

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2025**

**BENCH
OUTREACH**

(A company limited by guarantee)

**CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1077933
COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 3751509**

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1077933

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 3751509

DATE OF INCORPORATION 13 April 1999

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR 1 July 2024

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 30 June 2025

DIRECTORS AT 30 JUNE 2025 Paul Chapman (Chair)
Errol Chambers
Sabrina Pathan (Resigned November 2024)
Philippe Granger (Resigned July 2025)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE Belinda Wallace

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS Memorandum & Articles of Association, incorporated 13 April 1999
Articles of Association updated 16 November 2015

OBJECTS

- A)** Advance the Christian faith in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Directors of the charity (herein called the Trustees) may from time to time think fit,
- B)** To relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged or sick or who are homeless and to relieve the distress caused thereby in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit,
- C)** To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate including by means of establishing and operating any educational establishment establishments in or the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit,
- D)** To promote the rehabilitation of persons affected by drugs, alcohol and other substance addiction and abuse in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit,
- E)** To relieve persons who are experiencing mental or emotional suffering in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit,
- F)** To advance the provision of training and the development of skills for employment for those in financial and economic need in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit,
- G)** To promote and fulfil such other charitable purposes beneficial to the community in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.

REGISTERED ADDRESS 14 New King Street
Deptford
London SE8 3HS

**INDEPENDENT
EXAMINER**

Dominique Wells FCA
10 Lakeswood Road
Petts Wood
Kent BR5 1BJ

BANKERS HSBC Bank Plc
85 Lewisham High Street
London SE13 6BE

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of Company Law, present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in pages 14 and 15 and with applicable UK accounting standards, the Charities Act 2011, the Accounting and Reporting By Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing accounts under the Financial Reporting Standard applicable Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) and the Charity's governing document.

The trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and planning future activities.

Structure, Governance, and Management

Bench Outreach is a registered charity (No. 1077933) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 3751509). Our operations are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and later amended by a special resolution on 16 November 2015.

The Board of Trustees meets 4 to 6 times per year and is responsible for ensuring good governance, strategic oversight, and annual budget approval. The CEO and Finance Manager attend all Board meetings to provide operational and financial updates.

Trustee Recruitment & Induction:

New trustees are appointed by the existing trustees, with careful consideration given to ensuring a diverse range of skills, experience, and perspectives.

Prospective trustees:

- Attend a Board meeting before being formally appointed.
- Receive an induction led by the CEO, which includes:
 - A copy of the Articles of Association
 - The latest financial accounts
 - Minutes from recent Board meetings

This process ensures that trustees are well-equipped to contribute effectively to the governance and strategic direction of Bench Outreach.

1. Strategic Vision, Mission, and Values

Our Vision

We envision a society where homelessness, hunger, inequality, and exclusion are rare exceptions rather than inevitable realities.

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Our Mission

We create sustainable pathways out of crisis by providing expert advocacy, intensive housing support, and health interventions. Homelessness and poverty are rarely isolated issues, often compounded by factors such as race, gender, disability, and mental health.

Our Values

Bench Outreach is guided by principles that place dignity, stability, and equity at the centre of our work. These values shape both our daily practice and our long-term vision for a fairer, 'more inclusive' community.

- **Housing Stability:** We follow the Housing First approach, focusing on sustaining tenancies, preventing homelessness, and ensuring people have the support they need to remain safely housed.
- **Advocacy and Equity:** We help people navigate complex systems, secure their entitlements, and challenge barriers caused by discrimination or systemic inequity.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** We view housing insecurity as a public health issue, supporting clients to re-engage with primary care, mental health, and specialist services, all through a trauma-informed approach.
- **Systemic Change:** We highlight gaps in service, challenge stigma, and advocate for culturally aware, trauma-informed approaches across local systems.

