

2022-2023



## ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS



APRIL 2022 – MARCH 2023

*Christian Care and Concern for the Community*

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

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# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## Welcome

Welcome to Spencer Contact's Annual Report for 2022/23. Thank you for taking an interest and the time to read it through. Since 1999 Spencer Contact has been providing the residents of Northampton with good quality second hand (sometimes new) furniture and household items in order to show Christian care and concern to people in need living in our community. There is a great need in the town of Northampton and we have grown significantly over the years to continue meeting that need. We own a large warehouse on Gladstone Close, have a fully committed team of 7 staff and our objective every day remains the same, to help others, whoever they are, whatever their circumstances, in their time of need.



Imagine waking up early because you have no curtains at the window; you've not slept because you don't have a bed; your body aches from sleeping on the floor; all the clothes you own are kept in a bin bag in the corner of the room; there is no table or chairs to sit at in your house or a sofa to relax into; your children are tired because they've spent the night sharing the only bed in the house with their siblings...and so another day begins. Sadly, this is the reality of many people's lives in Northampton today. They have a roof over their heads but don't have the means to obtain the items of furniture needed to make that house comfortable, more than that, to make that house a home. Circumstances can change suddenly leaving people, who maybe thought they would never need to use the services of Spencer Contact, reaching out for help. That help is often in the form of items which so many take for granted every day, but to be given them in a time of need makes such a positive difference to the lives of those who receive them.

This year we have seen the cost of living continue to rise, making life difficult for many households across the country and in this town. Some have been forced to decide between paying to heat their home or spending the money available to them to feed their family. This increase in financial hardship has impacted on the demand for the service we provide and we have done all that we can to keep up with the need by trying to ensure that deliveries of items are fulfilled as quickly as possible.

Over 24 years the one thing that has remained constant is 'Why we do what we do' and that is to show something of the love of God to individuals in this town. Somebody once said 'we come representing a giving God and therefore we must come giving'. We trust that by doing what we do there will be those who will appreciate that they are not forgotten but are loved and valued, not only by us but by the God we serve.

Enjoy reading through the report. If you would like to know more or tour our premises then please do not hesitate to contact the General Manager, Steve, at [steve@spencercontact.com](mailto:steve@spencercontact.com).

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## Our Mission, Vision and Ethos

### MISSION

Our mission is to show Christian love to the community in Northampton by freely providing furniture to any person in need, regardless of the cause of their hardship. This is the core of the charity, upon which all our aims and objectives have been built and it has not changed since its founding. Our vision statement is 'Christian care and concern for the community'.



### CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTIVES

The charity exists under a constitution adopted on 4th March 1998 and amended on 7th November 2001.

The stated objectives in the constitution are:

- The relief of poverty by the provision of furniture, other household accessories and/or services calculated to reduce need, hardship or distress.
- The relief of persons with mental health problems requiring treatment, including persons suffering from emotional distress by the provision of assistance.
- The advancement of the Christian religion in England and Wales.

### ETHOS

Spencer Contact is characterised by its energetic demonstration of Christian care and concern for those whom we serve outside the organisation in action, word and prayer, and to reflect this Christian care and concern in our relationships with one another.

The motivation for our mission comes from Christ's care, concern and compassion that is evident in the Bible and is therefore rooted in our faith in Christ. This faith produces a distinctive heart attitude of love, as we respond to the love God showed for us, which we seek to express and portray with the following core values:

- That people matter;
- To demonstrate the love of Christ in a practical manner;
- To help bring comfort and relief to the poor;
- To love your neighbour as yourself;
- To make a difference one person at a time.

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These values and behaviours are intrinsically linked to our success and fulfilment of our mission. Therefore, the attitude and motivation of our staff and voluntary workers and the way our mission is achieved are as important as the mission itself.

*"A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another."*  
John 13:34

*Jesus replied, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like unto it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."*  
Matthew 22:37-40

As this attitude and motivation come only from a relationship with Christ, it becomes a genuine occupational requirement that most of the positions within Spencer Contact to be filled by committed Christians. Roles that have significant leadership, or that are central to fulfilling our aims and purposes, or developing and maintaining our Christian



ethos, will always be held by committed Christians. It is also essential that these attitudes and behaviours continue, and so we expect our staff to act in good faith and with loyalty to that relational ethos and to evangelical Christian standards of behaviour.

Notwithstanding this, the organisation is committed to diversity amongst its staff and volunteers and will not discriminate on any other grounds that are unrelated to our ethos. We believe that defining our occupational requirements does not restrict, but actually enhances, our commitment to diversity.





