

THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE (UNIVERSITY HOUSE)

England & Wales · Charity number 1061182

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [03324062](#)

Registered 1997-03-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 104 Roman Road
Bethnal Green
London
E2 0RN

Phone 02089804205

Email admin@legaladvicecentre.org.uk

Website www.legaladvicecentre.london

Activities

Objects: I) TO RELIEVE POVERTY BY PROVIDING LEGAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY PERSONS IN THE EAST END OF LONDON (NAMELY THE LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS AND THE AREAS OF HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON OR ELSEWHERE WITHIN ENGLAND AND WALES), AND IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THIS OBJECT AND ANCILLARY THERETO TO INSTITUTE CONDUCT AND DEFEND ANY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE ANY COURT OR TRIBUNAL OR FOR ANY PURPOSES OR IN ANY OTHER FORUM IN WHICH LEGAL ADVICE OR REPRESENTATION MAY BE REQUIRED ON BEHALF OF PERSONS SEEKING THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CHARITY; AND (II) FOR THAT PURPOSE TO CARRY ON THE ACTIVITIES HITHERTO CARRIED ON BY THE CHARITABLE TRUST COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE (UNIVERSITY HOUSE) AND TO RECEIVE SUCH ASSETS AS MAY BE MADE OVER TO IT BY SUCH CHARITABLE TRUST AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE ON SUCH TERMS AS THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHARITY SHALL THINK FIT.

Activities: Provides advocacy/advice/information

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** EAST END OF LONDON (TOWER HAMLETS AND HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS)
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,096,420	£922,366	£547,181	18
2024-03-31	£926,686	£873,979	£373,127	16
2023-03-31	£775,260	£677,201	£320,419	15
2022-03-31	£711,267	£708,700	£219,794	18
2021-03-31	£731,376	£591,147	£219,794	15

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
SALLY ELIZABETH TWIGGER	Chair	2014-01-16
ALEX HUTTON		
Ali Ahmed		2022-10-31
Boin Cheong		2020-01-13
CHARLES HENRY BENNETT		
FOYEZ AHMED RAHIM		2014-09-25
Jemma Thorogood		2016-07-27
MAZIDUR RAHMAN		2014-01-15
Philippa O'Malley		2023-09-09
Rachel Morris		2019-03-04
Robert James WHEAL		2020-04-30
SHALINA RAHMAN		2018-04-30

THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE(UNIVERSITY HOUSE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1061182

Accounts

Company number: 03324062

Charity number: 1061182

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

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The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: Charles Henry Bennett Sally Elizabeth Twigger (Chair) Alexander Hutton Joannie Ann Andrews Boin Cheong Shalina Rahman Foyez Ahmed Rahim (Secretary) Mazidur Rahman Jemma Louise Thorogood (Treasurer from 9.9.2024) Martin Steven Griffiths (Retired as Treasurer from 9.9.2024) Rachel Morris Robert Wheal Camilla Sadler Ali Ahmed
Company number	03324062
Charity number	1061182
Registered office	104 Roman Road Bethnal Green London E2 0RN
Auditors	Goldwins Limited 75 Maygrove Road West Hampstead London NW6 2EG
Accountant	Accountability Europe Ltd Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP www.accountabilityeu.co.uk

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are also directors under company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association, and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

The Charity's objectives are:

- i. To relieve poverty by providing legal advice and assistance to needy persons in the East End of London or elsewhere within England & Wales if provided via special projects, and in the furtherance of this object and ancillary thereto to institute conduct and defend any proceedings before any court or tribunal or for any purposes or in any other forum in which legal advice or representation may be required on behalf of persons seeking the assistance of the charity.
- ii. For that purpose, to carry on the activities hitherto carried on by the charitable trust commonly known as the Legal Advice Centre (University House) and to receive such assets as may be made over to it by such charitable trust as may be appropriate on such terms as the trustees of the charity shall think fit.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have read, understood, and adhere to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A great deal of our work is project-based. Amongst our projects are the following:

Special Support Project

This project aims to define a new model of advice and advocacy for our users with complex health and social needs. Some of our users repeatedly call upon services such as ours for help on a wide range of matters. Through this project we provide front-loaded support to targeted individuals over a number of months, in order to help resolve problems which contribute to them reaching crisis point on a regular basis.

Advocacy Project

This project is based around volunteer law students and pro bono minded lawyers. Through the project we are supporting appointed 'advocates' to undertake disability benefits appeal casework and to provide advocacy at First-tier tribunal appeals. Our work in this area has really expanded. We now take on large numbers of disability benefit appeals.

Family Law Clinic

We now run thrice weekly Family Law clinics. The clinics are a collaboration between ourselves and a large number of international law firms. Typical casework includes helping Domestic Abuse victims obtain non-

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

molestation orders. As part of this work, we have developed an Exceptional Casework Funding (ECF) project, which runs in tandem with our clinics. ECF applications are made on behalf of individuals whose matter is strictly not within the scope of Legal Aid. We, in effect, petition the Legal Aid Agency stating that the individual is sufficiently vulnerable and the matter is sufficiently complicated for public funding to be justified. Presently, we are achieving an 80% success rate with our ECF applications.

Housing Clinic

This clinic was set up in order to help with the growing housing crisis in London. It is a weekly morning clinic to reflect the working patterns of the three USA law firms that are providing the majority of the volunteer lawyers who staff the clinic.

Medico-Legal Partnership Project

In recent years, there has been the development by GPs and other clinical staff of what is commonly now known as *Social Prescribing*, whereby patients can be referred to non-clinical sources of support within the community. Whilst this work is of benefit, there is a growing need to provide community-based medical practitioners with more potent tools to help combat systemic discrimination of the unwell within our society. Central to our work in this space was the establishment of a legal clinic providing free specialist employment law advice in health settings. Outcomes are demonstrating the benefits of early expert legal advice. As part of this work, we have established a partnership with the world-renowned Maudsley Hospital.

West Country Access to Justice Project

This project has been running for over ten years now, and involves us providing remote legal advice to 'advice deserts'. This often includes the provision of remote supervision to community advice workers in these locations.

Advice Portal

In 2022, we secured substantial funding from the Community Fund in order to provide access to our Portal England-wide. Our experience in providing remote advice was at the heart of its development. The Portal is principally aimed at supporting generalist advice agencies to undertake specialist legal casework. Users must register to access the Portal. This allows us to target the Portal where it is needed most.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Legal Expenses Insurance (LEI)

Since 2012, we have developed workaround legal expenses insurance (LEI) in order to help fund tribunal and court work. Quite often, our users do not know that they have such a cover. We have for some years argued for a form of micro-LEI to be developed in order to provide coverage to the most vulnerable in society. The main idea is not to expect people of limited means to buy such insurance, but instead to press upon key stakeholders, such as housing associations, to buy it on their behalf.

The SQE and the Apprenticeship Levy

The SQE pathway to becoming a solicitor can be packaged as an apprenticeship. This, together with the recent rule changes to the Apprenticeship Levy, provides opportunities for commercial law firms to, in effect, donate a proportion of their Levy to fund apprenticeships in the free advice sector. Since September 2020, we have supported a number of solicitor apprentices both directly and remotely. This initiative is linked to our Advice Portal, and both projects are part of our efforts to help address the skill shortages in our sector.

Consultancy

In recent years, we have provided consultancy support to a number of organisations, including the SRA and the London Legal Support Trust.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the year ended 31 March 2025 are given in the Statement of Financial Activities. The assets and liabilities are given in the Balance Sheet. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the related notes. The trustees regard the financial position of the charity at 31 March 2025 to be satisfactory, and they are content that the current unrestricted reserves position leaves it with a sound base from which future activity can be built.

In summary, total income amounted to £1,096,420 (2024: £926,686) and total expenditure amounted to £922,366 (2024: £873,979), resulting in a net surplus of £174,054 (2024: £52,707). Full details of income and expenditure are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Reserve policy

The charity is currently dependent on donation income in order to maintain its core activities. Earned income alone would not allow it to continue operating. Following risk analysis, the trustees consider that there is a moderate risk of a need for reserves for the organisation, as well as the potential of other operational risks, based on challenges in the wider policy context.

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves that will provide sufficient funds to cover at least 3 months' support and governance costs, but the trustees are aiming for reserves to eventually reach 6 months' support and governance costs. Unrestricted free reserves at the end of this period cover these running costs for the foreseeable future.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also directors of a charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2025 was £13 (2024: £13). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Goldwins Ltd was appointed as auditor for the 2024-25 financial year.

Statement as to Disclosure to our Auditors

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.

Small Company Exemptions

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by;

.....
Charles Bennett– Trustee

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Legal Advice Centre (University House) (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, statement of cash flows 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, including [Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland \(United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice\)](#).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity 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 charity'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 directors 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 auditor's report 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

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which 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;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees 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 they 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 Charity'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 Charity 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 an auditor's report 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.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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 are set out below.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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 auditor's report.