2. Bench Outreach Services Snapshot

Bench Outreach delivers a range of person-centred services that support people experiencing homelessness, financial hardship, and social exclusion. Together, these services create pathways from crisis to stability, well-being, and community connection:

- **Access** – One-to-one advocacy for clients facing housing instability and income challenges, including benefits support, tenancy advice, and navigating complex systems.
- **Housing First** – Commissioned by Lewisham Council, providing long-term housing and intensive support for people experiencing rough sleeping.
- **Housing First Partnership Initiative** – Also commissioned by Lewisham Council, offering bespoke, high-support interventions for individuals with the most complex needs.
- **Shades of Wellness** – Launching in August 2025, this service will provide menopause awareness, well-being support, and health advocacy for women facing intersecting social or structural challenges.

Through these services, Bench Outreach continues to support individuals in securing housing, engaging with health and community services, and building sustainable, positive pathways out of crisis.

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3. Key Achievements 2024–25

This year offered an important period of stabilisation following the sad death of our long-standing CEO in June 2024. Taking the helm, Belinda Wallace has helped guide Bench Outreach towards financial equity, introducing targeted projects and services.

The continued support of Stephen and Jannet Mathers, following their step down as Trustee and Company Secretary, has been invaluable.

Housing First Partnership Initiative

In September 2024, Bench Outreach launched the Housing First Partnership Initiative with Lewisham Council to support ten of the borough's rough sleepers with complex needs. The service provides intensive, personalised support, focusing on securing and sustaining accommodation while reconnecting clients with health services, benefits, and community opportunities.

Since its launch:

- Eight individuals have been supported into housing, with seven currently receiving ongoing support.
- Five are in settled accommodation, with one remaining in temporary accommodation.
- Three individuals are currently awaiting assessment.

Alongside housing outcomes, the team supports clients to engaging in meaningful activity, including informal employment, volunteering, sports, arts, and community gardening. The service is operating at full capacity, reflecting both the level of local need and the team's dedication.

This initiative demonstrates the value of a strong partnership with the borough and the effectiveness of a relational, person-centred approach for people who have often been excluded from traditional services.

4. Partnerships and Multi-Agency Work

Bench Outreach's work relies on strong collaboration across statutory, voluntary, and community sectors. These partnerships ensure that people with complex needs can access the right support at the right time.

Statutory and Commissioned Partners:

- Lewisham Council, Lewisham Homes, Rough Sleepers Task Group: Coordinated responses to housing crises, rough sleeping, and safeguarding.
- NHS and South London and Maudsley (SLaM): Support for health, mental health, and specialist services.

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Community and Third-Sector Partners:

- 999 Club, St Mungo's, Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network, local faith groups, and hubs: Provide safe spaces, integration, and continuity of care.

Partnership outcomes (year-on-year compared with 2023–24):

- One-to-one advocacy interventions increased by 14%, supporting more people to navigate housing and benefits systems.
- Evictions prevented rose by 12%, helping clients stay safely in their homes.
- Successful welfare and income-stabilisation outcomes improved by 22%, enabling more people to achieve financial stability.
- Homelessness applications and emergency placements rose by 17%, reflecting both greater outreach and proactive support.
- Tribunal representation for housing and welfare disputes increased by 20%, giving more people a voice in challenging decisions.
- Joint homelessness-prevention initiatives grew by 25%, strengthening multi-agency responses and early intervention.

These improvements reflect closer coordination with Lewisham Council, earlier engagement with clients, and the commitment of our frontline team.

5. Health, Wellbeing, and Social Value

Bench Outreach treats housing, health, and community connection as interlinked priorities. By supporting clients to re-engage with healthcare, secure income, and participate in community life, we reduce crisis interventions and promote long-term stability.

Health engagement outcomes (year-on-year):

- Clients registering with or re-engaging with a GP rose by 19%, helping more people access primary care.
- Attendance at mental health and substance-misuse appointments increased by 22%, ensuring consistent care.
- Access to screening, medication reviews, or specialist referrals grew by 27%, supporting early intervention and improved outcomes.

Social value delivered:

- Strengthened housing stability and everyday safety
- Reduced financial hardship and improved income security

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- Reduced social isolation and greater community participation

This work demonstrates how relational, consistent support changes lives, helping people to move from crisis into stability and community engagement.