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## Public Benefit

Spencer Contact carries out a range of activities in following its charitable aims. The trustees believe that the activities summarised below provide benefit to the people of the town of Northampton and outlying villages.

### PROVISION OF FURNITURE TO PEOPLE IN NEED

Spencer Contact provides good quality furniture and household items to those in need in Northampton and the surrounding villages. Those who use our service are often going through periods of crisis and are made aware of our service by housing associations, local homeless charities, women's refuges and Social Services. We are usually the last link in the chain to those moving into a new property; helping to furnish their new homes. We seek to meet the needs of anyone who requires our service, and this is on a strictly non-prejudicial, first-come, first-served basis.

All the furniture we provide is generously donated to us by members of the public and occasionally from local companies. It is then checked, cleaned and restored as necessary so that it is delivered in excellent condition. This is important as we want the items to last. It



also shows those we help that they are valued and not just receiving cast offs from other people. It is wonderful to see the difference to our customers a few basic items makes; items which most people take for granted. We do not sell the furniture we provide but do charge a small delivery fee, which covers approximately 10% of our annual running costs.

Demand for the items we provide remained high during 2022/23 and we were able to meet 61% of requests for help we received. This figure was on par with the previous year. Bedroom furniture is always in most demand and the one item that we struggle to collect enough of is good quality mattresses (as we only collect ones that are not stained) to meet the needs of the people requesting our assistance. However, we often have a surplus of items such as wall units, sideboards, dining tables and large sofas. This is due to these not being priority items for our customers and they are often too big for the smaller flats and homes to which we deliver. When we have too many of these in stock, we have to turn down offers of these items, allowing us time to collect the items in higher demand.

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## PRAYER

During the course of our work, we receive requests for prayer. These requests are upheld at our morning devotions at the beginning of each day and our weekly prayer meeting, which is open to all members of staff, trustees, voluntary workers and supporters. We use this time to take all our work in prayer to the Almighty God who holds everything in His hands.

## VOLUNTARY WORK

The work of the charity creates many opportunities for voluntary work; helping with our delivery and collection team, repairing and restoring furniture, fundraising, cleaning, sorting and administration work. Our volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds; from those who are seeking work experience, to those who have learning difficulties, to the retired who are seeking to use their free time for good. We also have a team of regular volunteers who help us run the stalls at our sales, which are held twice a year. Voluntary opportunities are open to everyone and anyone interested is encouraged to apply.



## ENVIRONMENT

Our work as a furniture reuse charity has great environmental benefits. Furniture, which often otherwise would be sent to landfill, is donated to us to be reused elsewhere. We usually aim to redistribute approximately 100 tonnes of furniture per year through our main work of helping those in need. Items which we do not supply to people in this way, we sell to raise extra money for our work, which again extends the life of the items. We have a small workshop where we are able to carry out repairs to many of the broken or tired items we collect. We also recycle items and earn extra income by selling scrap metal, textiles and books over the course of this year. All other waste items are sorted before being disposed of, allowing us to send wood, glass, crockery and waste electrical items for recycling. In our work, we are sometimes offered various white goods. If we are collecting other furniture, we pick them up, PAT test them and sell them at price which is affordable to those in need. This again helps the environment by preventing items going to landfill, but it also serves as some extra income to help towards the operational costs of the charity. Thanks must go to West Northamptonshire Council who provide us, as a registered charity, a permit to use their waste transfer sites free of charge to recycle and dispose of items we cannot reuse.

## COLLABORATION

We aim to assist other charitable organisations who work within our local community for our mutual benefit. We have provided storage space within our warehouse for Good News for Everyone and Northamptonshire Association for the Blind for some years. We have Voluntary Impact Northampton (VIN) storing their buses in our car park, Northampton Community Sheds ("NCS") and World Mandate Ministries operating from our premises.

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## Board of Trustees, Staff Members & Volunteers

### GOVERNANCE

The charity is managed on a day-to-day basis by a full-time, paid General Manager and is overseen by an executive committee of trustees. There are currently eight trustees, with three trustees holding the honorary offices of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. None of the trustees receive any pay for the work that they carry out. Members of the committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting, and each member serves a maximum of three years before they need to seek re-election. Trustees are elected from the membership of the charity, which is open to everyone.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Honorary Chairman	Pete Burditt
Honorary Secretary	Richard Barrett
Honorary Treasurer	Phil Stiles
Trustee	Sam Baxter
Trustee	Steve Pollock
Trustee	Eric Lightfoot
Trustee	Sonja Lightfoot
Trustee	John Phillips

### STAFF MEMBERS

General Manager	Steve Scarsbrook
Administrator (Part Time)	Esther Scarsbrook
Administrator (Part Time)	Sharon Smith
Administrator	Ruth Magombo
Warehouse/Delivery Person	Kim Bon Cheong
Warehouse/Delivery Person	Martin Nelson
Warehouse	Gary McDonnell

There are no 'higher paid' employees and none of the Trustees claimed any expenses during the year.

