

WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE



WJSC

Wokingham Job Support Centre
Helping you find a job



REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2024

Registered Charity Number: 1039801



WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

Address: The Cornerstone,
Norreys Avenue
WOKINGHAM
Berks RG40 1UE

Bankers: Lloyds TSB
High Street
BRACKNELL
Berks RG12 1BT

Hampshire Trust Bank
55 Bishopsgate
London EC2N 3AS

Independent Examiner: David Lee FSA
14 Chestnut Avenue
Wokingham
Berks RG41 3HX



WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their Report and Financial Statements for the Year ended 31st March 2024.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the Financial Statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charity's Act 2011 and the 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).

Objectives and Activities

The Charity aims to assist both those looking for a better job and also unemployed residents of the Wokingham and Bracknell Forest areas, to gain employment through the supervised provision of services and facilities not otherwise provided by the Employment Service.

Job seekers are offered a blend of support, including: assessment, coaching, advice, support on online applications, IT skills and skills workshops covering interviewing, writing CVs, use of social media, getting a job when 50+ and help and support to clients who wish to set up their own business.

The Charity was set up because there is no Job Centre in the Wokingham Borough, a Unitary Authority currently with circa 177,500 inhabitants with an expected population of over 192,000 by 2040. An important element of the Charity's activities is to give job seekers time to talk about their issues, to build their self-confidence and to boost their morale.

The Trustees are responsible both for overseeing the strategic direction of the Charity and for the management of the organisation and trained volunteers who provide the interface with the clients. Administrative office work is performed by paid part-time employees. Trustees and volunteers are not remunerated for their work; they are however, entitled to reimbursement of expenses incurred when undertaking Charity business.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit and consider that the Charity provides identifiable benefits to those seeking employment in the Wokingham and Bracknell Forest areas. During the year to 31st March 2024 there were 180 new clients (2023 – 100), making, in total, 293 (2023 – 268) client visits to the centre.

Clients were able to take advantage of advice, coaching, training, and counselling by trained volunteers and to use the Charity's facilities and technology to identify and pursue employment opportunities. Additionally, with the launch of a new website system, clients are now able book appointments and make use of the WJSC free advisory documents & guides on-line.

A total of 24 clients took the time to inform us that they had found a job, but we believe the number that found employment much higher. Further work is planned for the first half of 2024/2025 to garner more information on the client outcomes.



WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024 (cont.)

Over the last 31 years the Charity has helped more than 11,000 local job seekers back into work. Supporting local residents back into work has a major benefit to the local economy, a significant impact on community cohesion and reduces the costs of Benefits, Social Services, the NHS and Policing and hugely improves the household finances, health and wellbeing of each job seeker and their families.

Financial Review

The Charity continues to try to closely balance income and expenditure such that our finances remain both strong and roughly in equilibrium. We have successfully continued our policy of both prudence and frugality.

The Charity has relied upon local councils for grants in this year. Total of all grants amounted to £28,300 (2023 - £25,550) in the year, to fund the continuation of its activities. Income from all sources including bank interest was £29,046 (2023 - £26,074) and expenses of £31,413 (2023 - £26,965) were incurred resulting in a loss for the year of £2,367 (2023 - £891 loss).

As the Charity provides a vital and unique community service, the Trustees seek to hold sufficient reserves to run the Centre for two years, so that there is sufficient time to explore options and alternatives if revenues were to be severely reduced.

Given the ongoing operating costs, inflation and the current pressure and uncertainty surrounding local government finances, the Trustees believe that it is appropriate for the Charity to continue to hold two years running expenses in reserves; this was achieved at 31st March 2024 when unrestricted reserves, which mainly comprise cash balances, were £51,952 (2023 - £54,319). However, at the current run rate, this will not be achieved for 2024/2025 financial year without increased support from local councils or other donations and grant funding.

The Trustees are also aware of the risk to the Charity's funds from fraudulent misappropriation and in order to minimise this risk, financial control and authorisation procedures are operated and the Trustees receive regular summarised financial information. The Trustees are also actively looking for ways to reduce costs where ever possible.



WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024 (cont.)

Structure, Governance and Management

Wokingham Job Support Centre (WJSC) is an unincorporated association (the "Charity") registered with the Charity Commission No. 1039801 and its principal address is The Cornerstone, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham, Berks RG40 1UE. The Charity was set up in 1992 and operates under an updated Constitution approved on 17th July 2013.

The Trustees who held office during the year and at the date of this report comprised:

Steven Polak	Chairman
David Newbold	Treasurer
Richard Middleton	Secretary
Andrew MacNaughton	Trustee
Jenny Mitchell	Trustee

Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustees are fully aware of the need for succession planning and aware of the age profile of both the Trustees and Volunteer Advisors.

Where a Trustee resigns a temporary Trustee may be appointed by the Trustees.

Day to day activities of the Charity are overseen by Trustees (as there is no management structure) supported by the Office Supervisors and the Management Committee, which comprises the Trustees and such staff, volunteers and other supporters of the organisation as the Trustees invite.

