

Charity registration number 1096086

Company registration number 04375649 (England and Wales)

9 LIVES FURNITURE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9 LIVES FURNITURE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Irvin Cohen Rosemary Hadfield M.B.E Andrew Blatherwick David Sharpe Sergio Mussi Stephanie Singer	(Appointed 29 September 2022)
Chair	Rosemary Hadfield M.B.E	
Treasurer/Secretary	Irvin Cohen	
Managing Director	Maile Frost	
Charity number	1096086	
Company number	04375649	
Registered office	25 Wharf Lane Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 1HA	
Independent examiner	John Wilson FCA ATII Howard Wilson Chartered Accountants 36 Crown Rise Watford Hertfordshire WD25 0NE	
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	

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9 LIVES FURNITURE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)".

Objectives and activities

The charitable company's objects are to help residents of Watford, Three Rivers and the surrounding areas who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by the provision of furniture and accessories. The charitable company also provides vocational training, support and work experience.

The charity aims to achieve these objectives by:

- Collecting good quality, donated furniture and other household effects which are no longer required by the owners and would otherwise be destined for landfill.
- Displaying furniture and household effects so that people in need can choose from these and have them delivered to their home if desired.
- Recruiting and supporting unemployed volunteers, specifically, but not exclusively, people recovering from common mental illness like anxiety and depression or who have a learning disability, as well as other people with mental ill health. The volunteers are offered training to enable them to gain confidence and learn skills that will prepare them for work.

We manage the work of the charitable company as two complementary activities – the furniture recycling showroom (and associated collection and delivery service) and the provision of training courses and work experience. The objectives for each activity for this year were:

- Furniture Recycling:

- Increase sales to achieve the aim of making the furniture recycling business self-financing
- Maintain subsidised sales (50%) for those in need at current levels

- Training Courses and Work Experience:

- Train students in furniture restoration
- Maintain volunteer programme to fill driver's mate and showroom assistant positions
- Assist 5 students and volunteers to move into further employment or volunteering roles
- Raise grant income to cover the cost of the courses

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. The charitable company relies on grants and income from furniture sales to cover its operational costs. In setting the level of charges for furniture the Trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of products for those on low incomes.

9 Lives Furniture has two main areas of activity:

- The collection of donated second-hand furniture and household goods and the sale and delivery of these goods from our Rickmansworth showroom, at 50% discount to those in need and at full price to the general public.
- Providing training and work experience to unemployed adults, including those with a learning disability or recovering from mental ill health. Training courses are provided in furniture restoration (in the workshop) and many volunteering / work experience roles (in the showroom), as driver's mates on the delivery van, in the office and in the workshop.

As well as the furniture restoration course, we also have a weekly volunteers' day in our workshop, where previous students and other volunteers upcycle items of donated furniture to sell in the showroom.

9 LIVES FURNITURE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Our volunteers, as always, have been superb:

- Administration: Diane Back and Sue Oakley.
- Driver's Mates: Quentin Cobham, Greg Hirst, David Sharpe, Paul Redington and Andrew Blatherwick
- Showroom: Steph Busby, Ed Stanley, Wendy Rennoldson, Anne Thorniley, Catharine Payne, Annette Timms, Ian Wyatt, Lou Dossett, Valerie Cohen, Iona Fernandes, Brenda Proud, Robert Langford, Liam O'Keefe, and Andrew Thorniley.
- Refurbishment: Phillip Silverton, Lou Dossett and Peter Pledstead.

Thanks to those who have now left: Ann Graham

All of the Trustees have also volunteered in the showroom this year.

Our volunteers work unstintingly for the benefit of the charitable company, helping with furniture removal, administration, working in the showroom, furniture restoration and cleaning. The Trustees, who so ably assist in leading the organisation, are also volunteers and our thanks go to them. We would also like to thank all those who donate household goods.

Achievements and performance

9 Lives Furniture has had another steady year.

The sales have been consistent with an uplift on the year before, and we have been selling a few items at Amersham Auctions who offer us a charity rate. This has worked well for us, and they also can provide us with advice on pieces we want to price.

To assist with every day running of the office an admin assistant, Jo Walker, was employed in August 2022; this enables the business to continue running in the absence of the manager.

After 14½ years our Managing Director, Marie Frost, will be leaving us in July 2023. Marie joined us in January 2009 and we are very grateful for all the hard work and dedication she has put in to the charity over the years. Marie is being replaced by Paul Cheshire who has a background in charitable work. Paul was recruited after a period of searching for Marie's replacement and we are pleased that he accepted the offer of the position as we believe that he is ideally suited to take on the role.

We ran two one day courses in conjunction with ASCEND charity. These courses were very successful and each student took a small piece of furniture they had upcycled home with them. Our Tutor, Jessica, was offered a fabulous opportunity to work for Disney so, unfortunately, she left in February. As a result the main course had to cease until a new tutor was found. Peter Plested is taking on this role from June 2023.

We have a second supervised workshop on Thursdays where volunteers work on upcycling furniture to be sold in the showroom; these pieces sell at higher prices in the Emporium. 9 Lives Furniture signed up for the government scheme 'Kickstart' and employed a young person for 25 hours a week to work within the shop. The scheme has been a success and Ashley Jones started on 4 January 2022 until the end of June. His feedback was that the six months had given him a good insight into shop work and hopefully would help him to apply for retail positions.

We have also continued with our Duke of Edinburgh scheme and currently have three students working towards their bronze.

9 LIVES FURNITURE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

We continue to promote the charity's activities through:

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Website
- Newsletter
- Selling of Frenchic chalk paints

In terms of volunteers:

- We continue to offer Duke of Edinburgh scheme placements for students.
- We continue to benefit from new volunteers who assist in the showroom.

We are grateful for grants and donations this year from:

- W3RT
- Co-op

Waste reduction

The collection and provision of furniture continues to keep large bulky items out of landfill. This year over 2,969 items of furniture and over 1,000 small household items were diverted from landfill whilst providing much needed support to households in need.

Premises

Our premises comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and the building provides access to the ground and first floor for wheelchair users.

We earned a small amount of interest on the funds held on deposit.

9 LIVES FURNITURE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Financial review

A summary of the charitable company's financial position is attached.

Overall the charitable company showed a deficit for the year of £20,395 against a surplus in the year before of £15,441. The overall fall in performance was as a result of a drop in Grant Income received coupled with a rise in some of the core costs of the charitable company (staff and premises costs). The extent of the fall was softened due to a rise in the sales income generated. The Trustees were aware of the factors mentioned and were in the position that sufficient reserves had been carried forward which allowed the charitable company to absorb the in year deficit. The Trustees, in conjunction with the management team are putting in strategies to increase the level of grant income applied for, whilst managing the expenditure budget as previously.

During the year the Trustees have considered the level of the charitable company's reserves, in line with the Charity Commission guidelines. The Trustees set a policy that reflects the need to maintain current operations whilst providing for future commitments.

It is the policy of the charitable company that unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific use, should be maintained at a sufficient level to pay off staff and settle the rent to the next break point in the lease.

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in sales income and/or funding, they will be able to continue the charitable company's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The level of reserves is monitored and reviewed four times a year.

Our sources of income are as follows:

- Sales of donated goods, including discounted sales for those in need, and increased charges for upcycled furniture
- Sales of Frenchic chalk paints
- Grants and donations
- Furniture delivery charges (we do not charge for collection)
- Gift Aid on the sales of donated goods
- Bank interest

Key areas of expenditure are:

- Rent and running costs for the furniture showroom, workshop and offices (all in the same building). The premises provide the opportunity to display and sell furniture, whilst the workshop is used for training courses. They also provide volunteering opportunities
- Salaries and staff costs
- Van running costs to operate the collection and delivery service
- Professional costs – preparation of the accounts
- Marketing costs – ongoing publicity to promote the work of the charitable company and attract customers to the showroom
- Purchasing paint for resale in the shop

Reserves that are not required for day to day activities are held in a separate interest bearing bank account.

During the year the Managing Director and Trustees have continued to assess the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed and have ensured systems are in place to mitigate exposure to such risks.

The Trustees have no plans to make significant changes to the activities of the charitable company. Our focus for the foreseeable future is on continuing to rebuild the level of furniture sales and securing grant funding for the training courses.

We aim to achieve this through:

- continued promotion of our activities.
- continuing to build our online / social media activity including selling items online
- flash sales to help maintain a reasonable turnover of stock
- fundraising programme to generate funding for our training courses

9 LIVES FURNITURE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Structure, governance and management

9 Lives Furniture is a Registered Charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, who served during the year were:

Irvin Cohen

Rosemary Hadfield M.B.E

Dr Christopher Wood

(Resigned 11 May 2022)

Andrew Blatherwick

Caroline Jennings

(Resigned 11 May 2022)

David Sharpe

Sergio Mussi

Stephanie Singer

(Appointed 29 September 2022)

An application form to join the board of the 9 Lives Furniture is available for potential Trustees/directors. The board reviews this and potential candidates are invited to the premises in Rickmansworth for a full overview of the running of the scheme. All Trustees, who are also directors, are volunteers and unpaid. Vacancies are advertised through the local Councils for Voluntary Services and in the local paper. Induction training (including working in the showroom) is given by the Chair and the staff to ensure a thorough understanding of the organisation. In addition, training on the role and responsibilities of a Trustee is available.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The charitable company currently has a Management Committee of six Trustees, all of whom are volunteers. At any one time there are a minimum of three Trustees with no maximum.

At each Annual General Meeting (AGM) any Trustee who has served for three years must retire from office but may offer themselves for re-election together with any new Trustees who have been co-opted by the Trustees since the last AGM.

The Trustees delegate the day to day running of the charitable company's operations to the Managing Director.

Staffing is as follows:

- Managing Director: Marie Frost
- Manager: Paul Cheshire
- Team Leaders (part time – run the showroom, manage the collection and delivery service and the showroom volunteers): Toni Manning and Rebecca Johnson
- Driver and Team Leader: Alan Storer
- Tutor: Jessica Corlett (resigned February 2023)
- Tutor: Peter Plested
- Admin assistant: Jo Walker
- Kickstart: Ashley Jones (until June 2022)

Our Managing Director also maintains relationships with a wide range and variety of organisations, including:

- Membership of Reuse network
- Local voluntary services network – W3RT
- Recycling – WasteAware.
- Referrals of students and volunteers – Mencap, New Hope Trust, Northwick Day Centre, Ascend, Watford Community Mental Health Team, self referral.
- Referrals of customers in need – Citizens' Advice Bureaux, HertsHelp, Thrive Homes, Watford Community Housing, Paradigm Housing, self referral, Community Mental Health Teams, Keyworkers

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023***

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Rosemary Hadfield M.B.E

Trustee

Dated: 17 July 2023

9 LIVES FURNITURE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors of 9 Lives Furniture for the purpose 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 year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

9 LIVES FURNITURE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF 9 LIVES FURNITURE

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of 9 Lives Furniture (the charitable company) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

John Wilson FCA ATII

Howard Wilson Chartered Accountants
36 Crown Rise
Watford
Hertfordshire
WD25 0NE

Dated: 17 July 2023

9 LIVES FURNITURE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Notes							
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	10,597	4,341	14,938	43,131	9,397	52,528
Charitable activities	4	88,551	-	88,551	78,326	-	78,326
Investments	5	270	-	270	8	-	8
Other income	6	436	-	436	51	-	51
Total income		99,854	4,341	104,195	121,516	9,397	130,913
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	124,590	-	124,590	97,048	18,424	115,472
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	(9,027)	9,027	-
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/							
Net movement in funds		(24,736)	4,341	(20,395)	15,441	-	15,441
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		154,217	3,595	157,812	138,776	3,595	142,371
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		129,481	7,936	137,417	154,217	3,595	157,812

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

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BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Current assets					
Stocks	11	2,685		1,551	
Debtors	12	10,216		10,343	
Cash at bank and in hand		131,440		148,862	
		<u>144,341</u>		<u>160,756</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(6,924)</u>		<u>(2,944)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>137,417</u>		<u>157,812</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	15		7,936		3,595
Unrestricted funds			<u>129,481</u>		<u>154,217</u>
			<u>137,417</u>		<u>157,812</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 17 July 2023

Irvin Cohen
Trustee

Rosemary Hadfield M.B.E
Trustee

Company Registration No. 04375649

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

9 Lives Furniture is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 25 Wharf Lane, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 1HA.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Transfers between funds are used where there is an overspend on a particular fund beyond the amount originally funded where the charity has agreed to meet the costs from its unrestricted funds, or where the conditions relevant to the fund have been met and it has previously been agreed with the funder that any remaining funds can be retained by the charity towards its charitable activities.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charitable company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Assets given for use by the charitable company are recognised when receivable.

Income from the sale of donated goods are accounted for when earned. The value represents the transactional price of the items sold.

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit or independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold land and buildings	over period of lease
Computers	25% on cost
Motor vehicles	25% on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured at the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £
Donations and gifts	9,797	-	9,797	17,104	-	17,104
Grants	800	4,341	5,141	26,027	9,397	35,424
	<u>10,597</u>	<u>4,341</u>	<u>14,938</u>	<u>43,131</u>	<u>9,397</u>	<u>52,528</u>
Donations and gifts						
Donations and legacies	970	-	970	7,242	-	7,242
Gift Aid receivable	8,827	-	8,827	9,862	-	9,862
	<u>9,797</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,797</u>	<u>17,104</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,104</u>

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3 Donations and legacies

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £
Grants receivable for core activities						
Three Rivers DC	-	-	-	4,505	-	4,505
Garfield Weston	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Thrive Homes	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
Watford & Three Rivers Trust	-	-	-	2,182	-	2,182
HMRC grant	-	-	-	3,340	-	3,340
Hertfordshire Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	4,875	4,875
Mary Kinross	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Other	800	4,341	5,141	5,000	2,522	7,522
	<u>800</u>	<u>4,341</u>	<u>5,141</u>	<u>26,027</u>	<u>9,397</u>	<u>35,424</u>

Other grants received in the year include those received from W3RT and Kickstarter Funds

4 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Sales of donated and refurbished furniture	<u>88,551</u>	<u>78,326</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	<u>270</u>	<u>8</u>

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Other Income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Other Income	436	51

7 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	64,242	58,024
Other staff costs	546	234
Premises costs	39,188	32,144
Insurance	3,140	3,105
Repairs and maintenance	1,270	2,710
Office costs	2,812	2,307
Volunteer costs	479	69
Motor expenses	3,410	2,373
General expenses	932	2,071
Legal and professional	344	433
Accountancy fees	870	816
Other finance costs	1,930	1,519
Purchases	4,227	8,467
	123,390	114,272
Governance costs - Independent Examiner's Fee	1,200	1,200
	124,590	115,472

Fees paid to the Independent Examiner are in respect of examination services.

Analysis by fund

Unrestricted funds	124,590	
	124,590	
For the year ended 31 March 2022		
Unrestricted funds		97,048
Restricted funds		18,424
		115,472

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

9 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Direct charitable work	7	7
Management and administration	1	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	62,593	56,635
Other pension costs	1,649	1,389
	<u>64,242</u>	<u>58,024</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

11 Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	<u>2,685</u>	<u>1,551</u>

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	584	651
Prepayments and accrued income	9,632	9,692
	<u>10,216</u>	<u>10,343</u>

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security		-	304
Deferred income	14	4,000	-
Other creditors		284	-
Accruals and deferred income		2,640	2,640
		<u>6,924</u>	<u>2,944</u>

14 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Other deferred income	4,000	-
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	4,000	-
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	-	-
Resources deferred in the year	4,000	-
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2023	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>

9 LIVES FURNITURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Equipment Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Lottery Fund	2,595	-	-	-	2,595	-	2,595
Training Fund	-	6,875	(15,902)	9,027	-	-	-
Kickstart Fund	-	2,522	(2,522)	-	-	4,341	4,341
	<u>3,595</u>	<u>9,397</u>	<u>(18,424)</u>	<u>9,027</u>	<u>3,595</u>	<u>4,341</u>	<u>7,936</u>

The Equipment Fund was established from donations received to meet the costs of equipment for the office and warehouse.

The Training Fund was established from donations and grants received in order to cost the cost of training courses, in particular furniture refurbishment.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:					
Current assets/(liabilities)	129,481	7,936	137,417	151,695	157,812
	<u>129,481</u>	<u>7,936</u>	<u>137,417</u>	<u>151,695</u>	<u>157,812</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.