### REGULAR VOLUNTEERS

Grace Boulter	Edwina Cutler	Heather Burditt
John Green	Pete Burditt	Eric Lightfoot
Sonja Lightfoot	Marion Green	Phil Stiles
David Kinuthia	Crawford Lindsay	Tiffany Carter
John Phillips	Stewart Townsend	Kathryn Sandall

### OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Brenda Barton	Richard Barrett	Sam Baxter	Rosie Smith
Sue Burditt	Richard Smith	Sin Wei Lau	Deb Hackett
Judith Burditt	James Scarsbrook	Nathan Scarsbrook	Martin Page
Lydia Hearsum	Ruth Burditt	Faith Smith	Grace Smith
Steve Hackett	Northampton Community Sheds		



# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## Chairman's Report

Writing this report gives me an opportunity to look back and be reminded of the challenges faced and progress made over this year. We moved from dealing with the aftermath of Covid and its consequences to a position where we were focusing attention on current improvements and future planning.

However, as this financial year started the world was adjusting to the effects of the Russian invasion of Ukraine five weeks earlier. It was becoming apparent that there would be a significant increase in inflation and an impact on the cost of living generally. We saw how this affected users of the service we offer, potential donors who may have held back on planned upgrades to conserve funds as well as our own staff. This meant more challenges to face, though different from those in recent years.

I'm appreciative of the cumulative breadth of experience that the trustees bring to their roles. Our treasurer was faced with the decision to move to a different supplier of financial



software. The transition was managed, with the help of advisers when required, and the trustees see the new arrangement as an improvement. We were concerned about the need to upgrade our IT systems and good progress was made with the advice from a trustee. Other trustees have been with the Charity for some years and we benefit from that sense of connection. It is helpful to be outward looking and trustees' experience of the Charity sector is also valued.

We took the decision to set aside a regular monthly amount as a fund to support things like an IT upgrade and we've also started the ball rolling on a major project to improve storage capacity but this is at an early stage.

We have been aware for some time that we are not as well known in the town as we would like and have been trying to raise our profile. This would help in getting more

donations of furniture from individuals and businesses in the town. Consequently we were delighted and honoured that the year concluded with the news that the new Mayor of Northampton would be choosing us as his Charity to support in 2023-24, his year of office.

This report has focused more on Governance but once again, as in past years, I want to recognise the way that the staff have pulled together, give credit to the Volunteers without whose help we would find our efforts restricted and show appreciation to all who have supported our work financially. We do not take these things for granted.

Finally, we trust that our Christian ethos has been to the fore throughout. We seek to be professional in our responsibilities yet are unashamedly reliant on the faithfulness of our unfailing God in every aspect of our work.

Pete Burditt  
(Chair)

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## General Manager's Report

The statement "after a storm comes calm" would probably best describe the work of Spencer Contact in 2022/23 following the pandemic and its aftermath. A year of getting back to 'what we do' in helping people each day was most welcomed. Although sadly, this statement would not describe the lives of many that we came into contact with this year who were very much in the midst of 'the storm', whether fleeing war torn countries to find safety and refuge from violence; battling against addiction; reeling from the hurt of broken relationships; struggling to 'make ends meet' and not able to afford the basic necessities of life. Once again we looked to do what we could in giving essential furniture and household items in order to bring some comfort and stability into their lives. My heart and prayers continue to go out to those who we meet that are currently enduring the 'storms of life'. I'm thankful to God that He has daily provided for the needs of Spencer Contact over this year which has enabled us to reach out and help those who found themselves in need.