This report is made solely to the Charity'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 Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 Charity and the Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anthony Epton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Goldwins Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
75 Maygrove Road
West Hampstead
London NW6 2EG

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

		2025					2024
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and grants	2	300,855	716,760	1,017,615	191,433	671,691	863,124
Other trading activities	3	78,805	-	78,805	63,562	-	63,562
Total income		379,660	716,760	1,096,420	254,995	671,691	926,686
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	43,993	-	43,993	45,463	-	45,463
Charitable activities	5	161,613	716,760	878,373	156,825	671,691	828,516
Total expenditure		205,606	716,760	922,366	202,288	671,691	873,979
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	6	174,054	-	174,054	52,707	-	52,707
Net movement in funds	15	174,054	-	174,054	52,707	-	52,707
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		373,127	-	373,127	320,420	-	320,420
Total funds carried forward		547,181	-	547,181	373,127	-	373,127

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Balance sheet

Company no. 03324062

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	£	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	11		<u>7,814</u>	<u>2,495</u>
			7,814	2,495
Current assets:				
Debtors	12	600		40,750
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>565,072</u>		<u>336,652</u>
		565,672		377,402
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(26,305)</u>		<u>(6,770)</u>
Net current assets			<u>539,367</u>	<u>370,632</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>547,181</u></u>	<u><u>373,127</u></u>
The funds of the charity:	15			
Restricted funds			-	-
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds			<u>547,181</u>	<u>373,127</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>547,181</u></u>	<u><u>373,127</u></u>

For the year ended 31 March 2025 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

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

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

Charles Bennett
Trustee

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £	
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net cash provided by operating activities	a	238,260	14,121	
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchase of fixed assets		<u>(9,840)</u>	<u>(3,762)</u>	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		<u>(9,840)</u>	<u>(3,762)</u>	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	b	228,420	10,359	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>336,652</u>	<u>326,293</u>	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u>565,072</u>	<u>336,652</u>	
a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities				
		2025	2023	
		£	£	
Net income / (expenditure) for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)		174,054	52,707	
Depreciation		4,520	2,966	
Increase in debtors		40,150	(24,350)	
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors		<u>19,536</u>	<u>(17,202)</u>	
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		<u>238,260</u>	<u>14,121</u>	
b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
		At 1 April	Cash	At
		2024	flows	31 March
		£	£	2025
				£
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>336,652</u>	<u>228,420</u>	<u>565,072</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents		<u>336,652</u>	<u>228,420</u>	<u>565,072</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

The Legal Advice Centre (University House) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address is 104 Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London, E2 0RN.

Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of providing legal advice and assistance undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years

Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on basis of staff time.

Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

Creditors and provisions

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

2 Income from donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Access to justice	-	12,499	12,499	-
Action for bow	-	32,250	32,250	43,000
Big Lottery	-	254,281	254,281	142,000
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	75,619	75,619	88,903
Legal Aid Agency	125,348	-	125,348	79,767
Legal Education Foundation	-	-	-	12,264
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	18,400	18,400	-
London Legal Support Trust	3,771	255,084	258,855	224,397
Real DPO Ltd	-	4,634	4,634	19,435
South Hackney Parochial	-	12,999	12,999	13,000
Corporate Donations	171,736	-	171,736	189,836
Trust for London	-	50,994	50,994	50,522
	300,855	716,760	1,017,615	863,124

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	71,859	-	71,859	54,142
Settlement agreement income	2,650	-	2,650	6,770
Training & fee income	4,296	-	4,296	2,650
	78,805	-	78,805	63,562

4 Local and Government and Housing Act 1989

The charity received financial assistance from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As required by Section 37 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the following information is given.

Amount of £nil (2024: £nil) was received for the provision of legal advice services.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	38,776	691,419	-	730,195	693,453
Partnership costs	-	51,788	-	51,788	57,955
Legal aid disbursements	-	29,825	-	29,825	16,788
Training & practicing certificate	-	8,095	-	8,095	5,260
Books and subscriptions	-	4,220	-	4,220	2,395
Other general office costs	-	-	15,594	15,594	11,358
Premises costs	-	-	49,203	49,203	65,473
Accountancy	-	-	9,744	9,744	7,971
Audit Fee	-	-	6,000	6,000	-
Independent examination	-	-	-	-	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	2,194	2,194	3,252
Professional fees	-	-	8,776	8,776	3,881
Travel costs	-	-	2,212	2,212	2,327
Depreciation	-	-	4,520	4,520	2,966
	38,776	785,347	98,243	922,366	873,979
Support costs allocation	5,217	93,026	(98,243)	-	-
Total expenditure 2025	43,993	878,373	-	922,366	873,979

Of the total expenditure, £205,606 was unrestricted (2024: £202,288) and £716,760 was restricted (2024: £671,691).

Analysis of expenditure - prior year

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2024 £
Staff costs (Note 7)	39,891	653,562	-	693,453
Partnership costs	-	74,743	-	74,743
Training & practicing Certificate	-	5,260	-	5,260
Books and subscriptions	-	2,395	-	2,395
Other general office costs	-	-	11,358	11,358
Premises costs	-	-	65,473	65,473
Accountancy	-	-	7,971	7,971
Independent examination	-	-	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	3,252	3,252
Professional Fees	-	-	3,881	3,881
Travel costs	-	-	2,327	2,327
Depreciation	-	-	2,966	2,966
	39,891	735,960	98,128	873,979
Support costs allocation	5,572	92,556	(98,128)	-
Total expenditure 2024	45,463	828,516	-	873,979

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

6 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Audit fee (excl VAT)	5,000	-
Independent examination (excl VAT)	-	750
Depreciation	4,520	2,966
	<u>4,520</u>	<u>2,966</u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	630,789	602,933
Social security costs	56,307	56,392
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	43,099	34,128
	<u>730,195</u>	<u>693,453</u>

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) during the year between:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
£60,000 - £69,999	2	1

The total employee benefits, including pension contributions and employer NI contribution, of the key management personnel were £147,700 (2024: £142,875).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Average staff	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>

8 Related party transactions

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

9 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

10 Taxation

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

11 Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	4,328	19,496	23,824
Additions in year	4,985	4,855	9,840
At the end of the year	9,313	24,351	33,664
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	3,368	17,962	21,330
Charge for the year	2,408	2,112	4,520
At the end of the year	5,776	20,074	25,850
Net book value			
At the end of the year	3,537	4,277	7,814
At the start of the year	962	1,533	2,495

12 Debtors	2025 £	2024 £
Debtors	-	30,000
Accrued income	-	10,750
Other debtors	600	-
	600	40,750

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	828	744
Taxation and social security	5,171	3,746
Accruals	7,800	2,280
Deferred Income	12,506	-
	26,305	6,770

Deferred income comprises of grants received in advance for the next year.

14 Analysis of net assets between funds	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	7,814	-	7,814
Net current assets	539,367	-	539,367
Net assets at the end of the year	547,181	-	547,181
Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)			
Tangible fixed assets	2,495	-	2,495
Net current assets	370,632	-	370,632
Net assets at the end of the year	373,127	-	373,127

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Big Lottery	-	254,281	(254,281)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	75,619	(75,619)	-	-
Access to Work	-	4,634	(4,634)	-	-
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	18,400	(18,400)	-	-
Legal Support	-	255,084	(255,084)	-	-
Action for Bow	-	32,250	(32,250)	-	-
TFL Central Fund	-	50,994	(50,994)	-	-
South HPC	-	12,999	(12,999)	-	-
Access to Justice	-	12,499	(12,499)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	716,760	(716,760)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	373,127	379,660	(205,606)	-	547,181
Total funds	373,127	1,096,420	(922,366)	-	547,181

Movements in funds (prior year)	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Big Lottery	-	142,000	(142,000)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	88,903	(88,903)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	79,767	(79,767)	-	-
Access to Work	-	19,435	(19,435)	-	-
Legal Support	-	222,800	(222,800)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	-	12,264	(12,264)	-	-
Action for Bow	-	43,000	(43,000)	-	-
TFL Central Fundation	-	50,522	(50,522)	-	-
South HPC	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	671,691	(671,691)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	320,420	254,995	(202,288)	-	373,127
Total funds	320,420	926,686	(873,979)	-	373,127

16 Operating lease and other future commitments

Future minimum lease commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Operating lease of equipment payable:	2025 £	2024 £
Less than one year	1,366	1,366
1-2 years	1,366	2,732

THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE(UNIVERSITY HOUSE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1061182

Accounts

Company number: 03324062

Charity number: 1061182

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

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The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Charles Henry Bennett
Sally Elizabeth Twigger (Chair)
Alexander Hutton
Joannie Ann Andrews
Boin Cheong
Shalina Rahman
Foyez Ahmed Rahim (Secretary)
Mazidur Rahman
Jemma Louise Thorogood
Martin Steven Griffiths (Treasurer)
Rachel Morris
Robert Wheal
Camilla Sadler
Ali Ahmed

Company number 03324062

Charity number 1061182

Registered office 104 Roman Road
Bethnal Green
London
E2 0RN

Independent Examiner Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London
N7 9DP
www.accountabilityeu.co.uk

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also directors under company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

The Charity's objectives are:

- i. To relieve poverty by providing legal advice and assistance to needy persons in the East End of London or elsewhere within England & Wales if provided via special projects, and in the furtherance of this object and ancillary thereto to institute conduct and defend any proceedings before any court or tribunal or for any purposes or in any other forum in which legal advice or representation may be required on behalf of persons seeking the assistance of the charity.

- ii. For that purpose to carry on the activities hitherto carried on by the charitable trust commonly known as the Legal Advice Centre (University House) and to receive such assets as may be made over to it by such charitable trust as may be appropriate on such terms as the trustees of the charity shall think fit.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have read, understood and adhere to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A great deal of our work is project based. Amongst our projects are the following:

Special Support Project

This project aims to define a new model of advice and advocacy for our users with complex health and social needs. Some of our users repeatedly call upon services such as ours for help on a wide range of matters. Through this project we provide front-loaded support to targeted individuals over a number of months, in order to help resolve problems which contribute to them reaching crisis point on a regular basis.

Advocacy Project

This project is based around volunteer law students and pro bono minded lawyers. Through the project we are supporting appointed 'advocates' to undertake disability benefits appeal casework and to provide advocacy at First-tier tribunal appeals. Our work in this area has really expanded. We now take on large numbers of disability benefit appeals.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Family Law Clinic

We now run thrice weekly Family Law clinics. The clinics are a collaboration between ourselves and seven international law firms. Typical casework includes helping Domestic Abuse victims obtain non-molestation orders. As part of this work, we have developed an Exceptional Casework Funding (ECF) project which runs in tandem with our clinics. ECF applications are made on behalf of individuals whose matter is strictly not within scope of Legal Aid. We, in effect, petition the Legal Aid Agency stating that the individual is sufficiently vulnerable and the matter is sufficiently complicated for public funding to be justified. Presently, we are achieving an 80% success rate with our ECF applications.

Housing Clinic

This clinic was set up in order to help with the growing housing crisis in London. It is a weekly morning clinic to reflect the working patterns of the three USA law firms who are providing the majority of the volunteers lawyers who staff the clinic.