6. Financial & Strategic Review

A Year of Strategic Growth

Building a Sustainable Future

This year has focused on creating a more resilient Bench Outreach. Our total income increased by 10.4%, but the key development is the move towards more flexible funding. By boosting our contract income and our unrestricted grants, we have gained the ability to respond swiftly to the needs of those we support and have begun efforts to enhance funding for targeted programmes.

Investing in Our Team

We believe our impact is only as strong as the people delivering it. That's why we've focused our spending, which increased by a steady 6.6%, on caring for our staff. We raised our salary investment by 6.3%, with the remainder going directly into training. A well-supported, expert team is the only way we can continue providing the high-quality care our community deserves.

Financial Resilience

Our financial "safety net" remains robust. We managed to increase our unrestricted reserves by 3.7%, meaning we stay in line with Charity Commission legislation. Meanwhile, our total reserves slightly declined, driven by higher deferred income from restricted grants, but offset by a reduction in short-term liabilities and our ongoing willingness to collaborate with funders while awaiting funds from planned grants, reflecting the timing of various projects throughout the financial year.

What's Next?

We're entering the new year on firm footing. Our focus is on sustaining disciplined cost control while seeking new, sustainable funding opportunities to support our work.

We are confident, resilient, and well-placed to keep expanding our reach and strengthening our impact.

7. Risk Assessment & Reserves Policy

The trustees continue to review organisational risks throughout the year, with funding stability remaining the most significant area of focus.

- **Reserves Policy:** The charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves equivalent to at least three months and no more than twelve months of total expenditure
- **Future Sustainability:** This year, the charity has strengthened its approach to long-term sustainability by expanding fundraising activity, developing new income streams, and increasing engagement with individual donors and grant-making bodies.

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8. Looking Ahead – 2025/26

The year ahead will focus on strengthening the depth, reach, and impact of our support for people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. Our approach continues to centre on relational, person-led practice, recognising that long-term stability is built through trust, consistency, and holistic support. Alongside consolidating our Housing First provision, we will invest in community-based services that meet people where they are and respond to the complex realities of their lives.

Key priorities for 2025/26 include:

- **Embedding health advocacy across housing pathways** — We will integrate dedicated health advocacy into all stages of our housing support, ensuring people can navigate healthcare systems, attend appointments, and access the treatment they need. This work aims to reduce health inequalities and strengthen the link between stable housing and improved wellbeing.
- **Expanding flexible one-to-one support and trauma-informed practice** - Trauma-informed will be further embedded across the organisation, with additional training and reflective practice to ensure services remain safe, compassionate, and empowering.
- **Launching and growing Shades of Wellness** — Our new project will provide culturally aware wellbeing and health support for women, particularly those who face additional barriers due to race. The focus will be on creating safe spaces, improving access to services, and promoting holistic wellbeing.
- **Influencing policy to address inequity and improve access to housing, health, and welfare** - We will strengthen our advocacy work by sharing insights from lived experience, contributing to local and national discussions, and collaborating with partners to push for fairer systems. Our aim is to influence structural change that reduces inequality and improves outcomes for the people we support.

9. Acknowledgments

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our staff, volunteers, and peer mentors, whose commitment and compassion shape every aspect of our work. Their ability to build trust, form meaningful relationships, and stand alongside people in moments of crisis is the foundation on which Bench Outreach is built.

We also acknowledge the continued trust and generosity of our funders: London Borough of Lewisham, The National Lottery Community Fund, Henry Smith Charity, Garfield Weston Foundation, Leathersellers Foundation, Tudor Trust, Deptford Challenge Trust, and the Benefactor Trust. Their support enables us to remain present in the community, respond to rising needs, and develop services that reflect the lived experiences of the people we serve.

We offer special thanks to Jannet and Stephen Mathers, whose ongoing trust, generosity, and friendship have supported Bench Outreach over many years. Their belief in our mission has strengthened our work and helped us remain a steady, reliable presence for those who rely on us.

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Our thanks extend to our partners across Lewisham and the wider voluntary sector, whose collaboration strengthens our collective impact and ensures that no individual is left to navigate complex systems alone.