One of the challenges we have all had to face this year is the rise in the cost of living. This has meant that families with low incomes are struggling to afford the basic

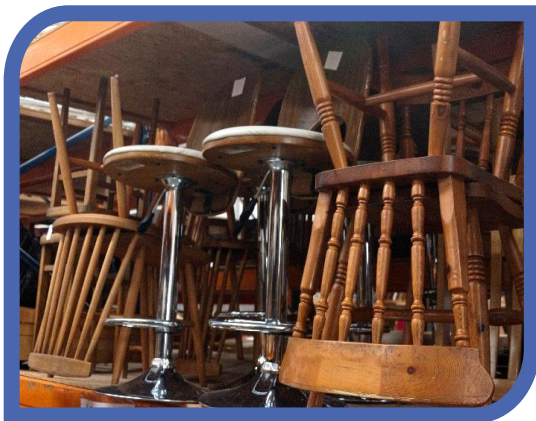


essentials, which has in turn increased the demand for the service that we provide. It also has an effect on the financial donations that come in to support the work in that there is not the same amount of money available as previous years and money that is kindly donated doesn't go as far as previously because the costs of running Spencer Contact have significantly increased. Thank you once again to all the trustees of funds, companies, individuals, churches, associations, government departments, schools and others that have supported us financially this year and to the many who have faithfully done so for years. We own the warehouse, offices and vans which means we are not having to fund rental or mortgage payments each month. I regularly look to God that the money provided to Spencer Contact will be used in a correct and wise manner and will be of maximum benefit to others. The increased need in the town and demand on our service causes me to continually re-assess our working practices and make the necessary adjustments to ensure that we can deal with it as well as possible.

Northampton, like many other towns in England, has areas of evident wealth and then within just a few miles areas of relative poverty and within the course of a day working on our vans both types of home can be visited. It constantly reconfirms to me the need there is for Spencer Contact to help in redistributing items of necessary furniture that one customer has finished with to the customer who is in desperate need. A further benefit of this is that items which would otherwise have been thrown away, after a clean and maybe minor repair, can be used again for many years therefore keeping them from landfill.

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Sadly, I still occasionally come across those who hold the view that people who find themselves in need and who we look to help have got themselves into that situation by their own fault. Spencer Contact has taught me to have more compassion toward others, to show more love and not to judge. People's circumstances can change very suddenly and unexpectedly; a loss of stable employment, ill health (physical or mental), the breakdown of a relationship, or the loss of a loved one that others were dependent upon, are just some of the circumstances which leave people unable to cope and in need of some help. Once again it has been a privilege to be involved in this work for another year. To be able to reach out to people in this community, not to judge them, but just to do what we can to help them with the provision of furniture and necessary household items and in doing so to show something of the love of God to them in a practical and meaningful way.



It is important that I take time to show recognition to those that make this work possible and tirelessly support it. For those that give of their finances to fund the work; those that donate furniture and household items that might then be used to help others; those that give of their time to assist with the work, on a weekly basis, cleaning furniture and household items that have been donated, testing the safety of electrical items, sorting through items that have been collected or dropped in at our warehouse,

collating ancillary packs to go out to customers, or assisting with the running of our sale events; those that oversee the running of the charity and give their wisdom and guidance in important decisions that need to be made. Thank you to every single one of you.

Thank you in particular to the team that work at Spencer Contact who daily go above and beyond in helping others. I can't fault them for their effort and commitment. Each of us understands the importance of the fact that the furniture and items being given away to people in the town should be of a high standard. Whilst the furniture is second hand, the staff all try and ensure that they have done all that can be done to repair and clean items before they are ready to be reused or sold in our sales. Please continue to pray for the seven staff, for harmony between each other, for health, strength and that their skills and abilities will be used for the positive good of others.

On the wall in the dining room at home the words are written '**even the winds and the sea obey him!**' The disciples and the Lord Jesus were on a boat and a storm arose. The disciples feared for their lives but Jesus was asleep. They woke him and questioned whether he cared that they were going to perish. He stood up, rebuked the winds and the sea and there was a great calm. Those on the boat were amazed that the winds and sea obeyed his voice. I began by mentioning the storms in life that many are passing through. It is an honour to serve, represent and tell others of the only one that has the power to calm any storm.

Steve Scarsbrook (General Manager)

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## Key Statistics 2022/23

### Collections

**730**

**(27,835)**

On average, it took two collections to bring in enough furniture for one delivery