Medico-Legal Partnership Project

In recent years, there has been the development by GPs and other clinical staff of what is commonly now known as Social Prescribing, whereby patients can be referred to non-clinical sources of support within the community. Whilst this work is of benefit there is a growing need to provide community-based medical practitioners with more potent tools to help combat systemic discrimination of the unwell within our society. Central to our work in this space was the establishment of a legal clinic providing free specialist employment law advice in health settings. Outcomes are demonstrating the benefits of early expert legal advice. As part of this work, we have established a partnership with the world renowned Maudsley Hospital.

West Country Access to Justice Project

This project has been running for nearly ten years now, and involves us providing remote legal advice to 'advice deserts'. This often includes the provision of remote supervision to community advice workers in these locations.

Advice POrtal

In 2022, we secured substantial funding from the tnl Community Fund in order to provide access to our POrtal England-wide. Our experience at providing remote advice was at the heart of its development. The POrtal is principally aimed at supporting generalist advice agencies to undertake specialist legal casework. Users must register to access the POrtal. This allows us to target the POrtal where it is needed most.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Legal Expenses Insurance (LEI)

Since 2012, we have developed work around legal expenses insurance (LEI) in order to help fund tribunal and court work. Quite often our users do not know that they have such cover. We have for some years argued for a form of micro-LEI to be developed in order to provide coverage to the most vulnerable in society. The main idea is not to expect people of limited means to buy such insurance, but instead press upon key stakeholders, such as housing associations, to buy it on their behalf.

The SQE and the Apprenticeship Levy

The SQE pathway to becoming a solicitor can be packaged as an apprenticeship. This, together with the recent rule changes to the Apprenticeship Levy provide opportunities for commercial law firms to, in effect, donate a proportion of their Levy to fund apprenticeships in the free advice sector. Since September 2020, we have supported a number of solicitor apprentices both directly and remotely. This initiative is linked to our Advice POrtal, and both projects are part of our efforts to help address the skill shortages in our sector.

Consultancy

In recent years, we have provided consultancy support to a number of organisations including the SRA and the London Legal Support Trust.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for year ended 31 March 2024 are given in the Statement of Financial Activities. The assets and liabilities are given in the Balance Sheet. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the related notes. The trustees regard the financial position of the charity at 31 March 2024 to be satisfactory and they are content that the current unrestricted reserves position leaves it with a sound base from which future activity can be built.

In summary, total income amounted to £926,686 (2023: £775,260) and total expenditure amounted to £873,979 (2023: £677,201) resulting in net surplus of £52,707 (2023: £98,059). Full details of income and expenditure are set out in notes to the financial statements.

Reserve policy

The charity is currently dependent on donation income in order to maintain its core activities. Earned income alone would not allow it to continue operating. Following risk analysis, the trustees consider that there is a moderate risk of a need for reserves for the organisation as well as the potential of other operational risks, based on challenges in the wider policy context.

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves that will provide sufficient funds to cover 3 months' support and governance costs. Unrestricted free reserves at the end of this period covers these running costs for the foreseeable future.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also directors of charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2024 was £13 (2023: £13). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on **28 October 2024** and signed on their behalf by;



Charles Bennett – Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Legal Advice Centre (University House) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



.....
Aamer Shehzad FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP
Date: 29/10/2024

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

		2024					2023
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and grants	2	191,433	671,691	863,124	153,354	546,232	699,586
Other trading activities	3	63,562	-	63,562	75,674	-	75,674
Total income		254,995	671,691	926,686	229,028	546,232	775,260
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	45,463	-	45,463	41,632	-	41,632
Charitable activities	5	156,825	671,691	828,516	89,337	546,232	635,569
Total expenditure		202,288	671,691	873,979	130,969	546,232	677,201
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	6	52,707	-	52,707	98,059	-	98,059
Net movement in funds	15	52,707	-	52,707	98,059	-	98,059
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		320,420	-	320,420	222,361	-	222,361
Total funds carried forward		373,127	-	373,127	320,420	-	320,420

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Balance sheet

Company no. 03324062

As at 31 March 2024

	Note	£	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	11		2,495	1,699
			<u>2,495</u>	<u>1,699</u>
Current assets:				
Debtors	12	40,750		16,400
Cash at bank and in hand		336,652		326,293
		<u>377,402</u>		<u>342,693</u>
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(6,770)		(23,973)
Net current assets			<u>370,632</u>	<u>318,720</u>
Total net assets			<u>373,127</u>	<u>320,420</u>
The funds of the charity:	15			
Restricted funds			-	-
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds			373,127	320,420
Total charity funds			<u>373,127</u>	<u>320,420</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the trustees on **28 October 2024**
and signed on their behalf by:

Charles Bennett
Trustee

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	a		14,121		73,750
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchase of fixed assets		(3,762)		-	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities			<u>(3,762)</u>		<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	b		10,359		73,750
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			326,293		252,543
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			<u>336,652</u>		<u>326,293</u>
a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities					
			2024		2023
			£		£
Net income / (expenditure) for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)			52,707		98,059
Depreciation			2,966		5,125
Increase in debtors			(24,350)		(8,143)
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors			(17,202)		(21,290)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities			<u>14,121</u>		<u>73,750</u>
b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents					
			At 1 April	Cash	At
			2023	flows	31 March
			£	£	2024
					£
Cash at bank and in hand			326,293	10,359	336,652
Total cash and cash equivalents			<u>326,293</u>	<u>10,359</u>	<u>336,652</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

The Legal Advice Centre (University House) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address is 104 Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London, E2 0RN.

Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of providing legal advice and assistance undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years

Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on basis of staff time.

Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

Creditors and provisions

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Income from donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Access to justice	-	-	-	14,672
Action for bow	-	43,000	43,000	39,864
Baker and Mckenzie	10,000	-	10,000	-
Big Lottery	-	142,000	142,000	113,000
Charles Russell Speechlys	10,000	-	10,000	20,000
City Bridge Trust	-	-	-	27,000
Clifford Chance LLP	30,000	-	30,000	30,000
Cambridge Global	-	-	-	3,500
Covington & Burling LLP	5,000	-	5,000	-
Dechert LLP	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	88,903	88,903	120,892
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	13,500	-	13,500	6,034
Legal Support	-	-	-	54,833
Gowling WLG (UK) LLP	5,000	-	5,000	-
Latham & Watkins LLP	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Legal Aid Agency	-	79,767	79,767	98,756
Legal Education Foundation	-	12,264	12,264	-
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	-	-	20,000
Proskauer Rose	5,000	-	5,000	-
London Legal Support Trust	1,597	222,800	224,397	-
OMM Office	-	-	-	3,500
Real DPO Ltd	-	19,435	19,435	17,940
Reed Smith LLP	11,834	-	11,834	6,834
Ropes & Gray LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
NRF UK	5,000	-	5,000	-
Sherman and Sterling	3,834	-	3,834	-
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	10,000	-	10,000	3,834
K&E LLP	8,500	-	8,500	-
Slaughter and May	25,000	-	25,000	22,000
South Hackney Parochial	-	13,000	13,000	12,000
OMM Office	3,500	-	3,500	-
Travers Smith LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
Trust for London	-	50,522	50,522	47,275
WATSONF&WMS	5,000	-	5,000	-
Taylor Wessing LLP	5,000	-	5,000	4,000
White & Case LLP	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Other donations and grants	1,000	-	1,000	984
	191,433	671,691	863,124	699,586

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	54,142	-	54,142	40,805
Settlement agreement income	6,770	-	6,770	33,069
Training income	2,650	-	2,650	1,800
	63,562	-	63,562	75,674

4 Local and Government and Housing Act 1989

The charity received financial assistance from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As required by Section 37 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the following information is given.

Amount of £nil (2023: £20,000) was received for provision of legal advice services.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	39,891	653,562	-	693,453	571,041
Partnership costs	-	74,743	-	74,743	23,470
Training & practicing certificate	-	5,260	-	5,260	9,386
Books and subscriptions	-	2,395	-	2,395	1,982
Project & event cost	-	1,272	-	1,272	1,058
Other general office costs	-	-	10,086	10,086	9,308
Premises costs	-	-	65,473	65,473	29,675
Accountancy	-	-	7,971	7,971	7,194
Independent examination	-	-	900	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	3,252	3,252	1,720
Professional fees	-	-	3,881	3,881	15,668
Travel costs	-	-	2,327	2,327	674
Depreciation	-	-	2,966	2,966	5,125
	<u>39,891</u>	<u>737,232</u>	<u>96,856</u>	<u>873,979</u>	<u>677,201</u>
Support costs allocation	5,572	91,284	(96,856)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	<u>45,463</u>	<u>828,516</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>873,979</u>	<u>677,201</u>

Of the total expenditure, £202,288 was unrestricted (2023: £130,696) and £671,691 was restricted (2023: £546,232).

