the general aim of improving the quality of life for Hackney residents and those in the wider area who are on low incomes by working towards its principal activity, and improving rights and access of those rights by the wider community.

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are to:

- (i) Target communities of need for social welfare law advice with high quality specialist services of salaried staff and volunteers;
- (ii) Encourage participation in governance of the law centre by local residents;
- (iii) Where possible to bring test cases that are capable of bringing about widespread changes to residents' rights;
- (iv) Improving residents' knowledge of their rights through education and policy work.

Development, activities and achievements this year

The ongoing impact of the Covid-19 threat meant that the Law Centre had to operate remote working for staff and suspend face to face services for most of the year. Access to legal advice was transacted through our daily telephone advice service and appointments only.

Overall, during the pandemic caseworkers at the Law Centre helped over 3,000 people and opened over 1,000 new cases in the areas of housing, immigration, employment, and welfare benefits. In addition, our daily telephone help line provided immediate practical advice and information in all general areas of law.

We continued to deliver advice services in collaboration with our Hackney Advice Network partners and Hackney Council ensuring that residents were able to access specialist legal advice. Our social welfare team have been providing advice and support to vulnerable families and households in Hackney supported by the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

At the time of writing the impact of Covid-19 continues to pose significant public health challenges to our community.

Future developments

Building on existing achievements the Law Centre hopes to achieve the following:

- * Continue to adapt its advice provision to ensure safe access as the Covid threat recedes, including a mix of face to face and remote appointments
- * Expand its housing advice service building on its work with Waltham Forest Advice Hub
- * Build on its partnership with Hackney Advice Network
- * To seek and attract new sources of funding

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and aims of the charity described above, enable it to meet its obligations to the Charity Commission to deliver aid and assistance to the local community in Hackney.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal funding source of the Law Centre continues to be the London Borough of Hackney and the Legal Aid Agency. We acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of those who give grant funding to the Law Centre including the Trust for London, and the National Lottery Fund.

We also receive donations from city law firms which help to support volunteer legal surgeries at the Law Centre.

The Law Centre has continued efforts to secure funds and develop projects such as expanding access to justice for people from BME communities and tackling problems associated with youth homelessness. Professional legal services provided by salaried staff, and volunteer services and community work has been maintained.

The Centre's gross income was lower this year at £622,334 against £872,845 whilst expenditure increased minimally to £530,001 from £509,000. This resulted in a decrease in net incoming resources of £92,333 against £363,845 for the previous year. At the year end, restricted funds amount to £Nil (2021: £Nil), whilst unrestricted funds, which were £580,906 at the previous year's end, after transferring to £300,000 designated funds, have decreased to a balance of £373,239. With designated funds of £800,000 this makes the total unrestricted funds of £1,173,239.

There has been a significant change to the operation of the Contract with the Legal Services Agency(LAA). Payments under the contract are now paid in arrears, leaving the Centre with a significant sum shown as work in progress in the accounts. This has left a new challenge in managing cash flow, which has been met admirably and remains a high management priority.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a level of reserves equivalent to at least six months operating costs in order to plan for any shortfalls or reductions in funding during the year, excluding designated funds. Current reserves at 31 March 2022 were £373,239. Designated funds were increased to £800,000.

FUTURE PLANS

The Directors and Trustees aim to secure stability of the Law Centre in order that services to the local community can be maintained and where possible improved upon.

The impact of Covid-19 poses significant challenges for the organisation in the next two years. We face a reduction in grant funding from March 2022 as current grant streams from the Trust for London, National Lottery Fund and Hackney Council come to an end.

The Law Centre continues to maintain improvements in efficiency to maximising legal aid as a source of revenue including ensuring that we maintain compliance with the LAA's Client and Cost Management System (CCMS) for all certificated work.