### Items

**Collected**

**3,470**

**(96,452)**

### Items

**Redistributed**

**2,141**

**(86,572)**

### Our Deliveries:

Only **6%** were moving into a new home

**66%** tenants in social housing

### Deliveries

**371**

**(11,227)**

We could only meet 61% of the requests we received for help this year

**Average  
collection  
response time  
15 days**

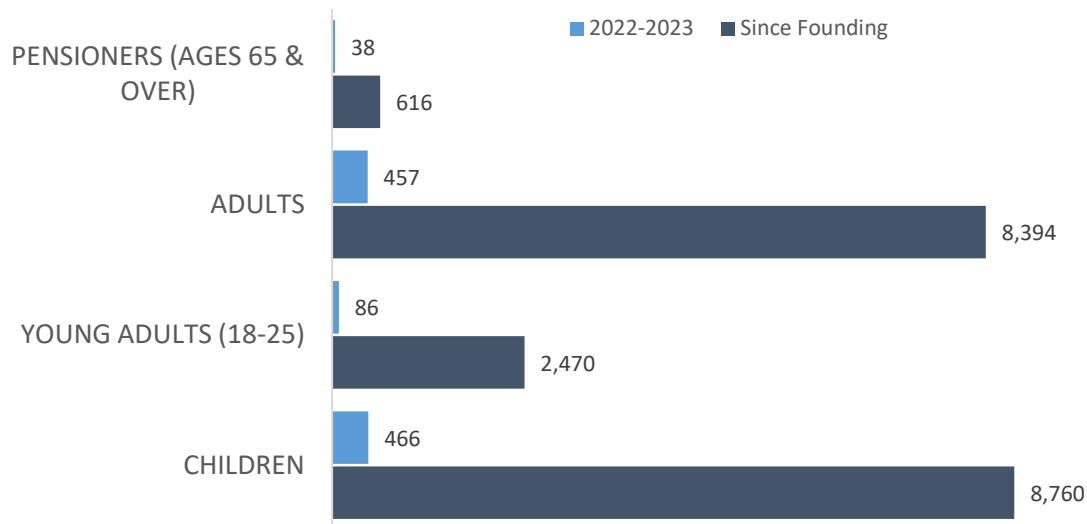
**Average  
delivery  
response time  
52 days**

Figures in brackets show the total since we began operations in January 1999.

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## WHO WE HELPED

### Individuals Helped



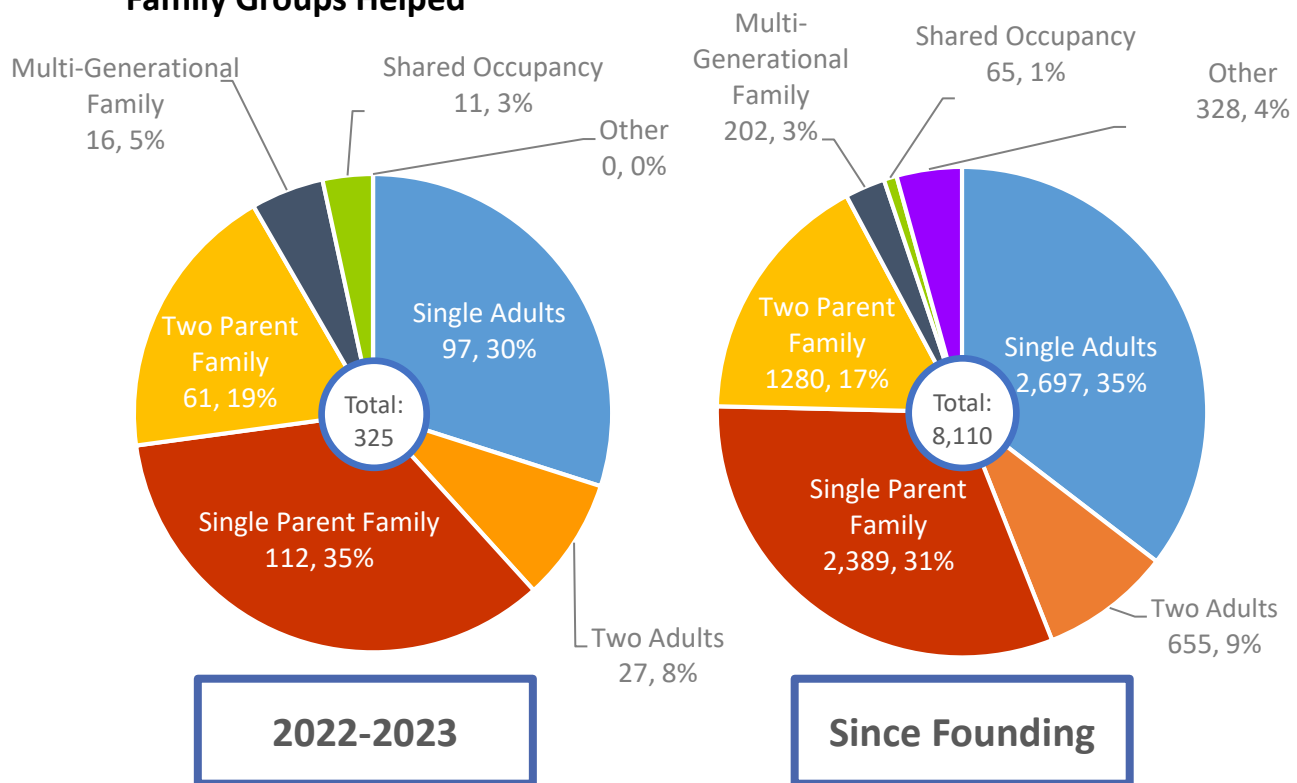
Total for financial year 2022-2023:

**1,047**

Total since founding:

**20,240**

### Family Groups Helped\*



\*Two categories have been added in 2015/2016 that we did not record previously: 'Multi-Generational Family' and 'Shared Occupancy'.



# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

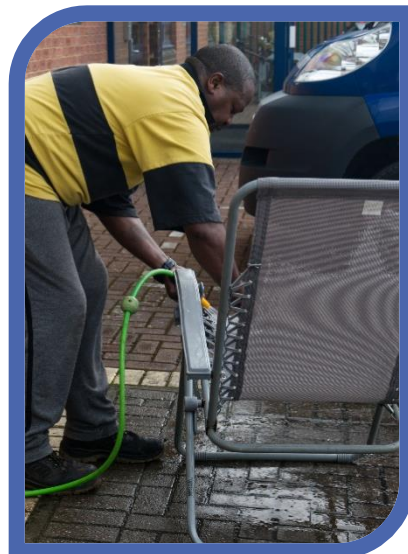
## CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

From our 2022/23 customer satisfaction survey, we found that:

- 100% of those helped were satisfied, happy or very happy with the furniture they received.
- 40% of those helped would have had some sort of difficulty in moving in to their property without the furniture we provided.
- 95% rated the speed of our delivery service as excellent or good.
- 70% of clients thought our delivery charges to be cheap or very cheap, with nobody receiving a delivery considering the charges to be expensive.
- 78% of clients indicated that they would not have been able to get the furniture delivered without Spencer Contact.

## COMMENTS

The following comments come from customers writing on the survey about the difference our service had made to their lives:



*"This service is invaluable to people like me and I appreciate this very much."*

*"Good personnel, your delivery team is excellent. They brought a smile to the house."*

*"Brilliant – made my flat into a home!"*

*"Thank you, wouldn't know where to turn."*



# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## Acknowledgements

We express our grateful thanks to those charitable trusts and organisations that have made a financial or material contribution to the work of Spencer Contact, including the following:

Alfred Haines Charitable Trust	West Northamptonshire Council
Matthews Wrightson Charity Trust	The P & F W Family Charitable Trust
Hunsbury Park School	Davidge Usher Trust CIO
The Bishop Radford Trust	Eric Stanton Northampton Trust
The Maud Elkington Charitable Trust	The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
The Hearth Foundation	The Pettit Charity
The Eric Stanton (Northampton) Trust	The Wyvill Charitable Trust
The Northampton Municipal Church Charity	Lowther Charitable Settlement
The Souter Charitable Trust	Persula Foundation
The Fulmer Charitable Trust	Viscountess Blakenham's Charitable Trust
The Thomas and Rosemary Greenhalgh Charitable Trust	Gay and Peter Hartley's Hillards Charitable Trust
Steyn Charitable Trust	The Archer Trust
David Laing Foundation	May Hearnshaw Charitable Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation	The Beatrice Laing Trust
The Dorcas Trust	Kingsthorpe Manor And Town Charity
The Benham Charitable Settlement	The Constance Travis Charitable Trust
Sir Derek Greenaway Foundation	Reynard Way Church
Good News For Everyone	East Hunsbury Townswomen's Guild

We also give our heartfelt thanks to those supporters, both organisations and individuals, that are not listed here.

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## Fundraising

Spencer Contact, as with every other charity in the UK, faces the continuous challenge of raising money in order to fund the work that we look to do. For many years, because of the kindness of those that give financially towards this work, we have been able to keep our delivery charges at a relatively low level. The customer pays between £35 and £65 for their delivery of furniture and this is calculated on the number of items that are being delivered. If we are furnishing an entire home then the most a customer would be expected to pay is £65. We found that where a financial sacrifice is made by the customer (even if relatively



small) they tend to value more the items that they receive. The delivery charges taken each year cover less than 10% of our overall operational costs.

The warehouse, offices and vans are all owned outright by Spencer Contact which means that we do not have to make mortgage or rental payments each month. We had 6 purpose built offices, together with a staff room and toilets built upstairs to allow us to

make good use of what was before 'wasted space' and these are rented out primarily to another charity and an office furniture business. We have a boardroom which comfortably seats 12 and is available by businesses to hire (please see the photo). We also rent parts of our car park for another charity to store their community busses. All the monies raised from this goes towards funding the work of Spencer Contact.