10. Closing Statement

Bench Outreach remains steadfast in its belief that every person deserves safety, dignity, and the chance to build a life of stability and hope. Our work is rooted in the understanding that homelessness, poverty, and social exclusion are not just crises of circumstance—they are crises of humanity. That's why we continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with those who are too often pushed to the margins, offering not only practical support but also unwavering solidarity.

We are committed to being a consistent presence in people's lives, especially when systems fail or doors close. Whether someone needs a warm meal, a listening ear, or long-term advocacy, we walk alongside them for as long as it takes. We challenge the barriers that prevent people from accessing housing, healthcare, and community belonging, and we amplify the voices of those who are routinely unheard or overlooked.

Our promise is simple: no one should have to navigate hardship alone. We will continue to champion the rights, stories, and potential of every individual we meet—ensuring they are seen, valued, and supported as they move toward a future defined not by crisis, but by opportunity and choice.

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Trustees Responsibilities

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.
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and taking reasonable steps to prevent or detect fraud and breaches of law and regulation.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the charity's examiner and each of the trustees believes that all steps have been taken to make them aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the examiner has been made aware of this information.

This report reflects the achievements, challenges, and commitments of the charity during the year ending 30 June 2025, while outlining the vision for the future.

This report was approved by the Trustees, Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Chapman', is written over a horizontal line.

Paul Chapman
Chair

Date: 26/03/2026

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
INCOME					
Donations and Legacies	2	74,239	263,968	338,207	372,994
Income from Charitable Activities	3	5,559	267,290	272,849	180,508
Income from Investments		1,103	-	1,103	800
TOTAL INCOME		80,901	531,258	612,159	554,302
EXPENDITURE					
Expenditure on Raising Funds		-	-	-	-
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	4	74,106	552,186	626,292	587,531
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		74,106	552,186	626,292	587,531
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		6,795	(20,928)	(14,133)	(33,229)
Total Funds Brought Forward		182,569	(9,000)	173,569	206,798
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		189,364	(29,928)	159,436	173,569

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

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BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	5	-	2,081	2,081	1,138
Current Assets					
Cash at Bank and in Hand	7	188,005	11,465	199,470	113,448
Debtors	8	2,247	37,147	39,394	118,132
		190,252	48,613	238,864	231,581
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(888)	(62,621)	(63,509)	(41,149)
Net Current Assets		189,364	(14,009)	175,355	190,431
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		189,364	(11,928)	177,436	191,569
Provisions for Liabilities	10	-	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
NET ASSETS		189,364	(29,928)	159,436	173,569
Funds of the Charity					
General Funds		189,364	-	189,364	182,569
Restricted Funds	6b	-	(29,928)	(29,928)	(9,000)
TOTAL FUNDS		189,364	(29,928)	159,436	173,569

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 ('the Act') relating to small companies, and with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

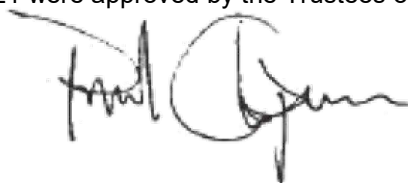
For the year ended 30 June 2025, the company was entitled to the exemption from audit under Section 477(2) of the Act. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for this financial period in accordance with Section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for:

- 1 ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386; and
- 2 preparing accounts that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its net incoming resources for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of Section 393, and otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, insofar as they are applicable to the company.

The financial statements on pages 12 to 21 were approved by the Trustees on 26 March 2026

and signed on their behalf by Trustee



P Chapman

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The charity is a public benefit entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis of accounting and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption to prepare a statement of Cash Flows as per Update Bulletin 1 of the Charity SORP (FRS 102) February 2016.

Income

Recognition of Income

This is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- ♦ the charity becomes entitled to the income;
- ♦ the income is expected to be received; and
- ♦ the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income with Related Expenditure

Where income has related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when the charity has entitlement to the income.