Analysis of expenditure - prior year

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2023 £
Staff costs (Note 7)	37,071	533,970	-	571,041
Partnership costs	-	23,470	-	23,470
Training & practicing Certificate	-	9,386	-	9,386
Books and subscriptions	-	1,982	-	1,982
Project & Event cost	-	1,058	-	1,058
Other general office costs	-	-	9,308	9,308
Premises costs	-	-	29,675	29,675
Accountancy	-	-	7,194	7,194
Independent examination	-	-	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	1,720	1,720
Professional Fees	-	-	15,668	15,668
Travel costs	-	-	674	674
Depreciation	-	-	5,125	5,125
	<u>37,071</u>	<u>569,866</u>	<u>70,264</u>	<u>677,201</u>
Support costs allocation	4,561	65,703	(70,264)	-
Total expenditure 2023	<u>41,632</u>	<u>635,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>677,201</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

6 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner fee (excl VAT)	750	750
Depreciation	2,966	5,125
	=====	=====

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	602,933	490,397
Social security costs	56,392	48,003
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	34,128	25,558
Redundancy costs	-	7,083
	=====	=====
	693,453	571,041

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) during the year between:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
£60,000 - £69,999	2	2

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer NI contribution of the key management personnel were £79,783 (2023: £74,142).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Average staff	16	15
	=====	=====

8 Related party transactions

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

9 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	3,687	16,374	20,061
Additions in year	641	3,121	3,762
At the end of the year	4,328	19,495	23,824
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	2,620	15,742	18,362
Charge for the year	746	2,220	2,966
At the end of the year	3,366	17,962	21,328
Net book value			
At the end of the year	962	1,533	2,495
At the start of the year	1,067	632	1,699

12 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	-	8,900
Accrued income	10,750	7,500
Debtors	30,000	-
	40,750	16,400

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	744	1,146
Taxation and social security	3,746	4,753
Accruals	2,280	3,074
Deferred income	-	15,000
	6,770	23,973

Deferred income comprises of grants received in advance for the next year.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	2,495	-	2,495
Net current assets	370,632	-	370,632
Net assets at the end of the year	373,127	-	373,127
Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)			
Tangible fixed assets	1,699	-	1,699
Net current assets	318,720	-	318,720
Net assets at the end of the year	320,420	-	320,420

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Big lottery	-	142,000	(142,000)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	88,903	(88,903)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	79,767	(79,767)	-	-
DPO	-	19,435	(19,435)	-	-
Legal Support	-	222,800	(222,800)	-	-
Legal Education foundation	-	12,264	(12,264)	-	-
Action for Bow	-	43,000	(43,000)	-	-
TFL Central Fund	-	50,522	(50,522)	-	-
South HPC	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	671,691	(671,691)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	320,420	254,995	(202,288)	-	373,127
Total funds	320,420	926,686	(873,979)	-	373,127
Movements in funds (prior year)					
	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Big Lottery	-	113,000	(113,000)	-	-
City Bridge	-	27,000	(27,000)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	120,892	(120,892)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	98,756	(98,756)	-	-
DPO	-	17,940	(17,940)	-	-
Legal Support	-	54,833	(54,833)	-	-
Action for Bow	-	39,864	(39,864)	-	-
Access to Justice	-	14,672	(14,672)	-	-
TFL Central Fundation	-	47,275	(47,275)	-	-
South HPC	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	546,232	(546,232)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	222,361	229,028	(130,969)	-	320,420
Total funds	222,361	775,260	(677,201)	-	320,420

THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE(UNIVERSITY HOUSE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1061182

Accounts

Company number: 03324062

Charity number: 1061182

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

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The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Charles Henry Bennett
Sally Elizabeth Twigger (Chair)
Alexander Hutton
Joannie Ann Andrews
Boin Cheong
Shalina Rahman
Foyez Ahmed Rahim (Secretary)
Mazidur Rahman
Jemma Louise Thorogood
Martin Steven Griffiths (Treasurer)
Rachel Morris
Robert Wheal
Camilla Sadler

Company number 03324062

Charity number 1061182

Registered office 104 Roman Road
Bethnal Green
London
E2 0RN

Independent Examiner Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London
N7 9DP
www.accountabilityeu.co.uk

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors under company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

The Charity's objectives are:

- i. To relieve poverty by providing legal advice and assistance to needy persons in the East End of London or elsewhere within England & Wales if provided via special projects, and in the furtherance of this object and ancillary thereto to institute conduct and defend any proceedings before any court or tribunal or for any purposes or in any other forum in which legal advice or representation may be required on behalf of persons seeking the assistance of the charity.

- ii. For that purpose to carry on the activities hitherto carried on by the charitable trust commonly known as the Legal Advice Centre (University House) and to receive such assets as may be made over to it by such charitable trust as may be appropriate on such terms as the trustees of the charity shall think fit.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have read, understood and adhere to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A great deal of our work is project based. Amongst our projects are the following:

Special Support Project

This project aims to define a new model of advice and advocacy for our users with complex health and social needs. Some of our users repeatedly call upon services such as ours for help on a wide range of matters. Through this project we provide front-loaded support to targeted individuals over a number of months, in order to help resolve problems which contribute to them reaching crisis point on a regular basis.

Advocacy Project

This project is based around volunteer law students and pro bono minded lawyers. Through the project we are supporting appointed 'advocates' to undertake disability appeal casework and to provide advocacy at Welfare Tribunal appeals. Our work in this area has really expanded. We now take on more disability benefit appeals than any other NGO in England & Wales.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Disability Employment Law Project

The overall aim of this project is to promote and protect the rights of disabled people in the workplace. The work is focused on early intervention in order to prevent an employed disabled person from becoming unemployed and subject to potentially a life on state benefits.

Family Law Clinic

In February 2016, we established our first Family Law Clinic. It is now a thrice weekly clinic with a focus on domestic abuse. The clinic is a collaboration between ourselves and nine international law firms. Typical casework includes helping DV victims obtain non-molestation orders.

Housing Clinic

This clinic was set up in order to help with the growing housing crisis in London. It is a weekly morning clinic to reflect the working patterns of the three USA law firms who are providing volunteers lawyers to staff the clinic.

Medico-Legal Partnership Project

In recent years, there has been the development by GPs and other clinical staff of what is commonly now known as Social Prescribing, whereby patients can be referred to non-clinical sources of support within the community. Whilst this work is of real benefit there is now a growing need to provide community-based medical practitioners with more potent tools to help combat systemic discrimination of the unwell within our society. Two years ago, we established a legal clinic providing free specialist employment law advice in a health setting. Initial results are very encouraging and are demonstrating the benefits of early expert legal advice. The key issue here is developing a body of evidence about the merits of early intervention.

West Country 'Webcam' Clinic

Originally we established a webcam advice clinic in partnership with a community organisation based in Falmouth. The bulk of the advice is provided directly by our own lawyers. In addition to our work in Falmouth, we are developing a number of projects around webcam based services, which will help pro bono minded lawyers and law students to remotely take part in access to justice projects with us.

Advice POrtal

In June 2020, we went "live" with our Advice POrtal in Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Newham, and in 2022, we secured substantial funding from the TNL Community Fund in order to provide access to our POrtal England-wide. Our experience at providing remote advice was at the heart of its development. The POrtal is principally aimed at supporting generalist advice agencies to undertake specialist legal casework. Users must register to access the POrtal. This allows us to target the POrtal where it is needed most.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Legal Expenses Insurance (LEI)

Since 2012, we have developed work around legal expenses insurance (LEI) in order to help fund tribunal and court work. Quite often our users do not know that they have such cover. At first contact, we have changed our protocols to establish whether users can take advantage of any insurance and financial products which contain LEI.

Our work and thinking around LEI has developed in recent months, and we are in contact with a large number of stakeholders in order to take this work forward. We believe micro-insurance (including a stripped-down version of LEI) should play a key role in helping to develop community resilience and should also form a key part of anti-poverty work.

The SQE and the Apprenticeship Levy

The SQE pathway to becoming a solicitor can be packaged as an apprenticeship. This, together with the recent rule changes to the Apprenticeship Levy provide opportunities for commercial law firms to, in effect, donate a proportion of their Levy to fund apprenticeships in the free advice sector. In September 2020, we welcomed our first three University House supported apprentices. There are now ten in total, and they are undertaking solicitor apprenticeships in partnership with BPP. We have employed three directly (all were former volunteers), and we are supporting the other seven remotely. This initiative is linked to our Advice Portal, and both projects are part of our efforts to help address the skills shortage in our sector. All ten apprentices receive support through donated Apprentice Levy from corporate partners.

Pro Bono Consultancy

Through our engagement with corporate law firms it is clear to us that their knowledge of what is possible concerning pro bono, and the political and social context to such work is quite variable. In response to this we are able to offer consultancy support to corporate law firms to assist their engagement with pro bono. This support may also be appreciated by firms who have established CSR/ Pro Bono programmes, but who require support at any given time to help establish a project or to undertake a particular piece of work.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for year ended 31 March 2023 are given in the Statement of Financial Activities. The assets and liabilities are given in the Balance Sheet. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the related notes. The trustees regard the financial position of the charity at 31 March 2023 to be satisfactory and they are content that the current unrestricted reserves position leaves it with a sound base from which future activity can be built.

In summary, total income amounted to £775,260 (2022: £711,267) and total expenditure amounted to £677,201 (2022: £708,700) resulting in net surplus of £98,059 (2022: £2,567). Full details of income and expenditure are set out in notes to the financial statements.

Reserve policy

The charity is currently dependent on donation income in order to maintain its core activities. Earned income alone would not allow it to continue operating. Following risk analysis, the trustees consider that there is a moderate risk of a need for reserves for the organisation as well as the potential of other operational risks, based on challenges in the wider policy context.

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves that will provide sufficient funds to cover 3 months' support and governance costs. Unrestricted free reserves at the end of this period covers these running costs for the foreseeable future.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also directors of charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2023 was £13 (2022: £12). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on **17/12/2023** and signed on their behalf by;


.....
Charles Bennett— Trustee

17 December 2023

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Legal Advice Centre (University House) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



.....
Aamer Shehzad FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP
Date: 18/12/2023

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023					2022
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and grants	2	153,354	546,232	699,586	217,888	461,729	679,617
Other trading activities	3	75,674	-	75,674	31,650	-	31,650
Total income		229,028	546,232	775,260	249,538	461,729	711,267
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	41,632	-	41,632	35,111	-	35,111
Charitable activities	5	89,337	546,232	635,569	211,860	461,729	673,589
Total expenditure		130,969	546,232	677,201	246,971	461,729	708,700
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	6	98,059	-	98,059	2,567	-	2,567
Net movement in funds	15	98,059	-	98,059	2,567	-	2,567
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		222,361	-	222,361	219,794	-	219,794
Total funds carried forward		320,420	-	320,420	222,361	-	222,361

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Balance sheet

Company no. 03324062

As at 31 March 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	11		<u>1,699</u>	<u>6,824</u>
			1,699	6,824
Current assets:				
Debtors	12	16,400		8,257
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>326,293</u>		<u>252,543</u>
		342,693		260,800
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(23,973)</u>		<u>(45,263)</u>
Net current assets			<u>318,720</u>	<u>215,537</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>320,420</u></u>	<u><u>222,361</u></u>
The funds of the charity:	15			
Restricted funds			-	-
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds			<u>320,420</u>	<u>222,361</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>320,420</u></u>	<u><u>222,361</u></u>

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the trustees on **17/12/2023**
and signed on their behalf by:



Charles Bennett
Trustee

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

17 December 2023

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £	
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	a	73,750	(41,390)	
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchase of fixed assets		<u>-</u>	<u>(5,136)</u>	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(5,136)</u>	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	b	73,750	(46,526)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		252,543	299,069	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u>326,293</u>	<u>252,543</u>	
a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities				
		2023	2022	
		£	£	
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		98,059	2,567	
(as per the statement of financial activities)				
Depreciation		5,125	4,591	
Increase in debtors		(8,143)	1,291	
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors		<u>(21,290)</u>	<u>(49,839)</u>	
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		<u>73,750</u>	<u>(41,390)</u>	
b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
		At 1 April	Cash	At
		2022	flows	31 March
		£	£	2023
				£
Cash at bank and in hand		252,543	73,750	326,293
Total cash and cash equivalents		<u>252,543</u>	<u>73,750</u>	<u>326,293</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

The Legal Advice Centre (University House) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address is 104 Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London, E2 0RN.

Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of providing legal advice and assistance undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years

Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on basis of staff time.

Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

Creditors and provisions

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

2 Income from donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Access to justice	-	14,672	14,672	-
Action for bow	-	39,864	39,864	-
Advice UK	-	-	-	4,000
Baker and Mckenzie	-	-	-	10,000
Big Lottery	-	113,000	113,000	134,251
Charityworks	-	-	-	11,363
Charles Russell Speechlys	20,000	-	20,000	10,000
City Bridge Trust	-	27,000	27,000	80,000
Clifford Chance LLP	30,000	-	30,000	25,000
Cambridge Global	3,500	-	3,500	-
CLYDE & CO LLP	-	-	-	4,000
DAC Beachcroft LLP	-	-	-	4,000
Dechert LLP	5,000	-	5,000	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	120,892	120,892	105,892
Education and Skills Funding Agency	-	-	-	2,750
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	6,034	-	6,034	-
Legal Support	-	54,833	54,833	-
Latham & Watkins LLP	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Legal Aid Agency	-	98,756	98,756	30,145
Legal Education Foundation	-	-	-	24,528
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	20,000	-	20,000	18,800
London Legal Support Trust	-	-	-	11,583
OMM Office	3,500	-	3,500	-
Real DPO Ltd	-	17,940	17,940	26,910
Reed Smith LLP	6,834	-	6,834	8,834
Ropes & Gray LLP	3,834	-	3,834	-
Sherman and Sterling	-	-	-	9,834
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
SLAM NHS Trust	-	-	-	5,055
Slaughter and May	22,000	-	22,000	22,000
South Hackney Parochial	-	12,000	12,000	13,000
The Children Society	-	-	-	10,000
The Worshipful Company of Insurers	-	-	-	5,000
Travers Smith LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
Trust for London	-	47,275	47,275	44,000
Taylor Wessing LLP	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Wakefield and Tetley Trust	-	-	-	10,000
White & Case LLP	10,000	-	10,000	16,500
Other donations and grants	984	-	984	10,504
	153,354	546,232	699,586	679,617

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	40,805	-	40,805	31,650
Fee income	33,069	-	33,069	-
Training income	1,800	-	1,800	-
	75,674	-	75,674	31,650

4 Local and Government and Housing Act 1989

The charity received financial assistance from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As required by Section 37 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the following information is given.

Amount of £20,000 (2022: £18,800) was received for provision of legal advice services.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	37,071	533,970	-	571,041	643,086
Partnership costs	-	23,470	-	23,470	3,584
Training & practicing certificate	-	9,386	-	9,386	4,604
Books and subscriptions	-	1,982	-	1,982	2,044
Project & event cost	-	1,058	-	1,058	1,419
Other general office costs	-	-	9,308	9,308	12,094
Premises costs	-	-	29,675	29,675	22,218
Accountancy	-	-	7,194	7,194	7,068
Independent examination	-	-	900	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	1,720	1,720	3,529
Professional fees	-	-	15,668	15,668	2,260
Travel costs	-	-	674	674	1,302
Depreciation	-	-	5,125	5,125	4,592
	<u>37,071</u>	<u>569,866</u>	<u>70,264</u>	<u>677,201</u>	<u>708,700</u>
Support costs allocation	4,561	65,703	(70,264)	-	-
Total expenditure 2023	<u>41,632</u>	<u>635,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>677,201</u>	<u>708,700</u>

Of the total expenditure, £132,149 was unrestricted (2022: £246,974) and £564,232 was restricted (2022: £461,728).

Analysis of expenditure - prior year

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2021 £
Staff costs (Note 7)	32,393	610,693	-	643,086
Partnership costs	-	3,584	-	3,584
Training & practicing Certificate	-	4,604	-	4,604
Books and subscriptions	-	2,044	-	2,044
Project & Event cost	-	1,419	-	1,419
Other general office costs	-	-	12,094	12,094
Premises costs	-	-	22,218	22,218
Accountancy	-	-	7,068	7,068
Independent examination	-	-	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	3,529	3,529
Professional Fees	-	-	2,260	2,260
Travel costs	-	-	1,302	1,302
Depreciation	-	-	4,592	4,592
	<u>32,393</u>	<u>622,344</u>	<u>53,963</u>	<u>708,700</u>
Support costs allocation	2,718	51,245	(53,963)	-
Total expenditure 2022	<u>35,111</u>	<u>673,589</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>708,700</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

6 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examiner fee (Excl VAT)	750	750
Depreciation	5,125	4,975
	<u>5,125</u>	<u>4,975</u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	490,397	455,288
Social security costs	48,003	41,755
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	25,558	17,616
Redundancy costs	7,083	-
	<u>571,041</u>	<u>514,659</u>

One employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2022: nil).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer NI contribution of the key management personnel were £74,142 (2022: £64,786).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Average staff	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>

8 Related party transactions

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

9 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	3,687	16,374	20,061
At the end of the year	<u>3,687</u>	<u>16,374</u>	<u>20,061</u>
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	1,750	11,487	13,237
Charge for the year	870	4,255	5,125
At the end of the year	<u>2,620</u>	<u>15,742</u>	<u>18,362</u>
Net book value			
At the end of the year	<u>1,067</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>1,699</u>
At the start of the year	<u>1,937</u>	<u>4,887</u>	<u>6,824</u>

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	8,900	-
Accrued income	7,500	8,257
	<u>16,400</u>	<u>8,257</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	1,146	629
Taxation and social security	4,753	834
Accruals	3,074	1,800
Deferred income	15,000	42,000
	<u>23,973</u>	<u>45,263</u>

Deferred income comprises of grants received in advance for the next year.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	1,699	-	1,699
Net current assets	318,720	-	318,720
Net assets at the end of the year	320,420	-	320,420
Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)			
Tangible fixed assets	6,824	-	6,824
Net current assets	215,537	-	215,537
Net assets at the end of the year	222,361	-	222,361

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Big lottery	-	113,000	(113,000)	-	-
City Bridge	-	27,000	(27,000)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	120,892	(120,892)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	98,756	(98,756)	-	-
DPO	-	17,940	(17,940)	-	-
Legal Support	-	54,833	(54,833)	-	-
Action for Bow	-	39,864	(39,864)	-	-
Access to Justice	-	14,672	(14,672)	-	-
TFL Central Fund	-	47,275	(47,275)	-	-
South HPC	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	546,232	(546,232)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	222,361	229,028	(130,969)	-	320,420
Total funds	222,361	775,260	(677,201)	-	320,420
Movements in funds (prior year)					
	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
London Borough of tower hamlet	-	18,800	(18,800)	-	-
Education and Skills Funding Agency	-	2,750	(2,750)	-	-
Big Lottery	-	134,251	(134,251)	-	-
City Bridge	-	80,000	(80,000)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	105,892	(105,892)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	30,145	(30,145)	-	-
London Education foundation	-	24,528	(24,528)	-	-
TFL Central Foundation	-	44,000	(44,000)	-	-
Kickstart	-	11,363	(11,363)	-	-
Wakefield	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	461,729	(461,729)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	219,794	249,538	(246,971)	-	222,361
Total funds	219,794	711,267	(708,700)	-	222,361

THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE(UNIVERSITY HOUSE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1061182

Accounts

Company number: 03324062

Charity number: 1061182

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

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The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Charles Henry Bennett (Chair)
Sally Elizabeth Twigger
Alexander Hutton
Joannie Ann Andrews
Boin Cheong
Shalina Rahman
Foyez Ahmed Rahim (Secretary)
Mazidur Rahman
Jemma Louise Thorogood
Martin Steven Griffiths (Treasurer)
Rachel Morris
Robert Wheal

Company number 03324062

Charity number 1061182

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The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees, who are also directors under company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

The Charity's objectives are:

- i. To relieve poverty by providing legal advice and assistance to needy persons in the East End of London or elsewhere within England & Wales if provided via special projects, and in the furtherance of this object and ancillary thereto to institute conduct and defend any proceedings before any court or tribunal or for any purposes or in any other forum in which legal advice or representation may be required on behalf of persons seeking the assistance of the charity.

- ii. For that purpose to carry on the activities hitherto carried on by the charitable trust commonly known as the Legal Advice Centre (University House) and to receive such assets as may be made over to it by such charitable trust as may be appropriate on such terms as the trustees of the charity shall think fit.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have read, understood and adhere to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A great deal of our work is project based. Amongst our projects are the following:

Special Support Project

This project aims to define a new model of advice and advocacy for our users with complex health and social needs. Some of our users repeatedly call upon services such as ours for help on a wide range of matters. Through this project we provide front-loaded support to targeted individuals over a number of months, in order to help resolve problems which contribute to them reaching crisis point on a regular basis.

Advocacy Project

This project is based around volunteer law students and pro bono minded lawyers. Through the project we are supporting appointed 'advocates' to undertake disability appeal casework and to provide advocacy at Welfare Tribunal appeals. Our work in this area has really expanded. We now take on more disability benefit appeals than any other NGO in England & Wales. We also now accept referrals under this project from Cornwall and Devon.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Disability Employment Law Project

The overall aim of this project is to promote and protect the rights of disabled people in the workplace. The work is focused on early intervention in order to prevent an employed disabled person from becoming unemployed and subject to potentially a life on state benefits.

Family Law Clinic

Our Family Law Clinic is a twice-weekly clinic with a focus on domestic violence. The clinic is a collaboration between ourselves and a number of international law firms. Typical casework includes helping DV victims obtain non-molestation orders.

Housing Clinic

This clinic was set up in order to help with the growing housing crisis in London. It is a weekly morning clinic to reflect the working patterns of the three USA law firms who are providing volunteers lawyers to staff the clinic. As part of an extension to our Thursday morning housing clinic, we now undertake 'hate-crime' casework to a specialist level, which can involve seeking orders under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.

Medico-Legal Partnership Project

In recent years, there has been the development by GPs and other clinical staff of what is commonly now known as Social Prescribing, whereby patients can be referred to non-clinical sources of support within the community. Whilst this work is of real benefit there is now a growing need to provide community-based medical practitioners with more potent tools to help combat systemic discrimination of the unwell within our society. We have established a legal clinic providing free specialist employment law advice in a health setting. Outcomes are very encouraging and are demonstrating the benefits of early expert legal advice.

West Country 'Webcam' Clinic

Our webcam advice clinic in Falmouth is now entering its third year of operation. This is part of a wider initiative to provide access to advice to the many 'advice deserts' in the UK. The bulk of the advice is provided directly by our own lawyers. In addition to our work in Falmouth, we are developing a number of projects around webcam based services. As part of this work we have developed our own webcam platform, which will help pro bono minded lawyers and law students to remotely take part in access to justice projects with us.

On the 5th November 2018 we went "live" with our webcam 'family law duty desk', at Truro Combined Courts. This duty desk provides assistance with section 8 private child arrangement cases and DV. On the 15th October 2019 we went "live" with a similar duty desk at Bodmin Combined Courts. In December 2019, in partnership with Charles Russell Speechlys LLP, we went "live" with a webcam Family Law Clinic hosted by Plymouth Citizens Advice.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Legal Expenses Insurance (LEI)

Since 2012, we have developed work around legal expenses insurance (LEI) in order to help fund tribunal and court work. Quite often our users do not know that they have such cover. At first contact, we have changed our protocols to establish whether users can take advantage of any insurance and financial products which contain LEI.

Our work and thinking around LEI has developed, and we are in contact with a large number of stakeholders in order to take this work forward. We believe micro-insurance (including a stripped down version of LEI) should play a key role in helping to develop community resilience, and should also form a key part of anti-poverty work.

The SQE and the Apprenticeship Levy

The SQE pathway to becoming a solicitor starts from September 2021, although law schools are taking on SQE students from September 2020 knowing that the assessment framework is coming. The BPP law school confirmed that the SQE can be packaged as an apprenticeship. This, together with the recent rule changes to the Apprenticeship Levy provide opportunities for commercial law firms to, in effect, donate a proportion of their Levy to fund apprenticeships/fellowships in the advice sector.

In September 2020 and January 2021, we welcomed our first new University House Fellows. The Fellows, six in total, will be undertaking solicitor apprenticeships in partnership with BPP. This is based on the new SQE1 and SQE2 pathway to becoming a solicitor. We have employed three directly (all were former volunteers), and we are supporting the other three remotely. This initiative is linked to our Advice Portal, and both projects are part of our efforts to help address the skills shortage in our sector. In addition to training as solicitors, the Fellows will also undertake projects which focus on access to justice issues. We want to thank several corporate partners for helping to make this possible through their donations of Apprenticeship Levy.

Pro Bono Consultancy

Through our engagement with corporate law firms it is clear to us that their knowledge of what is possible concerning pro bono, and the political and social context to such work is quite variable. In response to this we are able to offer consultancy support to corporate law firms to assist their engagement with pro bono. This support may also be appreciated by firms who have fairly established CSR/Pro Bono programmes, but who require support at any given time to help establish a project or to undertake a particular piece of work.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for year ended 31 March 2022 are given in the Statement of Financial Activities. The assets and liabilities are given in the Balance Sheet. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the related notes. The trustees regard the financial position of the charity at 31 March 2022 to be satisfactory and they are content that the current unrestricted reserves position leaves it with a sound base from which future activity can be built.

In summary, total income amounted to £711,267 (2021: £731,376) and total expenditure amounted to £708,700 (2021: £591,147) resulting in net surplus of £2,567 (2021: £140,229). Full details of income and expenditure are set out in notes to the financial statements.

Reserve policy

The charity is currently dependent on donation income in order to maintain its core activities. Earned income alone would not allow it to continue operating. Following risk analysis, the trustees consider that there is a moderate risk of a need for reserves for the organisation as well as the potential of other operational risks, based on challenges in the wider policy context.

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves that will provide sufficient funds to cover 3 months' support and governance costs. Unrestricted free reserves at the end of this period covers these running costs for the foreseeable future.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also directors of charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2022

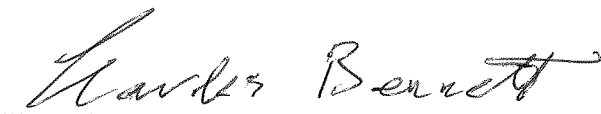
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2021 was £12 (2020: £12). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on **1 December 2022** and signed on their behalf by;



Charles Bennett – Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Legal Advice Centre (University House) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



.....
Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA

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

Date: 7 December 2022

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2022

		2022					2021
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and grants	2	217,888	461,729	679,617	206,749	507,354	714,103
Other trading activities	3	31,650	-	31,650	17,273	-	17,273
Total income		249,538	461,729	711,267	224,022	507,354	731,376
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	35,111	-	35,111	30,625	-	30,625
Charitable activities	5	211,860	461,729	673,589	42,093	518,429	560,522
Total expenditure		246,971	461,729	708,700	72,718	518,429	591,147
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	6	2,567	-	2,567	151,304	(11,075)	140,229
Net movement in funds	15	2,567	-	2,567	151,304	(11,075)	140,229
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		219,794	-	219,794	68,490	11,075	79,565
Total funds carried forward		222,361	-	222,361	219,794	-	219,794

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Balance sheet

Company no. 03324062

As at 31 March 2022

	Note	£	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	11		<u>6,824</u>	<u>6,279</u>
			6,824	6,279
Current assets:				
Debtors	12	8,257		9,548
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>252,543</u>		<u>299,069</u>
		260,800		308,617
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(45,263)</u>		<u>(95,102)</u>
Net current assets			<u>215,537</u>	<u>213,515</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>222,361</u></u>	<u><u>219,794</u></u>
The funds of the charity:	15			
Restricted funds			-	-
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds			<u>222,361</u>	<u>219,794</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>222,361</u></u>	<u><u>219,794</u></u>

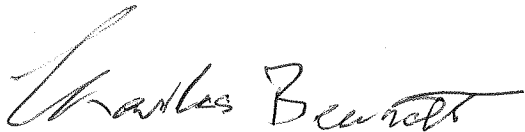
For the year ended 31 March 2022 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the trustees on **1 December 2022**
and signed on their behalf by:



Charles Bennett
Trustee

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	a	(41,390)	241,878
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of fixed assets		<u>(5,136)</u>	<u>(8,599)</u>
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		<u>(5,136)</u>	<u>(8,599)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	b	(46,526)	233,279
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		299,069	65,790
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u><u>252,543</u></u>	<u><u>299,069</u></u>

a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities	2022 £	2021 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)	2,567	140,229
Depreciation	4,591	4,975
Increase in debtors	1,291	14,459
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	<u>(49,839)</u>	<u>82,215</u>
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>(41,390)</u>	<u>241,878</u>

b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	299,069	(46,526)	252,543
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>299,069</u>	<u>(46,526)</u>	<u>252,543</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

The Legal Advice Centre (University House) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address is 104 Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London, E2 0RN.

Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of providing legal advice and assistance undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years

Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on basis of staff time.

Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

Creditors and provisions

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

2 Income from donations and grants

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
AB Charitable Trust	-	-	-	15,000
Advice UK	4,000	-	4,000	-
Baker and McKenzie	10,000	-	10,000	20,000
Big Lottery	-	134,251	134,251	208,574
Charityworks	-	11,363	11,363	-
Charles Russell Speechlys	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
City Bridge Trust	-	80,000	80,000	52,150
Clifford Chance LLP	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
CLYDE & CO LLP	4,000	-	4,000	-
DAC Beachcroft LLP	4,000	-	4,000	-
Dechert LLP	-	-	-	3,000
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	105,892	105,892	98,392
Education and Skills Funding Agency	-	2,750	2,750	-
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	-	-	-	3,834
Good Things Foundation	-	-	-	2,000
Latham & Watkins LLP	10,000	-	10,000	-
Legal Aid Agency	-	30,145	30,145	21,790
Legal Education Foundation	-	24,528	24,528	36,792
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	18,800	18,800	7,000
London Community Foundation	-	-	-	32,656
London Legal Support Trust	11,583	-	11,583	11,576
Real DPO Ltd	26,910	-	26,910	-
Reed Smith LLP	8,834	-	8,834	7,834
Ropes & Gray LLP	-	-	-	3,834
Sherman and Sterling	9,834	-	9,834	9,668
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
SLAM NHS Trust	5,055	-	5,055	5,055
Slaughter and May	22,000	-	22,000	15,000
South Hackney Parochial	13,000	-	13,000	10,000
The Access to Justice Foundation	-	-	-	54,200
The Children Society	10,000	-	10,000	-
The Worshipful Company of Insurers	5,000	-	5,000	-
Travers Smith LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
Trust for London	-	44,000	44,000	21,750
Taylor Wessing LLP	4,000	-	4,000	-
Wakefield and Tetley Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-
White & Case LLP	16,500	-	16,500	10,000
Other donations and grants	10,504	-	10,504	21,331
	217,888	461,729	679,617	714,103

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Consultancy and other income	31,650	-	31,650	17,273
	31,650	-	31,650	17,273

4 Local and Government and Housing Act 1989

The charity received financial assistance from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As required by Section 37 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the following information is given.

Amount of £18,800 (2021: £7,000) was received for provision of legal advice services.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	32,393	610,693	-	643,086	514,659
Partnership costs	-	3,584	-	3,584	4,426
Training & practicing Certificate	-	4,604	-	4,604	9,110
Books and subscriptions	-	2,044	-	2,044	3,022
Project & Event cost	-	1,419	-	1,419	947
Advertising & publicity	-	-	-	-	175
Other general office costs	-	-	12,094	12,094	8,036
Premises costs	-	-	22,218	22,218	37,259
Accountancy	-	-	7,068	7,068	6,669
Independent examination	-	-	900	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	3,529	3,529	969
Professional Fees	-	-	2,260	2,260	-
Travel costs	-	-	1,302	1,302	-
Depreciation	-	-	4,592	4,592	4,975
	<u>32,393</u>	<u>622,344</u>	<u>53,963</u>	<u>708,700</u>	<u>591,147</u>
Support costs allocation	2,718	51,245	(53,963)	-	-
Total expenditure 2022	<u>35,111</u>	<u>673,589</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>708,700</u>	<u>591,147</u>

Of the total expenditure, £246,974 was unrestricted (2021: £72,718) and £461,728 was restricted (2021: £518,429).

Analysis of expenditure - prior year

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2021 £
Staff costs (Note 7)	27,476	487,183	-	514,659
Partnership costs	-	4,426	-	4,426
Training & practicing Certificate	-	9,110	-	9,110
Books and subscriptions	-	3,022	-	3,022
Project & Event cost	-	947	-	947
Advertising & publicity	-	-	175	175
Other general office costs	-	-	8,036	8,036
Premises costs	-	-	37,259	37,259
Accountancy	-	-	6,669	6,669
Independent examination	-	-	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	969	969
Travel costs	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	4,975	4,975
	<u>27,476</u>	<u>504,688</u>	<u>58,983</u>	<u>591,147</u>
Support costs allocation	3,149	55,834	(58,983)	-
Total expenditure 2021	<u>30,625</u>	<u>560,522</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>591,147</u>

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

6 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examiner fee (Incl VAT)	900	900
Depreciation	4,591	4,975
	<u>4,591</u>	<u>4,975</u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	567,128	455,288
Social security costs	52,385	41,755
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	23,573	17,616
	<u>643,086</u>	<u>514,659</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2020: nil).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer NI contribution of the key management personnel were £64,786 (2021: £54,952).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Average staff	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>

8 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for the year (2021: none).

9 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	2,088	12,837	14,925
Additions in year	1,599	3,537	5,136
At the end of the year	3,687	16,374	20,061
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	1,415	7,231	8,646
Charge for the year	335	4,256	4,591
At the end of the year	1,750	11,487	13,237
Net book value			
At the end of the year	1,937	4,887	6,824
At the start of the year	673	5,606	6,279

12 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	8,257	8,257
Prepayments	-	614
Other debtors	-	677
	8,257	9,548

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	629	864
Taxation and social security	834	3,461
Accruals	1,800	1,800
Deferred income	42,000	88,977
	45,263	95,102

Deferred income comprises of grants received in advance for the next year.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	6,824	-	6,824
Net current assets	215,537	-	215,537
Net assets at the end of the year	222,361	-	222,361
Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)			
Tangible fixed assets	6,279	-	6,279
Net current assets	213,515	-	213,515
Net assets at the end of the year	219,794	-	219,794

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Big lottery	-	134,251	(134,251)	-	-
City Bridge	-	80,000	(80,000)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	105,892	(105,892)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	30,145	(30,145)	-	-
Kickstart	-	11,363	(11,363)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	-	24,528	(24,528)	-	-
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	18,800	(18,800)	-	-
Education and Skills Funding Agency	-	2,750	(2,750)	-	-
TFL Central Fund	-	44,000	(44,000)	-	-
Wake field	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	461,729	(461,729)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	219,794	249,538	(246,971)	-	222,361
Total funds	219,794	711,267	(708,700)	-	222,361
Movements in funds (prior year)					
	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Access to Justice	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Big Lottery	-	208,574	(208,574)	-	-
City Bridge	11,075	52,150	(63,225)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	98,392	(98,392)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	21,790	(21,790)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	-	36,792	(36,792)	-	-
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	7,000	(7,000)	-	-
London Community Foundation	-	32,656	(32,656)	-	-
Total restricted funds	11,075	507,354	(518,429)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	68,490	224,022	(72,718)	-	219,794
Total funds	79,565	731,376	(591,147)	-	219,794

THE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE(UNIVERSITY HOUSE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1061182

Accounts

Company number: 03324062

Charity number: 1061182

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

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The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Trustees

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Charles Henry Bennett (Chair)
Sally Elizabeth Twigger
Alexander Hutton
Joannie Ann Andrews
Boin Cheong
Shalina Rahman
Foyez Ahmed Rahim (Secretary)
Mazidur Rahman
Jemma Louise Thorogood
Martin Steven Griffiths (Treasurer)
Rachel Morris
Robert Wheal (Appointed on 30 April 2020)
Sir Robin John Knowles, CBE (resigned on 18 August 2020)

Company number

03324062

Charity number

1061182

Registered office

104 Roman Road
Bethnal Green
London
E2 0RN

Independent Examiner

Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London
N7 9DP
www.accountabilityeu.co.uk

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees, who are also directors under company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

The Charity's objectives are:

- i. To relieve poverty by providing legal advice and assistance to needy persons in the East End of London or elsewhere within England & Wales if provided via special projects, and in the furtherance of this object and ancillary thereto to institute conduct and defend any proceedings before any court or tribunal or for any purposes or in any other forum in which legal advice or representation may be required on behalf of persons seeking the assistance of the charity.
- ii. For that purpose to carry on the activities hitherto carried on by the charitable trust commonly known as the Legal Advice Centre (University House) and to receive such assets as may be made over to it by such charitable trust as may be appropriate on such terms as the trustees of the charity shall think fit.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have read, understood and adhere to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A great deal of our work is project based. Amongst our projects are the following:

Special Support Project

This project aims to define a new model of advice and advocacy for our users with complex health and social needs. Some of our users repeatedly call upon services such as ours for help on a wide range of matters. Through this project we provide front-loaded support to targeted individuals over a number of months, in order to help resolve problems which contribute to them reaching crisis point on a regular basis.

Advocacy Project

This project is based around volunteer law students and pro bono minded lawyers. Through the project we are supporting appointed 'advocates' to undertake disability appeal casework and to provide advocacy at Welfare Tribunal appeals. Our work in this area has really expanded. We now take on more disability benefit appeals than any other NGO in England & Wales. We also now accept referrals under this project from Cornwall and Devon.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Disability Employment Law Project

The overall aim of this project is to promote and protect the rights of disabled people in the workplace. The work is focused on early intervention in order to prevent an employed disabled person from becoming unemployed and subject to potentially a life on state benefits.

Family Law Clinic

Our Family Law Clinic is a twice-weekly clinic with a focus on domestic violence. The clinic is a collaboration between ourselves and a number of international law firms. Typical casework includes helping DV victims obtain non-molestation orders.

Housing Clinic

This clinic was set up in order to help with the growing housing crisis in London. It is a weekly morning clinic to reflect the working patterns of the three USA law firms who are providing volunteers lawyers to staff the clinic. As part of an extension to our Thursday morning housing clinic, we now undertake 'hate-crime' casework to a specialist level, which can involve seeking orders under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.

Medico-Legal Partnership Project

In recent years, there has been the development by GPs and other clinical staff of what is commonly now known as Social Prescribing, whereby patients can be referred to non-clinical sources of support within the community. Whilst this work is of real benefit there is now a growing need to provide community-based medical practitioners with more potent tools to help combat systemic discrimination of the unwell within our society. We have established a legal clinic providing free specialist employment law advice in a health setting. Outcomes are very encouraging and are demonstrating the benefits of early expert legal advice.

West Country 'Webcam' Clinic

Our webcam advice clinic in Falmouth is now entering its third year of operation. This is part of a wider initiative to provide access to advice to the many 'advice deserts' in the UK. The bulk of the advice is provided directly by our own lawyers. In addition to our work in Falmouth, we are developing a number of projects around webcam based services. As part of this work we have developed our own webcam platform, which will help pro bono minded lawyers and law students to remotely take part in access to justice projects with us.

On the 5th November 2018 we went "live" with our webcam 'family law duty desk', at Truro Combined Courts. This duty desk provides assistance with section 8 private child arrangement cases and DV. On the 15th October 2019 we went "live" with a similar duty desk at Bodmin Combined Courts. In December 2019, in partnership with Charles Russell Speechlys LLP, we went "live" with a webcam Family Law Clinic hosted by Plymouth Citizens Advice.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Legal Expenses Insurance (LEI)

Since 2012, we have developed work around legal expenses insurance (LEI) in order to help fund tribunal and court work. Quite often our users do not know that they have such cover. At first contact, we have changed our protocols to establish whether users can take advantage of any insurance and financial products which contain LEI.

Our work and thinking around LEI has developed, and we are in contact with a large number of stakeholders in order to take this work forward. We believe micro-insurance (including a stripped down version of LEI) should play a key role in helping to develop community resilience, and should also form a key part of anti-poverty work.

The SQE and the Apprenticeship Levy

The SQE pathway to becoming a solicitor starts from September 2021, although law schools are taking on SQE students from September 2020 knowing that the assessment framework is coming. The BPP law school confirmed that the SQE can be packaged as an apprenticeship. This, together with the recent rule changes to the Apprenticeship Levy provide opportunities for commercial law firms to, in effect, donate a proportion of their Levy to fund apprenticeships/fellowships in the advice sector.

In September 2020 and January 2021, we welcomed our first new University House Fellows. The Fellows, six in total, will be undertaking solicitor apprenticeships in partnership with BPP. This is based on the new SQE1 and SQE2 pathway to becoming a solicitor. We have employed three directly (all were former volunteers), and we are supporting the other three remotely. This initiative is linked to our Advice Portal, and both projects are part of our efforts to help address the skills shortage in our sector. In addition to training as solicitors, the Fellows will also undertake projects which focus on access to justice issues. We want to thank several corporate partners for helping to make this possible through their donations of Apprenticeship Levy.

Pro Bono Consultancy

Through our engagement with corporate law firms it is clear to us that their knowledge of what is possible concerning pro bono, and the political and social context to such work is quite variable. In response to this we are able to offer consultancy support to corporate law firms to assist their engagement with pro bono. This support may also be appreciated by firms who have fairly established CSR/Pro Bono programmes, but who require support at any given time to help establish a project or to undertake a particular piece of work.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for year ended 31 March 2021 are given in the Statement of Financial Activities. The assets and liabilities are given in the Balance Sheet. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the related notes. The trustees regard the financial position of the charity at 31 March 2021 to be satisfactory and they are content that the current unrestricted reserves position leaves it with a sound base from which future activity can be built.

In summary, total income amounted to £731,376 (2020: £625,154) and total expenditure amounted to £591,147 (2020: £614,776) resulting in net surplus of £140,229 (2020: £10,378). Full details of income and expenditure are set out in notes to the financial statements.

Reserve policy

The charity is currently dependent on donation income in order to maintain its core activities. Earned income alone would not allow it to continue operating. Following risk analysis, the trustees consider that there is a moderate risk of a need for reserves for the organisation as well as the potential of other operational risks, based on challenges in the wider policy context.

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves that will provide sufficient funds to cover 3 months' support and governance costs. Unrestricted free reserves at the end of this period covers these running costs for the foreseeable future.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also directors of charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2021

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2021 was £12 (2020: £12). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on Monday **20th September 2021** and signed on their behalf by;



Charles Bennett – Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Legal Advice Centre (University House)
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Legal Advice Centre (University House) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



.....
Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA

Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP
Date: 8 October 2021

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020 Total
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations and grants	2	206,749	507,354	714,103	137,976	450,274	588,250
Other trading activities	3	17,273	-	17,273	36,904	-	36,904
Total income		224,022	507,354	731,376	174,880	450,274	625,154
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	30,625	-	30,625	-	-	-
Charitable activities	5	42,093	518,429	560,522	175,577	439,199	614,776
Total expenditure		72,718	518,429	591,147	175,577	439,199	614,776
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	6	151,304	(11,075)	140,229	(697)	11,075	10,378
Net movement in funds	15	151,304	(11,075)	140,229	(697)	11,075	10,378
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		68,490	11,075	79,565	69,187	-	69,187
Total funds carried forward		219,794	-	219,794	68,490	11,075	79,565

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

Balance sheet

Company no. 03324062

As at 31 March 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	11		6,279	2,655
Current assets:				
Debtors	12	9,548	24,007	
Cash at bank and in hand		299,069	65,790	
		<u>308,617</u>	<u>89,797</u>	
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(95,102)	(12,887)	
Net current assets			<u>213,515</u>	<u>76,910</u>
Total net assets			<u>219,794</u>	<u>79,565</u>
The funds of the charity:	15			
Restricted funds			-	11,075
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds			219,794	68,490
Total charity funds			<u>219,794</u>	<u>79,565</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the trustees on **20th September 2021**
and signed on their behalf by:



Charles Bennett
Trustee

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021	2020	
		£	£	
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	a	241,878	(26,539)	
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchase of fixed assets		(8,599)	(1,641)	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(8,599)	(1,641)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	b	233,279	(28,180)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		65,790	93,970	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		299,069	65,790	
a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities				
		2021	2019	
		£	£	
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		140,229	10,378	
(as per the statement of financial activities)				
Depreciation		4,975	2,110	
Increase in debtors		14,459	(20,569)	
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors		82,215	(18,458)	
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		241,878	(26,539)	
b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
		At 1 April	Cash	At
		2020	flows	31 March
		£	£	2021
				£
Cash at bank and in hand		65,790	233,279	299,069
Total cash and cash equivalents		65,790	233,279	299,069

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

The Legal Advice Centre (University House) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address is 104 Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London, E2 0RN.

Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of providing legal advice and assistance undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years

Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on basis of staff time.

Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

Creditors and provisions

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

2 Income from donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
AB Charitable Trust	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Baker and Mckenzie	20,000	-	20,000	-
Big Lottery	-	208,574	208,574	-
Charles Russell Speechlys	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
City Bridge Trust	-	52,150	52,150	44,300
Clifford Chance LLP	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Dechert LLP	3,000	-	3,000	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	98,392	98,392	49,296
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	3,834	-	3,834	-
Good Things Foundation	2,000	-	2,000	-
Latham & Watkins LLP	-	-	-	10,000
Legal Aid Agency	-	21,790	21,790	22,805
Legal Education Foundation	-	36,792	36,792	91,919
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	7,000	7,000	177,640
London Community Foundation	-	32,656	32,656	-
London Legal Support Trust	11,576	-	11,576	12,038
Reed Smith LLP	7,834	-	7,834	6,834
Ropes & Gray LLP	3,834	-	3,834	12,818
Royal Borough of Greenwich	-	-	-	68,000
Sherman and Sterling	9,668	-	9,668	7,668
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
SLaM NHS Trust	5,055	-	5,055	-
Slaughter and May	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
South Hackney Parochial	10,000	-	10,000	-
The Access to Justice Foundation	4,200	50,000	54,200	-
Travers Smith LLP	3,834	-	3,834	3,834
Trust for London	21,750	-	21,750	-
White & Case LLP	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Other donations and grants	21,331	-	21,331	2,265
	<u>206,749</u>	<u>507,354</u>	<u>714,103</u>	<u>588,250</u>

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	17,273	-	17,273	36,904
	<u>17,273</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,273</u>	<u>36,904</u>

4 Local and Government and Housing Act 1989

The charity received financial assistance from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As required by Section 37 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the following information is given.

Amount of £7,000 (2020: £177,640) was received for provision of legal advice services.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	27,476	487,183	-	514,659	430,797
Partnership costs	-	4,426	-	4,426	116,633
Training & practicing Certificate	-	9,110	-	9,110	2,812
Books and subscriptions	-	3,022	-	3,022	3,043
Project & Event cost	-	947	-	947	14,327
Advertising & publicity	-	-	175	175	-
Other general office costs	-	-	8,036	8,036	8,295
Premises costs	-	-	37,259	37,259	27,839
Accountancy	-	-	6,669	6,669	4,695
Independent examination	-	-	900	900	900
Office supplies & refreshments	-	-	969	969	1,754
Travel costs	-	-	-	-	1,573
Depreciation	-	-	4,975	4,975	2,108
	27,476	504,688	58,983	591,147	614,776
Support costs	3,149	55,834	(58,983)	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	30,625	560,522	-	591,147	614,776

Of the total expenditure, £72,718 was unrestricted (2020: £175,577) and £518,429 was restricted (2020: £439,199).

5b Analysis of expenditure - prior year

	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2020 £
Staff costs (Note 7)	430,797	-	430,797
Partnership costs	116,633	-	116,633
Training & practicing Certificate	2,812	-	2,812
Books and subscriptions	3,043	-	3,043
Project & Event cost	14,327	-	14,327
Advertising & publicity	-	-	-
Other general office costs	-	8,295	8,295
Premises costs	-	27,839	27,839
Accountancy	-	4,695	4,695
Independent examination	-	900	900
Office food & refreshments	-	1,754	1,754
Travel costs	-	1,573	1,573
Depreciation	-	2,108	2,108
	567,612	47,164	614,776
Support costs allocation	47,164	(47,164)	-
Total expenditure 2020	614,776	-	614,776

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

6 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent examiner fee (excl VAT)	750	750
Depreciation	4,975	2,110
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Salaries and wages	455,288	377,525
Social security costs	41,755	35,797
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	17,616	17,475
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>514,659</u>	<u>430,797</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2020: nil).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer NI contribution of the key management personnel were £54,952 (2020: £41,482).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

8 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Average staff	15	13
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

9 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for the year (2020: none).

10 Taxation

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

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	1,078	5,248	6,326
Additions in year	1,010	7,589	8,599
At the end of the year	2,088	12,837	14,925
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	719	2,952	3,671
Charge for the year	696	4,279	4,975
At the end of the year	1,415	7,231	8,646
Net book value			
At the end of the year	673	5,606	6,279
At the start of the year	359	2,296	2,655

12 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	8,257	18,257
Prepayments	614	5,750
Other debtors	677	-
	9,548	24,007

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	864	6,482
Taxation and social security	3,461	2,607
Accruals	1,800	1,800
Deferred income	88,977	-
Other creditors	-	1,998
	95,102	12,887

Deferred income comprises of grants received in advance for the next year.

The Legal Advice Centre (University House)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	6,279	-	6,279
Net current assets	213,515	-	213,515
Net assets at the end of the year	219,794	-	219,794

Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	2,655	-	2,655
Net current assets	65,835	11,075	76,910
Net assets at the end of the year	68,490	11,075	79,565

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds					
Access to Justice	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Big Lottery	-	208,574	(208,574)	-	-
City Bridge	11,075	52,150	(63,225)	-	-
East End Citizens Advice Bureau	-	98,392	(98,392)	-	-
Legal Aid	-	21,790	(21,790)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	-	36,792	(36,792)	-	-
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	-	7,000	(7,000)	-	-
London Community Foundation	-	32,656	(32,656)	-	-
Total restricted funds	11,075	507,354	(518,429)	-	-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	68,490	224,022	(72,718)	-	219,794
Total funds	79,565	731,376	(591,147)	-	219,794

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Movements in funds (prior year)					
Restricted funds	-	450,274	(439,199)	-	11,075
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	69,187	174,880	(175,577)	-	68,490
Total funds	69,187	625,154	(614,776)	-	79,565

16 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.