Following the implementation of data protection changes as result of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the Law Centre has reviewed and updated its data protection procedures across all areas of the business to maintain compliance with Lexcel and Charity Commission requirements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company is a charity and is limited by guarantee, and not having a share capital, each member undertakes to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up. The company is bound by its memorandum and articles of association.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The company is controlled by a board of directors (trustees) who are independent and receive no remuneration for their involvement. Day to day management is delegated to the Manager, Sean Canning.

The Directors and Trustees of the Law Centre carry out an Annual Review of the Law Centre's service, provision, finances and strategic approach in the course of approving the Law Centre's three-year rolling Business Plan.

An aspect of this is the consideration of the challenges and risks that the Law Centre will be facing and the strategies which are appropriate in order to mitigate those risks.

Systems and procedures are established to limit identified risks and to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of those risks materialise.

The Trustees also considered ongoing risks and the systems and procedures in place to mitigate them. Consideration of the risk of legal action focused on showing that adequate systems were in place to ensure that advice and legal work provided by the Law Centre met criteria laid down by the Law Society Lexcel Practice Management Standards and LAA to ensure good quality service delivery and sound management systems. Procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with service level agreements with other funders including London Borough of Hackney and the LAA. Professional indemnity cover is now in line with LAA's requirements to £2,000,000 per case.

A review of the office insurance and management systems was also considered and monitored on an ongoing basis to :-

- a) minimise detrimental financial impact due to accidents or other unforeseen events such as theft, fire, flood or loss of data and;
- b) find best value for money.

Financial monitoring systems are monitored regularly both internally and externally. Regular weekly checks by staff and monthly reports to Directors and Trustees minimise unforeseen financial contingencies. External auditing and monitoring by an independent auditor, the London Borough of Hackney Grants Officer, and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), the LAA and Charities Commission provide external checks.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on the legal obligations under charity and company law, the constitutional documents, decision making processes, business planning and financial procedures and performance.

Key management remuneration

	2022	2021
	£	£
Key management compensation in year	<u>97,703</u>	<u>92,740</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees are satisfied that strategic planning, careful consideration by the Directors of the financial results, variance from budgets and reviews of substantive casework, together with an effective complaints systems and the appropriate delegation of authority to staff, minimises the identified risks.

Acknowledgement of the risks involves consideration of the type of risks that the Law Centre might face, the level of risks which are regarded as acceptable, the likelihood of the risks materialising and the Law Centre's ability to reduce the incidence of business risks that do materialise on the one hand and the costs of averting the materialisation of those risks on the other.

The primary risk that the project faces is financial, due to continued cuts or withdrawal of funding from either of our two major funders, the London Borough of Hackney or the funding provided by the Legal Aid Agency. To mitigate this, the trustees have set up two designated funds to maintain reserves. The property fund was significantly increased to mitigate the risk of losing the current premises.

Through prudence and good financial management, we have managed to accumulate reserves to help us to put the law centre on a longer term firm financial footing. Prior to the pandemic we explored through purchasing via part-mortgaging, our own premises, close to the administrative centre of Hackney where many of our clients have to go to deal with their housing and benefits situations. We continue to explore potential options given the constraints of the property market.

Like many of our clients, we too are subject to the burgeoning property market that has grown in Hackney in recent years, leading to inflated property prices and rents.

As we continue to explore the property market situation, we have decided to keep the funds as a property fund. Should we ever decide to take an alternative route and move to new rented premises, we would have to use some of these funds to supplement payment of any rent. At present we have not had to pay rent through a negotiated settlement more than 20 years ago with Hackney Council regarding our current premises.

We are very aware of the need to be responsible for the particular survival of the law centre as the place where those in Hackney who are poor and vulnerable and seeking access to justice can find that aspiration fulfilled.

The effects of changes in how public funding of legal services are financed are also considered at length and in depth with respect to how this may affect a) total funding b) funding patterns (cashflow).