We are thankful to God for those that give of their finances to help fund this work; trustees of funds, churches, individuals and parents of school children. Without all of their support we would not be able to continue helping the residents of Northampton who find themselves in times of need.

Our fundraising initiative 'Sleep on the Floor so others don't have to' where we invite primary school age children to raise sponsorship from family and friends by giving up their own bed for one night and sleeping on their floor has a growing interest amongst primary schools in Northampton. The money raised through this event enables us to continue providing beds and household furniture to those in the town who do not have these basic items.

We are also approaching secondary schools asking them to participate in 'non-uniform days' or 'wearing blue for Spencer Contact' events in order to raise awareness and funds.

We have a number of events planned to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> year of operating in 2024.

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## SALES

We held two main sales during 2022/23 in May and November. We cleared a large section of our warehouse, erected two tents outside in the car park and sold 'non-essential household items'. Prices are kept low to ensure that nobody in the town feels excluded from being able to purchase items. We ensure that any items we sell are of good quality, complete and clean (the same standard is expected for sale items as the items we give away to those in need). We also sell items throughout the year on Facebook Marketplace in order to bring in additional funds to fund the work of Spencer Contact and to manage the available space in the warehouse.

After having to cancel all sales through the pandemic we were pleased to see many people coming back to purchase items.

We plan to hold further sales in May and November 2023. Your support at these events would be greatly appreciated.

We do what we can to raise our own funds to support the work that we do and are developing our fundraising strategies to try and become more self-sufficient and less reliant on income from external sources like Trust Funds. We are pleased to see that currently there is almost a 50:50 split between income generated by our own fundraising and income kindly donated from external funders. Thank you once again to all those who have and continue to financially support this work and in doing so make a positive difference to the lives of those in need in Northampton.



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## Treasurer's Report for Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

The increase in the cost of consumer goods, underpinned by a strong demand from consumers and supply chain bottlenecks, were the main reasons why inflation remained high. The price of energy also had an effect on inflation.



Growth in the British economy was also slow.

### INCOME RESOURCES

Looking at the details on page 2 of the accounts under "Income Resources", you will see that the income generated in all of the income streams has increased compared to the previous financial year. These figures reflect the income received from the majority of our own fundraising activities.

### RESOURCES EXPENDED

Our overall expenditure has decreased compared to the previous financial year, although in some expenditure categories our costs have risen due to the increase in costs.

On page 4 under "Current Assets" you will see our financial position at the end of this financial year.

### SUMMARY

These accounts show that we have been able to maintain our day-to-day operations. We continue to praise and thank our Lord for His continued provision and guidance in all that we seek to do for Him through Spencer Contact

We will continue to make every effort to budget prudently in order to maintain a viable trading position for the future.

Phil Stiles  
(Treasurer)



# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

SPENCER CONTACT  
Registered Charity No: 1070072

ACCOUNTS

for the year ended

31 MARCH 2023

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SPENCER CONTACT

We report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 7.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the Charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention and to examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts. Our report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the following requirements have not been met –
  - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
  - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*The Ollis Partnership Limited*

**The Ollis Partnership Limited**

Nelson House, 2 Hamilton Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. CV32 4LY

**Date** *25th September 2023.*

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## SPENCER CONTACT

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	<u>Restricted funds</u>	<u>Total 2023</u>	<u>Total 2022</u>
<b><u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>	<b>2</b>				
Unrestricted donations		87,527		87,527	79,068
Restricted donations			6,000	6,000	-
Local government grants		15,000		15,000	2,730
Inland Revenue refunds		1,051		1,051	642
Fundraising events				-	197
Sale of goods		41,967		41,967	33,403
Delivery charges		12,959		12,959	12,742
Rental and storage income		33,788		33,788	27,655
Commission		97		97	29
Interest		147		147	-
		<u>192,536</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>198,536</u>	<u>156,466</u>
<b><u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u></b>					
<b><u>Direct Charitable Expenditure</u></b>					
Wages and national insurance		142,161		142,161	128,649
Staff pension		2,689		2,689	2,403
Training		-		-	390
Protective clothing		558		558	364
Insurance		4,240		4,240	4,321
Water, gas and electricity charges		7,803		7,803	7,870
Telephone		1,799		1,799	2,032
Printing, postage and stationery		658		658	836
Premises costs, repairs and small tools		5,141		5,141	5,099
Motor and travel expenses		7,273		7,273	8,347
Fundraising expenses		898		898	2,065
Professional fees		1,645		1,645	192
Depreciation		5,821		5,821	30,391
(Profit)/loss on disposal of assets		-		-	128
Sundry expenses		1,521		1,521	833
Donations		4,480		4,480	1,750
Matress and other stock purchases		-		-	487
Volunteer expenses		772		772	791
		<u>187,459</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>187,459</u>	<u>196,948</u>