The Annual Report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on:

Date: 13/5/24

Steven Polak
Chairman



WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs and the incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements; and
- Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and as amended Charities Act 2022, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Income from:</u>	£	£
Donations and Grants (Note 2)	28,512	25,550
Interest Received (Note 2)	534	524
	<u>29,046</u>	<u>26,074</u>
<u>Expenditure on Charitable Activities:</u>		
Salaries (support staff) (Note 7)	16,519	15,319
Rent, Service Charges & Room Booking	8,347	5,487
Office, Printing, Postage, Stationery	480	261
Telephone	436	398
Insurance	266	221
Meeting Refreshments & Sundries	404	294
Computer & Internet	2,046	3,662
Dues & Subscriptions	86	35
Book keeping	1,215	875
Gifts & Other Expenses	100	100
Marketing	1,409	0
Depreciation	105	313
Total	<u>31,413</u>	<u>26,965</u>
<u>Net Movement of Funds</u>	<u>(2,367)</u>	<u>(891)</u>
<u>Brought Forward:</u>	<u>54,319</u>	<u>55,210</u>
<u>Accumulated Unrestricted Funds:</u>	<u>51,952</u>	<u>54,319</u>

WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

<u>FIXED ASSETS:</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Tangible Assets	418	418
less Depreciation	418	313
Net Assets (Note 3)	0	105
 CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash at Bank/In Hand (Note 4)	54,444	57,079
Debtors & Prepayments (Note 5)	107	116
	54,551	57,195
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
(due within one year) (Note 6)	2,599	2,981
NET ASSETS:	<u>51,952</u>	<u>54,319</u>
 REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Unrestricted Funds:	<u>51,952</u>	<u>54,319</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Steven Polak: Steven Polak Chairman

David Newbold: [Signature] Treasurer

Date: 13/5/24

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Financial Statements.

WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Accounting Convention

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the notes to these Financial Statements.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2022 (as amended March 2024), the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their Financial Statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) as updated March 2021 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A).

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102 1A.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling which is the functional currency of the Charity.

1.2 Going Concern

At the time of approving the Financial Statements the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees therefore, continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Financial Statements.

1.3 Charitable Funds

All of the Charity's funds are unrestricted and available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the Charity's objectives.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it, the amounts can be measured reliably and it is more likely than not that the income will be received.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, inclusive of VAT, when applicable, which cannot be recovered.

WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1.6 Fixed Assets

Fixed assets comprise office and computer equipment the cost of which is depreciated at 33.3% per annum on a straight line basis.

1.7 Cash

The Charity has cash on deposit with a maturity date of 1 year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term commitments as they fall due.

1.8 Debtors

Debtors are shown at the value that is expected to be received.

1.9 Current Liabilities

Current liabilities are shown at the value that is expected to be paid.

2. DONATIONS AND GRANTS:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
<u>Borough</u>		
Wokingham	18,200	15,000
<u>Town & Parish Councils</u>		
Earley	300	0
Bracknell	1,500	1,500
Shinfield	200	300
Wokingham Town	5,000	5,000
Wokingham Without	200	200
Arborfield & Newland	200	150
Barkham	400	400
Winnersh	500	500
Crowthorne	500	800
Finchampstead	1,000	1,000
Twyford	300	300
	=====	=====
	28,300	25,150
<u>Other Receipts</u>		
Rotary Club of Wokingham	200	400
Charities Aid Foundation	12	0
Interest	534	524
<u>Totals:</u>	<u>29,046</u>	<u>26,074</u>

WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024 (cont.)

3. FIXED ASSETS:

	£
Net Book Value at 31 st March 2024	<u>0</u>

4. CASH

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Short term deposit	41,398	40,864
Cash at bank and on hand	<u>13,046</u>	<u>16,215</u>
Total	54,444	57,079

5. DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Prepayments	107	116
Debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	107	116

6. CURRENT LIABILITIES (due within one year) 2024 2023

	£	£
Trade Creditors	37	2,441
Accruals	<u>2,562</u>	<u>540</u>
Total	2,599	2,981

7. EMPLOYEES

During the year the Charity had 3 part-time employees (2023 - 2) (one full time equivalent) and their total remuneration was £16,236 (2023 - £15,319).

Social security and other employment costs were £283.50.

No employees received total remuneration of more than £60,000.

8. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The Trustees do not receive remuneration but are reimbursed expenses incurred on behalf of the Charity (such as stationery, consumables or other expenses) or in carrying out their duties (such as travel).

Trustees were reimbursed expenses as follows:

Steven Polak £226 (2023 - £258)

9. RELATED PARTIES' TRANSACTIONS

There were no related parties' transactions in the year (2023 – Nil).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF WOKINGHAM JOB SUPPORT CENTRE

I report on the Financial Statements of the Charity (registered no: 1039801) for the Year ended 31st March 2024 which are set out on pages 2 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") and 2022 and 2024 as amended.

The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the Financial Statements under section 145 of the Act;
- follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the Financial Statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Financial Statements and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the Financial Statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.


Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; or
- the Financial Statements did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the Financial Statements did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the Financial Statements give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

David Lee FCA



Date:

14/5/24