Reserves

To ensure the future sustainability of the organisation within the context of ongoing global pandemic challenges trustees are committed to ensuring that we maintain an appropriate level of reserves based on twelve months' running costs.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hackney Community Law Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Berringers LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 01.08.22..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
V A McAllister - Trustee

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Community Law Centre (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the independent auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report or in preparing the Report of the trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the independent auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and error, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, control environment and business performance;
- results of our enquiries to management about their own assessment of the risks of fraud and error;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud may occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

Our procedures to respond to risk include the following:

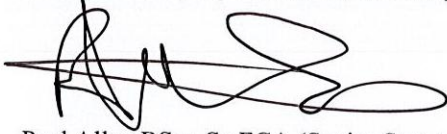
- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected areas that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error;
- addressing the risk of fraud and error through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journals, assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Allan BSoc Sc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

Date:1/9/2022.....

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	13,798	-	-	13,798	22,405
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	4	438,140	-	169,776	607,916	849,294
Investment income	3	620	-	-	620	1,146
Total		452,558	-	169,776	622,334	872,845
EXPENDITURE ON						
Raising funds	5	500	-	-	500	50
Charitable activities						
Provision of legal services and advice	6	359,725	-	169,776	529,501	508,950
Total		360,225	-	169,776	530,001	509,000
NET INCOME		92,333	-	-	92,333	363,845
Transfers between funds	15	(300,000)	300,000	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(207,667)	300,000	-	92,333	363,845
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		580,906	500,000	-	1,080,906	717,061
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		373,239	800,000	-	1,173,239	1,080,906

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	11	8,529	-	-	8,529	11,811
CURRENT ASSETS						
Work in progress	12	40,996	100,000	-	140,996	197,774
Debtors	13	306,746	-	-	306,746	90,471
Cash at bank		79,265	700,000	-	779,265	802,859
		<u>427,007</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,227,007</u>	<u>1,091,104</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(62,297)	-	-	(62,297)	(22,009)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>364,710</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,164,710</u>	<u>1,069,095</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>373,239</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>1,080,906</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>373,239</u>	<u>800,000</u>	-	<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>1,080,906</u>
FUNDS	15					
Unrestricted funds					<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>1,080,906</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>1,173,239</u>	<u>1,080,906</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 1.8.2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



V A McAllister - Trustee

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(24,214)</u>	<u>342,104</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(24,214)</u>	<u>342,104</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(11,665)
Interest received		<u>620</u>	<u>1,146</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>620</u>	<u>(10,519)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>802,859</u>	<u>471,274</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>779,265</u></u>	<u><u>802,859</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of financial activities)	92,333	363,845
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,282	3,378
Interest received	(620)	(1,146)
Decrease/(increase) in work in progress	56,778	(40,383)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(216,275)	23,171
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	40,288	(6,761)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(24,214)	342,104

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.21	Cash flow	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	802,859	(23,594)	779,265
	<u>802,859</u>	<u>(23,594)</u>	<u>779,265</u>
Total	<u>802,859</u>	<u>(23,594)</u>	<u>779,265</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions under the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance and 20% on cost

Work in progress

Work in progress is valued at the rate it is expected to be received.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		2022	2021
		£	£
Donations		<u>13,798</u>	<u>22,405</u>
3. INVESTMENT INCOME		2022	2021
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>620</u>	<u>1,146</u>
4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2022	2021
		£	£
Legal Aid & Costs	Activity		
Recovered	Provision of legal services and advice	<u>323,140</u>	<u>440,670</u>
Grants	Provision of legal services and advice	<u>284,776</u>	<u>408,624</u>
		<u>607,916</u>	<u>849,294</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:			
		2022	2021
		£	£
Trust for London		<u>38,500</u>	<u>38,500</u>
Hackney Parochial Charities		<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>
London Borough of Hackney		<u>115,000</u>	<u>115,000</u>
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)		<u>101,276</u>	<u>110,924</u>
Law Centres Network		<u>-</u>	<u>140,000</u>
Access to Justice Foundation		<u>-</u>	<u>4,200</u>
		<u>284,776</u>	<u>408,624</u>
5. RAISING FUNDS		2022	2021
		£	£
Raising donations and legacies			
Website costs		<u>500</u>	<u>50</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	446,359	416,953
Accommodation costs	23,528	23,666
Other support costs	55,614	64,331
	<u>525,501</u>	<u>504,950</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Provision of legal services and advice		Governance costs £ <u>4,000</u>
Other		
	Support costs	Total activities
Practicing certificates	2,454	2,107
Staff welfare	2,031	1,955
Telephone	6,783	10,487
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	9,318	8,845
Travelling & volunteers' expenses	-	78
Computer accessories, software & support	9,749	12,466
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	9,911	10,060
Accountancy	3,500	3,500
Miscellaneous expenses	4,489	5,229
Recruitment & training	4,097	3,538
Legal & professional fees	-	2,688
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,282	3,378
	<u>55,614</u>	<u>64,331</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	4,000	4,000
Depreciation - owned assets	3,282	3,378
	<u>7,282</u>	<u>7,378</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

10. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	387,646	364,530
Social security costs	36,628	33,520
Other pension costs	22,085	18,903
	<u>446,359</u>	<u>416,953</u>

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

	2022	2021
Legal Advisors	8	8
Administrative	3	3
	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>75,971</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2021	64,160
Charge for year	3,282
At 31 March 2022	<u>67,442</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	<u>8,529</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>11,811</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

12. WORK IN PROGRESS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Work in Progress	<u>140,996</u>	<u>197,774</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	290,117	80,960
Prepayments	16,629	9,511
	<u>306,746</u>	<u>90,471</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	27,193	6,547
VAT	26,894	8,253
Other creditors	450	69
Accrued expenses	7,760	7,140
	<u>62,297</u>	<u>22,009</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	580,906	92,333	(300,000)	373,239
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Premises fund	400,000	-	300,000	700,000
	<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>92,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>92,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,173,239</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	452,558	(360,225)	92,333
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Council	30,000	(30,000)	-
Trust for London	38,500	(38,500)	-
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	101,276	(101,276)	-
	<u>169,776</u>	<u>(169,776)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>622,334</u>	<u>(530,001)</u>	<u>92,333</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	252,061	378,845	(50,000)	580,906
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Premises fund	350,000	-	50,000	400,000
	<u>702,061</u>	<u>378,845</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080,906</u>
Restricted funds				
Hackney Parochial Council	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>717,061</u>	<u>363,845</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080,906</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	579,221	(200,376)	378,845
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Council	-	(15,000)	(15,000)
Trust for London	38,500	(38,500)	-
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	110,924	(110,924)	-
LCN Justice Fund for Covid-19 Specialist Services	140,000	(140,000)	-
Funder Plus Scheme & Covid-19 Response	4,200	(4,200)	-
	<u>293,624</u>	<u>(308,624)</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>872,845</u>	<u>(509,000)</u>	<u>363,845</u>

Trust for London. Trust for London funded the grant for Employment service.

Hackney Parochial Charities. The grant funded by the Hackney Parochial Charities was to support core funding.

Reaching Communities. This was funded by National Lottery Fund to offer specialist housing and welfare benefits services.

Transfers between funds

Funds have been transferred from the General fund to the designated Premises Fund as referred to in the Report of the Trustees.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	13,798	22,405
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	620	1,146
Charitable activities		
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	323,140	440,670
Grants	284,776	408,624
	<u>607,916</u>	<u>849,294</u>
Total incoming resources	622,334	872,845
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Website costs	500	50
Charitable activities		
Wages & locums	387,646	364,530
Social security	36,628	33,520
Pensions	22,085	18,903
Rates and water	4,557	4,557
Insurance	4,966	5,755
Light and heat	3,142	2,184
Repairs, renewals & maintenance	10,863	11,170
Practicing certificates	2,454	2,107
Staff welfare	2,031	1,955
Telephone	6,783	10,487
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	9,318	8,845
Travelling & volunteers' expenses	-	78
Computer accessories, software & support	9,749	12,466
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	9,911	10,060
Accountancy	3,500	3,500
Miscellaneous expenses	4,489	5,229
Recruitment & training	4,097	3,538
Legal & professional fees	-	2,688
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,282	3,378
	<u>525,501</u>	<u>504,950</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	4,000	4,000
Total resources expended	530,001	509,000
Net income	92,333	363,845

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1016171

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02662363 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1016171

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

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for the year ended 31 March 2021**

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HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

TRUSTEES

I Rathbone
V A McAllister
A S Wingfield
Ms H A A Ojo
Cllr D Oguzkanli
T H G Stoate
I J Browne
Ms A S Holt

COMPANY SECRETARY

S Canning

REGISTERED OFFICE

8 Lower Clapton Road
Hackney
London
E5 0PD

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 02662363 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1016171

AUDITORS

Berringers LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objects and its principal activity continues to be that of providing free accessible legal advice and representation to the local community in the London Borough of Hackney. The charity has the general aim of improving the quality of life for Hackney residents and those in the wider area who are on low incomes by working towards its principal activity, and improving rights and access of those rights by the wider community.

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are to:

- (i) Target communities of need for social welfare law advice with high quality specialist services of salaried staff and volunteers;
- (ii) Encourage participation in governance of the law centre by local residents;
- (iii) Where possible to bring test cases that are capable of bringing about widespread changes to residents' rights;
- (iv) Improving residents' knowledge of their rights through education and policy work.

Development, activities and achievements this year

The impact of the current Covid-19 pandemic meant that the Law Centre had to introduce remote working for staff and suspend face to face services for most of the year. Access to legal advice was transacted through our daily telephone advice service. The housing duty scheme was suspended during the year as a result of the moratorium on possession proceedings.

Overall, during the pandemic caseworkers at the Law Centre helped over 2,000 people and opened over 1,000 new cases in the areas of housing, immigration, employment, and welfare benefits. In addition, our daily telephone help line provided immediate practical advice and information in all general areas of law.

We continued to deliver advice services in collaboration with our Hackney Advice Network partners and Hackney Council ensuring that residents were able to access specialist legal advice. Our social welfare team have been providing advice and support to vulnerable families and households in Hackney supported by the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

At the time of writing the impact of Covid-19 continues to pose significant public health challenges to our community.

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and aims of the charity described above, enable it to meet its obligations to the Charity Commission to deliver aid and assistance to the local community in Hackney.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal funding source of the Law Centre continues to be the London Borough of Hackney and the Legal Aid Agency. We acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of those who give grant funding to the Law Centre including the Trust for London, and the National Lottery Fund.

We also receive donations from city law firms which help to support volunteer legal surgeries at the Law Centre.

The Law Centre has continued efforts to secure funds and develop projects such as expanding access to justice for people from BME communities and tackling problems associated with youth homelessness. Professional legal services provided by salaried staff, and volunteer services and community work has been maintained.

The Centre's gross income was slightly higher this year at £872,845 against £853,092 while expenditure decreased minimally to £509,000 from £510,690. This resulted in increase net incoming resources of £363,845 against £342,402 for the previous year. At the year end restricted funds amount to £Nil (2020: £15,000), whilst unrestricted funds which were £252,061 at the previous year's end, increased to a balance of £580,906 and with designated funds of £500,000 this makes the total unrestricted funds of £1,080,906.

There has been a significant change to the operation of the Contract with the Legal Services Agency(LAA). Payments under the contract are now paid in arrears, leaving the Centre with a significant sum shown as work in progress in the accounts. This has left a new challenge in managing cash flow, which has been met admirably and remains a high management priority.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a level of reserves equivalent to at least six months operating costs in order to plan for any shortfalls or reductions in funding during the year, excluding designated funds. Current reserves at 31 March 2021 were £580,906. Designated funds were increased to £500,000.

FUTURE PLANS

The Directors and Trustees aim to secure stability of the Law Centre in order that services to the local community can be maintained and where possible improved upon.