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## SPENCER CONTACT

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	<u>Restricted funds</u>	<u>Total 2023</u>	<u>Total 2022</u>
<u>Administration of the Charity</u>	1,302		1,302	944
Accountancy: Independent Examination	893		893	1,585
Subscriptions	1,032		1,032	486
Software and computer costs	<u>3,227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,227</u>	<u>3,015</u>
 <u>LOSS ON REVALUATION</u>	 89,698		 89,698	 -
 <u>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>	 <u>280,384</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>280,384</u>	 <u>199,963</u>
  <u>NET INCOMING</u>				
<u>RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR</u>	-87,848	6,000	-81,848	-43,497
 <u>BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD</u>				
<u>1 APRIL 2022</u>	<u>1,390,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,390,139</u>	<u>1,433,636</u>
 <u>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</u>				
<u>31 MARCH 2023</u>	<u>1,302,291</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>1,308,291</u>	<u>1,390,139</u>

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## SPENCER CONTACT

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	31.3.2023			31.3.2022
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	3	1,269,027		1,269,027	1,362,679
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>					
Prepayments and other debtors		4,744		4,744	3,831
Deposit account Santander		15,527	6,000	21,527	8,260
Current account Co-op		17,209		17,209	19,576
Cash in hand		411		411	23
		37,891	6,000	43,891	31,690
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>					
PAYE & NI		2,260		2,260	2,112
Other creditors and accruals		2,367		2,367	2,118
		4,627	-	4,627	4,230
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>		33,264	6,000	39,264	27,460
<u>NET ASSETS</u>		1,302,291	6,000	1,308,291	1,390,139

Represented by:

<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>		1,302,291	1,390,139
<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	4	6,000	-
		1,308,291	1,390,139

I approve the above accounts on behalf of the trustees.

..... P Burditt, Hon. Chairman

Date of meeting: 25/1/23

I confirm that I have made available all the relevant records and information for the preparation of these accounts.

..... P Stiles, Hon. Treasurer



# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

**SPENCER CONTACT**  
**(Charity No. 1070072)**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

### **1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **General information and basis of preparation**

The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are shown on pages 2 to 5.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued in October 2019.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## SPENCER CONTACT

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### **General**

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities. The term "resources" includes funds received and paid during the period adjusted for items which are accrued and prepaid at the period end.

##### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided at the following rates based on the estimated useful life of these fixed assets and their anticipated residual value:

Property	2% p.a. (straight line basis)
Motor vehicle	25% p.a. (reducing balance basis)
Equipment	20% p.a. (reducing balance basis)

Included within freehold property is freehold land at a historical cost value of £285,000. No depreciation was provided on the value of the land.

##### **Incoming Resources:**

##### **Recognition of Incoming Resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to The resources
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

##### **Grants and Donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

##### **Investment Income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable

##### **Expenditure and Liabilities:**

##### **Liability Recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources

##### **Revaluation of property**

The property was revalued on 5 April 2023 and found to be worth less than the original cost. As a result the value has been written down to reflect this. It will be depreciated from the revised value from next year. Further revaluations will be carried out on a regular basis.

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

## SPENCER CONTACT

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 3 FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings	Motor vehicles	Equipment	Total
Cost at 1.4.2022	1,431,361	75,423	5,114	1,511,898
Revaluation	-181,361			-181,361
Additions			1,867	1,867
Cost at 31.3.2023	1,250,000	75,423	6,981	1,332,404
Depreciation at 1.4.2022	91,663	54,804	2,752	149,219
Revaluation	-91,663			-91,663
Charge for the year		5,155	666	5,821
Depreciation at 31.3.2023	-	59,959	3,418	63,377
Net book value at 31.3.2023	1,250,000	15,464	3,563	1,269,027
Net book value at 31.3.2022	1,339,698	20,619	2,362	1,362,679

#### 4 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1.4.2022	During the year:		Balance at 31.3.2023
		Income	Expenditure	
Mezzanine floor fund	0	6,000	0	6,000
	0	6,000	0	6,000

#### 5 REMUNERATION OF TRUSTEES

None of the trustees or management committee members received any payment for the services they provided during the period.

#### 6 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year the charity received donations from trustees with a total value of £7,280.

END OF REPORT

# SPENCER CONTACT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Supported By:

