

Registered number: 03495233

Charity number: 1073231

**Direct Help & Advice Ltd**

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025



**Direct Help & Advice Ltd**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Contents**

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	<b>Page</b>
<b>Reference and administrative details of the Company, its Trustees and advisers</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Trustees' report</b>	<b>2 - 9</b>
<b>Trustees' responsibilities statement</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Independent auditor's report on the financial statements</b>	<b>11 - 15</b>
<b>Statement of financial activities</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Balance sheet</b>	<b>17 - 18</b>
<b>Statement of cash flows</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Notes to the financial statements</b>	<b>20 - 39</b>

Direct Help & Advice Ltd  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**Reference and Administrative Details of the Company, its Trustees and Advisers  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**Trustees** N J Williams, Chair  
P S Davies  
K T Mcgrath  
R J Crisp (resigned 2 June 2025)  
U Cameron  
S Bravery (resigned 15 May 2024)  
L Reif (appointed 13 May 2025)

**Company registered  
number** 03495233

**Charity registered number** 1073231

**Registered office** Pheonix Street  
Derby  
Derbyshire  
DE1 2ER

**Company secretary** S G Walker

**Chief executive officer** K Cook

**Independent auditor** Dains Audit Limited  
Statutory Auditor  
Suite 2, Albion House  
2 Etruria Office Village  
Etruria  
Stoke on Trent  
Staffordshire  
St1 5RQ

**Bankers** National Westminster Bank Plc  
58 St Peters Street  
Derby  
DE1 1XL

**Trustees' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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The trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Company for the year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

**Objectives and activities**

**a. Purpose and objectives**

DHA is a charity that provides direct support to the people of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, as well as nationally through the Civil Legal Advice telephone advice helpline, to help them towards a positive future. DHA supports people in securing a home, gaining employment and achieving financial stability through expert legal advice, training and the development of essential life skills.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved, the outcomes of its work and the benefits to the people and communities it is set up to serve in the year ending 31 March 2025.

The review also helps ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purpose. In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees referred to the general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

**b. Strategies for achieving objectives**

DHA protects and preserves legal rights, provides equal access to justice and seeks fairness and dignity for all our clients.

Our legal advice team offer free, confidential specialist advice, advocacy and representation service, including the provision of immediate intervention, support and advice, for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people within our communities.

We resolve legal issues and actively provide advice and assistance to prevent individuals and families losing their accommodation, including undertaking all necessary follow up work, negotiations with third parties and representation at Court.

DHA also offers accessible workshops, training and skills development to help individuals manage their personal finances effectively, reduce unemployment and promote social and financial inclusion. This includes provision of accredited and non-accredited programmes from Community Learning, Sector training, soft skills development and volunteering opportunities to enable beneficiaries to increase their skills, knowledge and employability.

DHA proactively seeks opportunities to work in partnership to protect local community services that support/enable the provision of DHA's advice and training within its core operating areas.

**Trustees' Report (continued)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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DHA remains open to opportunities that increase accessibility and widen support for its services.

**c. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives**

Face to Face - Clients coming into our centres needing help and advice  
Telephone Advice - Clients assisted by DHA via the National Telephone Advice service  
Training into Employment - Training programmes delivered to clients  
Workshops - Helping individuals manage their personal finances effectively

**Achievements and performance**

**a. Main achievements of the Charity**

The amount of people using DHA legal advice and training services was 17,374, an increase of 18% (2,695 people) on the previous year, with 86% reporting they had a positive outcome, (85% the previous year).

We achieved a 98% customer satisfaction rating for both our Advice and Training/Community services (measured using internal & external surveys).

A special thank you to DHA's amazing volunteers. A huge thank you for the time you give, your passion, skills and experience really do make a positive difference to the lives of the people we support.

The Charity's key financial performance indicators are the amount of income received from fundraising, grants and investments which remained in line with objectives.

**b. Overview of activities**

**Advice services**

During the year DHA received over 20,987 enquiries, an increase of 16% on the previous year (18,142 enquiries) and supported 17,374 people. Sadly funding limitations meant we were unable to directly support 3,613 people, but we were able to sign-post them to other organisations.

Of the 17,374 people helped, 15,600 used our Advice services, an increase of 15% on the previous year (13,543).

To provide an insight of the impact of DHA's work, our Derby Office directly assisted 1,291 vulnerable individuals/families at direct risk of losing their homes within the Derby City region alone.

**Training & Communities services**

1,811 people used our Training and Community services during the year, an increase of almost 60% on the previous year. Our training programmes help and enable people to:

- Improve their household finances
- Support their children with homework
- Interpret statistics and facts in the media
- Apply numeracy skills in the workplace.

An additional benefit of the money management support is the positive impact it has on self-confidence and mental health.

**Trustees' Report (continued)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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All of DHA's Training & Community Team are qualified 'National Numeracy Champions'.

99% of attendees said they felt better able to manage their finances, and reported improved wellbeing.

**c. Factors relevant to achieve objectives**

During the year we completed a review of DHA's strategy to ensure the charity has a clear direction and plan to March 2027. Developing our funding strategy to ensure it remains appropriate, effective and efficient in an increasingly competitive and complex market remains our key priority.

Many of our services are dependent on Local Authority grants or funding. The current economic climate and financial status of the public sector presents a risk to current and future work funded by local authorities. This includes how we assist people who fall outside of Legal Aid criteria but have housing benefit issues, general disrepair, tenancy matters, and those with mortgage or rent arrears before a landlord or lender has initiated possession action.

This greatly restricts the number of people we can help. Our strategic funding review will look to address this issue by exploring alternative funding options to provide early intervention support and advice for these vulnerable people.

**d. Fundraising activities and income generation**

All DHA's income comes from Contracts and Grants, the charity did not undertake any fundraising activities during the year.

**Financial review**

**a. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

**b. Reserves policy**

The reserves policy was reviewed by the Board in May 2025. DHA continues to work towards the objectives of the policy. The Board is satisfied the current level of Reserves held as at 31 March 2025, are adequate in respect of the Reserves growth plan.

**c. Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Board of Trustees routinely reviews the major risks to which the charity is exposed. DHA has a risk register in place which is reviewed annually by trustees to ensure any emerging risks are captured and to monitor progress on mitigating existing identified risks.

Financial sustainability is the major risk for the Charity and is reviewed regularly. The review of our Funding strategy seeks to mitigate this risk by ensuring DHA has a balanced income stream rather than a large dependency on a small number of funding sources.

Relationships with key funding sources are positive and closely managed and the charity operates an active financial management of trade debtors and creditors.

**Trustees' Report (continued)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**d. Financial risk management objectives and policies**

Trustees are required to ensure that, while giving regard to the overall efficiency and continuity of operations to deliver the charitable objectives, the charitable funds and assets are:

- Used reasonably and only in furtherance of the Charity's objectives
- Avoid undertaking activities that might place the Charity's funds, assets or reputation at undue risk

Risk associated with specific activities are considered and reviewed, where possible mitigated and if deemed to be excessive, the activity not undertaken.

There is an annual financial planning cycle to ensure the Trustees have adequate information and time to review the budget and make recommendations for its approval. This is a key part of the trustees ability to satisfy themselves that they can discharge their governance duties, statutory responsibilities and ensure the solvency of the Charity.

There is a Business Continuity Plan in place in case of a major event affecting the day-to-day operations and resultant financial impact, alongside the risk register which is reviewed annually.

**Structure, governance and management**

**a. Constitution**

Direct Help & Advice Ltd. is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association.

**b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees**

The management of the Company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

A resolution was passed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 13 November 2024, to amend the Memorandum and Articles of Association in relation to the appointment and retirement of trustees. Previously Trustees were elected to serve until the next Annual General Meeting (AGM), after which they must be re-elected. To provide the Charity with greater stability and consistency this has been changed as follows:

- A trustee shall remain in office for three years from the date of their appointment
- No trustee shall serve more than three consecutive years unless the trustees consider it would be in the best interests of the Charity for a particular trustee to continue to serve beyond that period and that Trustee is reappointed for a further period of two years
- No person may be appointed as a trustee who has served as a trustee for five years (whether on a consecutive basis or not) unless that person is re-elected on an annual basis

Similar changes were made to Trustee 'Officer' roles (such as Chair, Vice-chair) as follows:

- An Officer (such as Chair, Vice-chair and Treasurer) shall remain in office for three years from their date of appointment
- No Officer shall serve more than three consecutive years unless the trustees consider it would be in the best interests of the Charity for a particular Officer to continue to serve beyond that period and that Officer is reappointed for a further period of one year;

**Trustees' Report (continued)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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- c) No person may be appointed as an Officer who has served as an Officer beyond four years (whether on a consecutive basis or not) and beyond this point will, by rotation, be re-elected as a Trustee  
Richard Crisp retired from the Board in May 2025 and the Board welcomed Leysa Relf as a new Trustee.

**c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies**

The Board of Trustees administers the Charity. The board meets regularly, with additional sub-group meetings held if needed.

In November 2024, a Scheme of Delegation was established to detail the authorities the Board has delegated to committees, staff or volunteers under the powers of the Articles of Association. It also indicates where further details of the delegations may be found.

A Finance sub-committee was established in November 2025. Chaired by a Trustee, its purpose is to assist the Board and Senior Management Team in monitoring, assessing and mitigating financial risks that may affect the charity to achieve its objectives.

The CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the Charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met. The CEO, with support from the Senior Management Team, has overall responsibility for the day to day operational and support management of the Charity as well as ensuring departments continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with our mission.

**d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees**

The Charity, as of 31 March 2025 had a board of Trustees of 5 members, plus the CEO, Director of Finance and Services and Head of HR, Leisure & Partnerships (who is also Company Secretary). The Board meets regularly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the charity. The Trustees are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity. Full Trustee meetings were held bi-monthly over the year.

A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for advising Trustees and assisting in compliance with all legal obligations and the provision of services rests with the CEO.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the Charity will be declared in the notes to the accounts.

Due to the nature of the Charity's work, the Trustees seek to ensure that the needs of the service users are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the Trustee body. The Board of Trustees is a well-established team of committed individuals, with excellent knowledge and experience of the charity sector, together with wide ranging and highly specialised business skills and expertise, relevant to the Charity's needs. The 'Trustees skills and Experience matrix' is reviewed annually to ensure the Board remains appropriate and relevant for the needs of the charity.

To ensure each trustee remains familiar with the work of the charity, the impact it makes and the challenges to delivery, a Trustee engagement plan is in place and reviewed regularly. All Trustees are also encouraged to become involved in the services DHA provides and attend meetings and events throughout the year.

An induction pack is provided which details their role and responsibilities and new Trustees are mentored by existing board members.

**e. Pay policy for key management personnel**



**Trustees' Report (continued)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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Remuneration for all personnel is reviewed annually for market conditions, cost of living and staff retention. The approach is to pay a fair salary to attract and retain skilled staff and leadership team. Trustees approve the total salary budget and CEO remuneration terms, the Senior Management Team agree the salaries for individual staff members.

All members of staff have an annual appraisal to review their performance, agree objectives for the year ahead and review their personal development plans to support them with the achievement of their individual career ambitions..

**f. Related party relationships**

There are no related party transactions during the reporting period.

At the start of every Trustee meeting all Trustees are required to disclose any conflicts of interest.

**g. Financial risk management**

DHA has a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the Charity faces;
- An establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review;
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the Charity should those risks materialise.

This process offers a crucial opportunity to evaluate potential problems, and to establish appropriate systems or procedures to mitigate the risk as necessary.

**Trustees' Report (continued)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Company. The trustees are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks but are not complacent and continually seek to further develop the robustness of DHA's governance processes.

To support this a Risk sub-committee will be established in the coming year to assist the Board and Senior Management Team in monitoring, assessing and mitigating risks that may affect the charity to achieve its objectives. The Sub-Committee will ensure that robust risk management frameworks are in place and effectively implemented

**Plans for future periods**

DHA are committed to continue providing specialist Housing Support Advice and training programmes to help increase personal financial awareness and capability, reduce unemployment, promote social and financial inclusion.

We completed the review of our strategic direction during the year and are now focused on delivering the key strategic objectives. These include:

- Ensuring DHA's funding strategy remains effective in responding to increasing competition & complexity in funding applications.
- Ensuring DHA maintains a balanced income stream and is not overly dependent on a small number of funding relationships.
- Ensuring potential service users, funders and supporter in the communities DHA serves are aware of, and have easy access to our services.
- Developing DHA's data management capabilities to provide more effective and efficient insights into the impact the charity makes to the communities it serves
- Ensuring DHA's employee engagement activities continue to effectively support staff retention and recruitment
- Ensuring effective governance is maintained through a continuous improvement approach.
- Ensuring the safeguarding and wellbeing of all employees, service users and visitors.

Our key objectives for the coming year include:

- Developing DHAs funding strategy to ensure a balanced, stable income stream
- Extend access to DHA services in North Nottinghamshire.
  - Establish our new office in Mansfield
  - Open a new office in Ashfield
- Complete and implement the review of DHA's people strategy to ensure the charity remains an employer of choice

**Environment and Sustainability**

DHA remains committed to strong environment and sustainability practices, embedding them across its operations wherever possible.

**Fundraising**

DHA undertook no fundraising activity during the year and does not employ a fundraiser. We do on occasion make application for grants but these are formal applications from Constituted Awarding bodies.

Direct Help & Advice Ltd  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Report (continued)  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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**Disclosure of information to auditors**

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- So far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- That Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

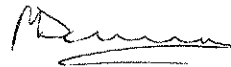
Approved by order of the directors of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**N J Williams**

Chair

Date: 11.11.25



**P S Davies**

Vice Chair

**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the directors of the board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



**N J Williams**  
Chair

Date: **11.11.25**



**P S Davies**  
Vice Chair

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Direct Help & Advice Ltd**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Direct Help & Advice Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Direct Help & Advice Ltd (continued)**

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**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

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

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

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Direct Help & Advice Ltd (continued)**

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**Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

**Auditor's 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.

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the financial reporting legislation, Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Direct Help & Advice Ltd (continued)**

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We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

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. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. 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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.



**Direct Help & Advice Ltd**  
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**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Direct Help & Advice Ltd (continued)**

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**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable Company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable Company's trustees 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 charitable Company and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Simon Hawkins (senior statutory auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**Dains Audit Limited**

Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants  
Suite 2, Albion House  
2 Etruria Office Village  
Etruria  
Stoke on Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST1 5RQ

Date:

11.11.25

**Direct Help & Advice Ltd**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)**  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

		Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Note				
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	-	12,818	12,818	12,826
Charitable activities	5	113,735	1,063,039	1,176,774	1,027,076
Investments	6	-	48,166	48,166	42,375
<b>Total income</b>		<b>113,735</b>	<b>1,124,023</b>	<b>1,237,758</b>	<b>1,082,277</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	113,735	1,028,573	1,142,308	1,058,619
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>113,735</b>	<b>1,028,573</b>	<b>1,142,308</b>	<b>1,058,619</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>95,450</b>	<b>95,450</b>	<b>23,658</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		-	1,226,237	1,226,237	1,202,579
Net movement in funds		-	95,450	95,450	23,658
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>1,321,687</b>	<b>1,321,687</b>	<b>1,226,237</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 20 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

Direct Help & Advice Ltd  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance Sheet  
As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	1,045,096	1,038,503
		<u>1,045,096</u>	<u>1,038,503</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	405,199	401,203
Cash at bank and in hand		460,213	372,644
		<u>865,412</u>	<u>773,847</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(172,579)	(135,921)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>692,833</u>	<u>637,926</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>1,737,929</u>	<u>1,676,429</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(416,242)	(450,192)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>1,321,687</u></u>	<u><u>1,226,237</u></u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted funds	16	1,321,687	1,226,237
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>1,321,687</u></u>	<u><u>1,226,237</u></u>

Registered number: 03495233

Direct Help & Advice Ltd  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance Sheet (continued)  
As at 31 March 2025

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The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

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

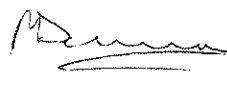
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**N J Williams**

Chair

Date: 11.11.25



**P S Davies**

Vice Chair

The notes on pages 20 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

**Direct Help & Advice Ltd**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net cash used in operating activities	<b>119,335</b>	<b>(103,344)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	<b>48,166</b>	42,375
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<b>(12,518)</b>	<b>(3,503)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>	<b>35,648</b>	<b>38,872</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Repayments of borrowing	<b>(67,414)</b>	<b>(67,378)</b>
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(67,414)</b>	<b>(67,378)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>	<b>87,569</b>	<b>(131,850)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	<b>372,644</b>	504,494
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>460,213</b>	372,644

The notes on pages 20 to 39 form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**1. General information**

Direct Help & Advice Ltd is a charity registered in England and Wales and a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The directors of the Company are the Trustees named on Page 1. In the event of the Company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per director of the Company.

The Company's registered office is Pheonix Street, Derby, DE1 2ER.

The principal activity of the Company was prevent and alleviate homelessness, poverty, financial and housing difficulty and associated issues to ensure everyone has a decent, safe home, be financially stable, be healthy and participate in the local community.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Direct Help & Advice Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

## 2. Accounting policies (continued)

### 2.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

**2.4 Going concern**

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For long term finance they rely on bank loans, as disclosed in notes 14 and 15. In assessing going concern they have assumed that these loans will be renewed as required for the foreseeable future and, on that basis, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

**2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfall is between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Not depreciated
Computer equipment	- 3 years straight line



## **2. Accounting policies (continued)**

### **2.6 Revaluation of tangible fixed assets**

The Company has adopted the revaluation model to revalue items of property, plant and equipment whose fair value can be measured reliably. The revaluations shall be made with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the end of the reporting period.

The fair value of land and buildings is usually determined from market-based evidence by appraisal that is normally undertaken by professionally qualified valuers.

### **2.7 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

### **2.8 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

### **2.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of 95 days or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

### **2.10 Liabilities and provisions**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

### **2.11 Financial instruments**

The Company 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.

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.12 Taxation**

The Company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**2.13 Pensions**

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

**2.14 Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

### 3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, which are described in note 2, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

#### **Accrued Income**

Accrued income is an amount that has been earned, there is a right to receive the amount, and it has not been recorded within the financial statements. Due to the nature of the revenue within the Company, work completed during the period will not yet have been received and therefore the Trustees are required to make assumptions regarding the recognition of this revenue and its recoverability.

#### **Deferred Income**

Deferred income is an amount that has been received and recorded within the financial statements but the conditions of the income have not yet been met. The Trustees are required to assess if the conditions of receipt of grant income have been met before revenue can be recognised within the financial statements.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful life taking into account, where appropriate, residual values. Assessments of useful lives and residual values are performed annually, taking into account factors such as technological innovation, maintenance programmes, market information and management considerations. In assessing the residual values, the remaining life of the asset, its projected disposal value and future market conditions are taken into account. Detail on tangible fixed assets can be found in note 12.

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Donations	683	683
Grants	12,135	12,135
	<u>12,818</u>	<u>12,818</u>
	<u><u>12,818</u></u>	<u><u>12,818</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	5,217	5,217
Grants	7,609	7,609
	<u>12,826</u>	<u>12,826</u>
	<u><u>12,826</u></u>	<u><u>12,826</u></u>

5. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Legal Aid Agency	-	956,643	956,643
DCC Libraries	-	-	-
St Annes	-	-	-
Access to Justice Foundation	113,735	-	113,735
Maths multiply	-	57,160	57,160
Futures & UKSPF	-	27,236	27,236
Derbyshire County Council	-	22,000	22,000
	<u>113,735</u>	<u>1,063,039</u>	<u>1,176,774</u>
	<u><u>113,735</u></u>	<u><u>1,063,039</u></u>	<u><u>1,176,774</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. Income from charitable activities (continued)

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Legal Aid Agency	-	793,591	793,591
DCC Libraries	-	1,237	1,237
St Annes	-	18,035	18,035
Access to Justice Foundation	85,303	-	85,303
Maths multiply	-	106,910	106,910
Derbyshire County Council	-	22,000	22,000
	<u>85,303</u>	<u>941,773</u>	<u>1,027,076</u>

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Rental income	35,274	35,274
Investment income	12,892	12,892
	<u>48,166</u>	<u>48,166</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Rental income	32,856	32,856
Investment income	9,519	9,519
	<u>42,375</u>	<u>42,375</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Charitable Activities	113,735	1,028,573	1,142,308

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable Activities	85,303	973,316	1,058,619

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Charitable Activities	684,932	457,376	1,142,308

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Charitable Activities	679,384	379,235	1,058,619

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	648,352	664,743
Depreciation	5,925	-
Training delivery costs	3,549	5,512
Administrative expenses	27,106	9,129
	<b>684,932</b>	<b>679,384</b>

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	243,225	164,488
Office premises	71,896	98,462
Insurance	9,961	8,813
IT Support	46,396	23,973
Loan interest	28,481	30,459
Communications	24,850	25,344
Administrative expenses	31,839	14,487
Bad debts	(6,272)	5,809
Governance costs	7,000	7,400
	<b>457,376</b>	<b>379,235</b>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**9. Auditor's remuneration**

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the Company's auditor for the audit of the Company's annual accounts	<u>7,350</u>	<u>7,000</u>

**10. Staff costs**

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	786,312	728,506
Social security costs	69,065	59,599
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	36,200	41,126
	<u>891,577</u>	<u>829,231</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Advisors and administration	25	26
Central Management	3	3
	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services was £165,836 (2024: £164,488). The key management personnel of the charity consists of the Trustees and senior management team.

**11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £NIL).



Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses (continued)

During the year ended 31 March 2025, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2024 - £NIL).

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 April 2024	1,035,000	147,835	1,182,835
Additions	-	12,518	12,518
	<u>1,035,000</u>	<u>160,353</u>	<u>1,195,353</u>
At 31 March 2025			
	<u>1,035,000</u>	<u>160,353</u>	<u>1,195,353</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2024	-	144,332	144,332
Charge for the year	-	5,925	5,925
	<u>-</u>	<u>150,257</u>	<u>150,257</u>
At 31 March 2025			
	<u>-</u>	<u>150,257</u>	<u>150,257</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,035,000</u>	<u>10,096</u>	<u>1,045,096</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,035,000</u>	<u>3,503</u>	<u>1,038,503</u>

A valuation of freehold land and buildings was carried out on 11 February 2021 and 28 May 2021 by an external valuer, David Brown. These were valued at £1,035,000 on the basis of existing use. The Trustees believe that this valuation remains reasonable.

The Company has adopted a policy of revaluation for tangible fixed assets. Had these assets been measured at historic cost, the carrying values would have been as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Freehold property	<u>886,334</u>	<u>915,184</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	25,919	35,856
Other debtors	24,732	25,910
Prepayments and accrued income	354,548	339,437
	<u>405,199</u>	<u>401,203</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other loans	39,108	44,091
Trade creditors	24,727	8,351
Other taxation and social security	55,512	46,449
Other creditors	5,251	4,573
Accruals and deferred income	47,981	32,457
	<u>172,579</u>	<u>135,921</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans	<u>416,242</u>	<u>450,192</u>

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2025 £	2024 £
Payable or repayable by instalments	<u>232,835</u>	<u>249,625</u>
	<u>232,835</u>	<u>249,625</u>

The Charity has 2 loans in place with the bank with rates of interest at 1% p.a. over base rate and they expire on 13 September 2031 and 22 January 2034.

The mortgages are secured on the freehold property owned by the Charity.

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Land and Buildings	540,717	-	-	38,933	579,650
Building repairs	-	-	-	65,000	65,000
	<u>540,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103,933</u>	<u>644,650</u>
<b>General funds</b>					
General Funds	<u>685,520</u>	<u>1,124,023</u>	<u>(1,028,573)</u>	<u>(103,933)</u>	<u>677,037</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,226,237</u>	<u>1,124,023</u>	<u>(1,028,573)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,321,687</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Access to Justice	<u>-</u>	<u>113,735</u>	<u>(113,735)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u>1,226,237</u>	<u>1,237,758</u>	<u>(1,142,308)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,321,687</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Land and Buildings	503,798	-	-	36,919	540,717
<b>General funds</b>					
General Funds	698,781	995,737	(972,079)	(36,919)	685,520
DCC Libraries	-	1,237	(1,237)	-	-
	698,781	996,974	(973,316)	(36,919)	685,520
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	1,202,579	996,974	(973,316)	-	1,226,237
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Access to Justice	-	85,303	(85,303)	-	-
<b>Total of funds</b>	1,202,579	1,082,277	(1,058,619)	-	1,226,237

**16. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Designated Funds**

The designated fund relates to the net book value of the premises less the mortgage outstanding. This sum has been designated as the buildings are required to enable the Charity to meet its aims and objectives.

**Building Repairs**

As part of the charity's reserves policy, the Trustees have designated a Building Repair Fund to ensure that sufficient resources are available to meet the costs of essential maintenance, repairs, and improvements to the charity's premises. The fund has been established from unrestricted reserves and is reviewed annually to confirm that the level of designation remains appropriate. The Trustees consider this designation particularly prudent in view of ongoing major local building works, which may increase the need for remedial or protective maintenance in future years.

**Restricted Funds**

**Access to Justice**

To sustain and improve access to early social welfare and family legal support and advice, to enable users to resolve these problems as early as possible and avoid the need for court or tribunal proceedings where possible. Where court or tribunal proceedings are needed, the grant will provide the support needed to help people navigate the process effectively, including where support to prepare for court and at court is required.

**17. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	1,045,096	<b>1,045,096</b>
Current assets	865,412	<b>865,412</b>
Creditors due within one year	(172,579)	<b>(172,579)</b>
Creditors due in more than one year	(416,242)	<b>(416,242)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,321,687</b>	<b>1,321,687</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

17. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,038,503	1,038,503
Current assets	773,847	773,847
Creditors due within one year	(135,921)	(135,921)
Creditors due in more than one year	(450,192)	(450,192)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,226,237</b>	<b>1,226,237</b>

18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	95,450	23,658
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	5,925	-
Interest	28,481	30,459
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(48,166)	(42,375)
Increase in debtors	(3,996)	(73,829)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	41,641	(41,257)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>119,335</b>	<b>(103,344)</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand	460,213	372,644
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>460,213</b>	<b>372,644</b>

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	372,644	87,569	-	460,213
Debt due within 1 year	(44,091)	67,414	(62,431)	(39,108)
Debt due after 1 year	(450,192)	-	33,950	(416,242)
	<b>(121,639)</b>	<b>154,983</b>	<b>(28,481)</b>	<b>4,863</b>

21. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £36,200 (2024 - £41,126). Contributions totalling £4,884 (2024 - £4,438) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

22. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2025 the Company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	9,745	10,468
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	18,639	28,384
	<b>28,384</b>	<b>38,852</b>



**23. Related party transactions**

The Company has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Company at 31 March 2025.