Where a grant is awarded for use against expenditure over a specified period, only that proportion of the grant relating to the financial period is recognised in the SOFA.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Income from tax reclaims is included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which it relates.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at the lower of a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity and the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale are included as gifts on receipt at fair value.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as income when receivable.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

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.

Grants with Performance Conditions

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

Grants Payable without Performance Conditions

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Support Costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources, eg allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Provisions for Liabilities

Provisions are recognised when the entity has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event; it is probable that the entity will be required to transfer economic benefits in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably. Provisions are recognised as a liability in the statement of financial position and the amount of the provision as an expense.

Provisions are initially measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date and subsequently reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate of the amount that would be required to settle the obligation. Any adjustments to the amounts previously recognised are recognised in profit or loss unless the provision was originally recognised as part of the cost of an asset.

Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied per annum is as follows:

- Fixtures and Fittings 25%
- Office Equipment 25%

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

2 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Donations and Legacies				
Donations	74,239	263,968	338,207	372,994
	74,239	263,968	338,207	372,994

See Note 6a regarding Donations for Unrestricted Funds of £74,239

See Note 6b regarding Donations for Restricted Funds of £263,968

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Contracts	-	267,290	267,290	162,250
Nyon Grove	4,320	-	4,320	18,258
Miscellaneous	1,239	-	1,239	-
	5,559	267,290	272,849	180,508

See Note 6b regarding Contracts for Restricted Funds of £267,290

4 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
	Notes				
Catering & Cleaning		-	7,936	7,936	854
Client Welfare		365	34,068	34,433	21,867
Depreciation		-	588	588	180
Office Devices, Softwares & Accessories		-	1,112	1,112	648
Licences & Subscriptions		649	3,500	4,149	4,119
Postage, Printing & Stationery		-	4,128	4,128	646
Office Costs		-	40,500	40,500	40,500
Nyon Grove - Client Accommodation		16,763	-	16,763	28,249
Professional Fees		-	10,466	10,466	24,409
Staff	11	50,818	409,993	460,811	433,591
Sundry Expenses		160	5,038	5,198	3,216
Telephone & Internet		1,223	14,843	16,066	16,886
Training		3,062	8,667	11,729	1,718
Travel & Subsistence		-	4,890	4,890	3,500
Volunteer Expenses		-	448	448	689
Bank Charges		-	79	79	101
Insurance	10	228	4,330	4,558	4,358
Independent Examiner's Fees		400	1,600	2,000	2,000
Rates & Utilities		438	-	438	-
		74,106	552,186	626,292	587,531

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
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5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Office Equipment £	TOTAL £
Cost as at 1 July 2024	-	4,551	4,551
Additions	-	1,531	1,531
Cost as at 30 June 2025	-	6,082	6,082
Depreciation as at 1 July 2024	-	3,413	3,413
Charge	-	588	588
Depreciation as at 30 June 2025	-	4,001	4,001
Net Book Value as at 30 June 2024	-	1,138	1,138
Net Book Value as at 30 June 2025	-	2,081	2,081

The annual commitments under irrevocable operating leases and capital commitments are £Nil (2024 £Nil).

6a UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Income 2025 £	Income 2024 £
Bear Church	1,800	1,800
Jessica Mathers Trust	30,000	24,000
Jubilee Resource Ltd	1,500	1,500
Leathersellers	-	10,000
Rushey Green Time	-	2,000
Regular Individual Donations	8,427	9,169
Other Individual Donations	2,512	2,513
Albert Hunt Trust	10,000	-
Garfield Weston	20,000	-
Total	74,239	50,982

Individual Donations include £2,400 donated by trustees (2024 £2,400).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
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6b RESTRICTED FUNDS

Grant	B/f 1 July 2024 £	Deferred Income 2024 £	Grants Receivable £	Deferred Income 2025 (Note 9) £	Income £	Expenditure £	C/f 30 June 2025 £
National Lottery	-	-	46,967	(46,967)	-	-	-
Henry Smith	9,000	-	90,000	-	90,000	(110,928)	(11,928)
Henry Smith	-	-	30,000	-	30,000	(30,000)	-
Deptford Challenge Trust	-	-	7,500	-	7,500	(7,500)	-
Big Lottery	-	17,967	-	-	17,967	(17,967)	-
The Sackler Trust	-	-	20,000	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
The Benefact Trust	-	7,667	15,333	(7,667)	15,333	(15,333)	-
City Bridge Trust	-	2,889	36,050	(3,005)	35,934	(35,934)	-
Rushey Green Time	-	-	3,834	-	3,834	(3,834)	-
Jessica Mathers Trust	-	-	40,500	-	40,500	(40,500)	-
Rushey Green Time	-	-	2,900	-	2,900	(2,900)	-
Total Restricted Grants	9,000	28,523	293,084	(57,639)	263,968	(284,896)	(11,928)
Contracts							
LB Lewisham	-	-	267,290	-	267,290	(267,290)	-
Total Contracts	-	-	267,290	-	267,290	(267,290)	-
Total Restricted Funds	9,000	28,523	560,374	(57,639)	531,258	(552,186)	(11,928)

Grants for specific purposes during the year were:-

- 1) A grant of £290,038 for over three years from the National Lottery Fund towards Shades of Wellness project embedded in the Housing First and Access projects.
- 2) A grant of £35,934 from City Bridge Trust towards Outreach Access services, part of a £184,353 grant over five years.
- 3) A grant extension for one year for £90,000 from the Henry Smith Charity towards the Housing First project, to include the salary of a specialist Housing First women's worker was received (making a total of £450,000 over five years). The second grant of £40,000 (part of a £120,000 grant over three years) from the Henry Smith Charity towards the Access to Housing and Benefits service project ends this year.

BENCH OUTREACH
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

6b RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

- iv) A grant of £15,333 from The Benefact Trust towards the HF project (part of a £46,000 grant over three years)
- v) The Jessica Mathers Trust has donated the use of office space and related services at Jessica's Heart, 14 New King St, Deptford, London SE8 3HS. This has been included at its estimated value.

Contracts entered into during the year

- 1) The contract with LB Lewisham to provide a Housing First Service was renewed. The aim is to support homeless clients with high needs to move into housing. Then to support these clients to successfully maintain their tenancies through a personalised support package.
- 2) A second contract with LB Lewisham providing support for special needs clients being part of a Housing First Partnership Initiative for three years.

7 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Cash at Bank	186,906	11,465	198,371	109,969
Cash in Hand	1,099	-	1,099	3,480
	188,005	11,465	199,470	113,449

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Income Receivable	625	35,609	36,234	114,375
Tax Refund on Gift Aid	1,572	-	1,572	1,572
Prepayments	50	1,538	1,588	2,185
	2,247	37,147	39,394	118,132

BENCH OUTREACH
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

9 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Deferred Income	-	57,639	57,639	28,523
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	888	4,982	5,870	12,627
	888	62,621	63,509	41,150

See Note 6b regarding Deferred Income for Restricted Funds of £57,639.

10 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

	Restricted Funds £
As at 30 June 2024	18,000
Charge to Insurance Expenditure	-
As at 30 June 2025	18,000

The provision is for the estimated cost of additional professional indemnity insurance required by LB Lewisham for the twelve years following the expiry of their contract.

11 STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	409,993	391,662
Employer's National Insurance Costs	30,212	29,959
Pension Costs	20,606	11,970
	460,811	433,591

Employees who were engaged in furtherance of the charity's objectives:

2025	2024
13	16

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

BENCH OUTREACH
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

12 TAXATION

The charitable company is a registered charity and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

13 PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

No payments were made to Trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them.

BENCH OUTREACH
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the Trustees of Bench Outreach on the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2025 set out on pages 10 to 21.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees for my examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity's Trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's total income exceeds £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having been satisfied that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Act),
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the Trustees have not met the requirements to show that:
 - accounting records are kept (in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011), and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102)
- or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Dominique Wells FCA
Chartered Accountant
10 Lakeswood Road
Petts Wood
Kent BR5 1BJ


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Date: 26 March 2026