The impact of Covid-19 poses significant challenges for the organisation in the next two years. We face a reduction in grant funding from March 2022 as current grant streams from the Trust for London, National Lottery Fund and Hackney Council come to an end.

The Law Centre continues to maintain improvements in efficiency to maximising legal aid as a source of revenue including ensuring that we maintain compliance with the LAA's Client and Cost Management System (CCMS) for all certificated work.

Following the implementation of data protection changes as result of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the Law Centre has reviewed and updated its data protection procedures across all areas of the business to maintain compliance with Lexcel and Charity Commission requirements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company is a charity and is limited by guarantee, and not having a share capital, each member undertakes to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up. The company is bound by its memorandum and articles of association.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The company is controlled by a board of directors (trustees) who are independent and receive no remuneration for their involvement. Day to day management is delegated to the Manager, Sean Canning.

The Directors and Trustees of the Law Centre carry out an Annual Review of the Law Centre's service, provision, finances and strategic approach in the course of approving the Law Centre's three-year rolling Business Plan.

An aspect of this is the consideration of the challenges and risks that the Law Centre will be facing and the strategies which are appropriate in order to mitigate those risks.

Systems and procedures are established to limit identified risks and to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of those risks materialise.

The Trustees also considered ongoing risks and the systems and procedures in place to mitigate them. Consideration of the risk of legal action focused on showing that adequate systems were in place to ensure that advice and legal work provided by the Law Centre met criteria laid down by the Law Society Lexcel Practice Management Standards and LAA to ensure good quality service delivery and sound management systems. Procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with service level agreements with other funders including London Borough of Hackney and the LAA. Professional indemnity cover is now in line with LAA's requirements to £2,000,000 per case.

A review of the office insurance and management systems was also considered and monitored on an ongoing basis to :-

- a) minimise detrimental financial impact due to accidents or other unforeseen events such as theft, fire, flood or loss of data and;
- b) find best value for money.

Financial monitoring systems are monitored regularly both internally and externally. Regular weekly checks by staff and monthly reports to Directors and Trustees minimise unforeseen financial contingencies. External auditing and monitoring by an independent auditor, the London Borough of Hackney Grants Officer, and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), the LAA and Charities Commission provide external checks.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on the legal obligations under charity and company law, the constitutional documents, decision making processes, business planning and financial procedures and performance.

Key management remuneration

	2021	2020
	£	£
Key management compensation in year	<u>92,740</u>	<u>89,659</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees are satisfied that strategic planning, careful consideration by the Directors of the financial results, variance from budgets and reviews of substantive casework, together with an effective complaints systems and the appropriate delegation of authority to staff, minimises the identified risks.

Acknowledgement of the risks involves consideration of the type of risks that the Law Centre might face, the level of risks which are regarded as acceptable, the likelihood of the risks materialising and the Law Centre's ability to reduce the incidence of business risks that do materialise on the one hand and the costs of averting the materialisation of those risks on the other.

The primary risk that the project faces is financial, due to continued cuts or withdrawal of funding from either of our two major funders, the London Borough of Hackney or the funding provided by the Legal Aid Agency. To mitigate this, the trustees have set up two designated funds to maintain reserves. The property fund was significantly increased to mitigate the risk of losing the current premises.

The effects of changes in how public funding of legal services are financed are also considered at length and in depth with respect to how this may affect a) total funding b) funding patterns (cashflow).

Reserves

To ensure the future sustainability of the organisation within the context of ongoing global pandemic challenges trustees are committed to ensuring that we maintain an appropriate level of reserves based on twelve months' running costs.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hackney Community Law Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Berringers LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V A McAllister', written over a horizontal line.

V A McAllister - Trustee

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Community Law Centre (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the independent auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report or in preparing the Report of the trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the independent auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and error, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, control environment and business performance;
- results of our enquiries to management about their own assessment of the risks of fraud and error;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud may occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

Our procedures to respond to risk include the following:

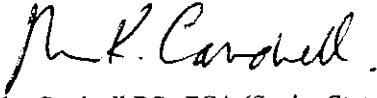
- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected areas that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error;
- addressing the risk of fraud and error through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journals, assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



John Cardnell BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Berringers LLP

Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors

Lygon House
50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

27 September 2021

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	22,405	-	-	22,405	12,444
Charitable activities	4					
Provision of legal services and advice		555,670	-	293,624	849,294	840,560
Investment income	3	1,146	-	-	1,146	88
Total		579,221	-	293,624	872,845	853,092
EXPENDITURE ON						
Raising funds	5	50	-	-	50	1,383
Charitable activities	6					
Provision of legal services and advice		200,326	-	308,624	508,950	509,307
Total		200,376	-	308,624	509,000	510,690
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		378,845	-	(15,000)	363,845	342,402
Transfers between funds	15	(50,000)	50,000	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		328,845	50,000	(15,000)	363,845	342,402
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		252,061	450,000	15,000	717,061	374,659
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		580,906	500,000	-	1,080,906	717,061

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET

31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	11	11,811	-	-	11,811	3,524
CURRENT ASSETS						
Work in progress	12	197,774	-	-	197,774	157,391
Debtors	13	90,471	-	-	90,471	113,642
Cash at bank		302,859	500,000	-	802,859	471,274
		<u>591,104</u>	<u>500,000</u>	-	<u>1,091,104</u>	<u>742,307</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(22,009)	-	-	(22,009)	(28,770)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>569,095</u>	<u>500,000</u>	-	<u>1,069,095</u>	<u>713,537</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>580,906</u>	<u>500,000</u>	-	<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>717,061</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>580,906</u>	<u>500,000</u>	-	<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>717,061</u>
FUNDS						
Unrestricted funds	15				1,080,906	702,061
Restricted funds					-	15,000
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>1,080,906</u>	<u>717,061</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 September 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



V A McAllister - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>342,104</u>	<u>218,376</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>342,104</u>	<u>218,376</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(11,665)	-
Interest received		<u>1,146</u>	<u>88</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(10,519)</u>	<u>88</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>331,585</u>	<u>218,464</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>471,274</u>	<u>252,810</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>802,859</u></u>	<u><u>471,274</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of financial activities)	363,845	342,402
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,378	1,358
Interest received	(1,146)	(88)
Increase in work in progress	(40,383)	(58,060)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	23,171	(79,999)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(6,761)	12,763
Net cash provided by operations	<u>342,104</u>	<u>218,376</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	471,274	331,585	802,859
	<u>471,274</u>	<u>331,585</u>	<u>802,859</u>
Total	<u>471,274</u>	<u>331,585</u>	<u>802,859</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance and 20% on cost

Work in progress

Work in progress is valued at the rate it is expected to be received.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		2021	2020
		£	£
Donations		<u>22,405</u>	<u>12,444</u>
3. INVESTMENT INCOME		2021	2020
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>1,146</u>	<u>88</u>
4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2021	2020
		£	£
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	Activity	440,670	445,439
Grants	Provision of legal services and advice	408,624	395,121
	Provision of legal services and advice	<u>849,294</u>	<u>840,560</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:		2021	2020
		£	£
Legal Education Foundation		-	54,344
Trust for London		38,500	38,000
Hackney Parochial Charities		-	30,000
London Borough of Hackney		115,000	172,333
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)		110,924	100,444
LCN Justice Fund for Covid-19 Specialist advice services scheme		140,000	-
Funder Plus Scheme & Covid-19 Response		4,200	-
		<u>408,624</u>	<u>395,121</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2021	2020
	£	£
Website costs	<u>50</u>	<u>1,383</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	416,953	409,096
Accommodation costs	23,666	24,025
Other support costs	<u>64,331</u>	<u>72,686</u>
	<u>504,950</u>	<u>505,807</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Provision of legal services and advice	<u>4,000</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	4,000	3,500
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>3,378</u>	<u>1,358</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

10. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	364,530	361,302
Social security costs	33,520	32,835
Other pension costs	18,903	14,959
	<u>416,953</u>	<u>409,096</u>

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

	2021	2020
Legal Advisors	8	10
Administrative	3	3
	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 April 2020	64,306
Additions	11,665
At 31 March 2021	<u>75,971</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2020	60,782
Charge for year	3,378
At 31 March 2021	<u>64,160</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	<u>11,811</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>3,524</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

12. WORK IN PROGRESS

	2021 £	2020 £
Work in Progress	<u>197,774</u>	<u>157,391</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	80,960	105,461
Prepayments	9,511	8,181
	<u>90,471</u>	<u>113,642</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	6,547	6,875
VAT	8,253	14,423
Accrued expenses	7,209	7,472
	<u>22,009</u>	<u>28,770</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	252,061	378,845	(50,000)	580,906
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Premises fund	350,000	-	50,000	400,000
	<u>702,061</u>	<u>378,845</u>	-	<u>1,080,906</u>
Restricted funds				
Hackney Parochial Council	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
	<u>717,061</u>	<u>363,845</u>	-	<u>1,080,906</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>717,061</u>	<u>363,845</u>	-	<u>1,080,906</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	579,221	(200,376)	378,845
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Council	-	(15,000)	(15,000)
Trust for London	38,500	(38,500)	-
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	110,924	(110,924)	-
LCN Justice Fund for Covid-19 Specialist Services	140,000	(140,000)	-
Access to Justice Foundation	4,200	(4,200)	-
	<u>293,624</u>	<u>(308,624)</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>872,845</u>	<u>(509,000)</u>	<u>363,845</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	155,369	346,692	(250,000)	252,061
Staff contingency fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Premises fund	100,000	-	250,000	350,000
	<u>355,369</u>	<u>346,692</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>702,061</u>
Restricted funds				
Hackney Parochial Council	15,000	-	-	15,000
Legal Education Foundation	4,290	(4,290)	-	-
	<u>19,290</u>	<u>(4,290)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>374,659</u>	<u>342,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>717,061</u>

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2021

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	630,304	(283,612)	346,692
Restricted funds			
Hackney Parochial Council	30,000	(30,000)	-
Trust for London	38,000	(38,000)	-
Legal Education Foundation	54,344	(58,634)	(4,290)
National Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities)	100,444	(100,444)	-
	<u>222,788</u>	<u>(227,078)</u>	<u>(4,290)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>853,092</u>	<u>(510,690)</u>	<u>342,402</u>

Transfers between funds

Funds have been transferred from the Designated to General fund as a prudent measure against a potential shortfall in funding.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	22,405	12,444
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	1,146	88
Charitable activities		
Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	440,670	445,439
Grants	408,624	395,121
	849,294	840,560
Total incoming resources	872,845	853,092
 EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Website costs	50	1,383
Charitable activities		
Wages & locums	364,530	361,302
Social security	33,520	32,835
Pensions	18,903	14,959
Rates and water	4,557	4,486
Insurance	5,755	5,755
Light and heat	2,184	4,782
Repairs, renewals & maintenance	11,170	9,002
Practicing certificates	2,107	2,071
Staff welfare	1,955	3,682
Telephone	10,487	5,847
Postage, printing, stationery & publicity	8,845	14,794
Travelling & volunteers' expenses	78	7,323
Computer accessories, software & support	12,466	10,837
Professional subscriptions, course fees & library	10,060	9,927
Accountancy	3,500	3,500
Miscellaneous expenses	5,229	5,799
Recruitment & training	3,538	6,535
Legal & professional fees	2,688	1,013
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings	3,378	1,358
	504,950	505,807
Support costs		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

HACKNEY COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	4,000	3,500
Total resources expended	<u>509,000</u>	<u>510,690</u>
Net income	<u>363,845</u>	<u>342,402</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements