

Company registration number: 04681564

Charity registration number: 1101616

# Lewisham Local Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Goldwins Limited  
75 Maygrove Road  
West Hampstead  
London  
NW6 2EG

## **Lewisham Local Limited**

### **Contents**

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 22
Independent Auditor's Report	23 to 26
Statement of Financial Activities	27
Balance Sheet	28
Statement of Cash Flows	29
Notes to the Financial Statements	30 to 38

## **Lewisham Local Limited**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Chairman</b>	Roy Witter
<b>Trustees</b>	Ayesha Gareeboo Joyce Jones Gemma Juma Tina Price-Johnson Mary Pickles Jonathan Prince Susan Ryder Allison Streetly Peter Webb Roy Witter
<b>Secretary</b>	Samuel Hawksley (resigned 1 May 2024) Gulen Petty (appointed 1 May 2024)
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1101616
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	04681564 (The charity is incorporated in England and Wales).
<b>Registered Office</b>	Unit C Place/Ladywell 261 Lewisham High Street Lewisham London, SE13 6NJ
<b>Independent Auditor</b>	Goldwins Limited 75 Maygrove Road West Hampstead London, NW6 2EG
<b>Bankers</b>	The Co-operative Bank p.l.c Lewisham 151 Lewisham High St London, SE13 6AA

## Lewisham Local Limited Trustees' Report

### From the Chair

Dear Friends and Partners,


Welcome to the Lewisham Local Trustees' Annual Report for the year 2023-2024. This is a year which has been marked with numerous exciting achievements and new challenges as we continue to grow and evolve as a charity.

We started the year with increased funding pressure following the previous year's statutory funding cuts. We continued developing a project-focused delivery model revolving around our core values and mission, requiring us to locate alternative sources of support. In responding to this challenge, we have successfully secured diverse new funding for our established projects, showcasing the value and impact of our work. Additionally, we were able to embark on new pilot projects to address emerging local needs, such as digital exclusion, supporting individuals in work placements and partnering with community organisations that specifically serve Lewisham's black and ethnic minority community. Even under challenging conditions, our charity continues to grow at impressive pace – a testament to the important role we play in Lewisham's vast and storied social tapestry.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated and hardworking staff team, whose collaborative efforts with the Trustees have been integral to our progress. They have risen to the challenges presented by the cost-of-living crisis, which has placed increased demands on our projects and our local communities, as well as our staff team. I would also like to express our gratitude to our funders for their ongoing support and flexibility, as well as our tireless volunteers and project members, whose positivity and unwavering efforts continue to uplift us. Finally, I commend my fellow Trustees for their exemplary commitment and hard work, driving our charity forward.

We were also deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of three symbolic members of the Lewisham Local community; our trustee Susan Ryder, our former trustee and treasurer Patrick McKee, and most recently our trustee Pete Webb. Each played a significant role in the development of our charity, and their loss has been immeasurable. In remembering them, let us recognise their unwavering dedication, commitment and the impact they had on our organisation and the lives of many in our community. We also said goodbye to our CEO, Sam Hawksley, as he and his family relocated to Yorkshire. Early in the new year we started our search for a new CEO to take the charity to its next chapter. After a long and meticulous selection process, we appointed Dr Gülen Petty as Lewisham Local's new CEO. While waiting for her to join the charity in June, I stepped in as an Interim CEO to hold the fort.

I would like to thank my fellow Trustee colleagues and our staff for their support and dedication to supporting our communities and residents of Lewisham without interruption through these times of change. Moving forward, we remain resolute in our commitment to rise to the increasingly confronting circumstances faced by local residents with determination and flexibility. We are excited for the upcoming year, under the vision and direction of our new CEO, we will continue to prioritise investing in improving our internal systems, including our digital communications and website. We will continue to support our staff in delivering their incredible work and move towards enhancing Lewisham Local's sustainability by diversifying our funding base.



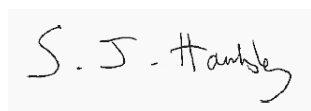
Sincerely,  
**Roy Witter**

### **From the Outgoing Chief Executive**

What a pleasure it has been to lead Lewisham Local over the last couple of years. We have been on an exciting journey, continued to grow our impact in Lewisham and our staff team. We have developed new projects responding to the community's needs, increased our funding streams and taken steps to include more representation of the communities we serve on our Board. There have been challenges along the way as the charity has grown quickly. However, we have continued to provide a robust service to our local community, and acted as an agent for meaningful change for Lewisham.

I'd like to thank the staff and volunteer team for being flexible and dedicated to making a difference in Lewisham's communities.

As my family and I relocate to the North-West of England, I look forward to watching from afar the positive difference this fabulous local charity continues to make. Keep being positive in the face of the challenges, respond to the needs, be creative and have fun!



**Sam Hawksley**

### **From the New Chief Executive**

As a long-time Lewisham resident and a charity leader in the borough for the past decade, I was thrilled to step into the role of CEO of Lewisham Local in June 2024. It's a privilege to lead such an incredible charity that, even in challenging times for Lewisham and its residents, remains a vital partner for residents, funders, and community stakeholders.

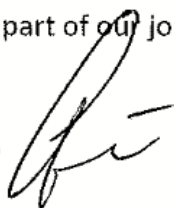
Together with the talented staff members and highly skilled and supportive Board of Trustees, I am looking forward to leading Lewisham Local to its next phase.

Our focus remains on listening closely to our communities, hearing and understanding their needs, and working collaboratively to find the resources needed to address the challenges and hardships many residents face – whether that is through time, skills, expertise, or funding.

Our progress would not be possible without the dedication of our partners, funders, community leaders, and volunteers. Your contributions make Lewisham Local a beacon of hope in this vibrant borough - a place where we are proud to live, learn, work, and have fun together.

Thank you for being part of our journey!

**Dr Gülen Petty, CEO**



## Lewisham Local Limited

### Trustees' Report

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee as defined by the Companies Act 2006 and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The company was established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed by its Articles of Association.

##### Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Charity aims to have a diverse Board of Trustees, made up of residents, professionals and individuals with lived experience of the organisation's projects and issues it is trying to address. The Trustees are a diverse group of people with varied experiences and knowledge in the local area, business, and voluntary sectors. Trustees may be appointed at any time and reappointments are on rotation every year at the AGM. A Trustee eligibility audit is carried out on a yearly basis as well as an audit of the current skills on the Board so that any gaps can be filled through new Trustee recruitment.

The Charity ensures that the Board of Trustees represents the diversity of our Borough and the users of the organisation. Due to the charity's growth and increasing breadth of work, Trustees agreed to increase the number of Trustees on the Board in order to provide increased oversight of our work as well as gain new skills and lived experience of our projects and the issues we address through our work, including poverty and isolation. Trustees also aimed to recruit younger Trustees to further enhance the diversity of the Board.

##### Meetings

The Board of Trustees meets six times a year and determines strategic direction and policy. The Board met in March 2023 for our annual Strategic Away Day to review performance, analyse the context around the organisation and identify opportunities to enhance the organisation's work and sustainability.

##### Organisational structure

The Chief Executive is accountable to the Board of Trustees and oversees the operations of the organisation and manages staff and freelance workers. We have continued to grow our staff and financial income and therefore our structure of Programme Managers has provided good oversight of our work and brought projects together into key themes. According to funding and project needs, other staff or freelance workers support on project delivery. In 2023-24 there were 20 staff (18 full time equivalent).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Committees Serving</u>
Roy Witter	Company Director and Trustee (Chair)	30/11/2022	Strategy (Chair)
Jonathan Prince	Company Director and Trustee (Vice Chair)	19/01/2022	Strategy, Finance & Operations (Chair)
Susan Ryder	Company Director and Trustee	23/01/2020	Finance & Operations
Dr Allison Streetly OBE	Company Director and Trustee	19/01/2022	Local Giving *New* (Chair)
Gemma Juma	Company Director and Trustee	27/01/2021	Finance & Operations
Ayesha Gareeboo	Company Director and Trustee	15.05/2023	
Mary Pickles	Company Director and Trustee	15/05/2023	
Peter Webb	Company Director and Trustee		

Tina Price-Johnson	Company Director and Trustee	15/05/2023
Joyce Jones	Company Director and Trustee	05/02/2022
Sam Hawksley	Company Secretary and Chief Executive Officer	01/11/2021

Chief Executive (1.0)

Food Justice Programme Manager	Voluntary Sector Programme Manager	Volunteering Programme Manager	Local Giving Programme Manager	
Food Partnerships Coordinator	Community Directory Coordinator	Time Bank Coordinator	Fundraising and Comms Coordinator	Finance & Office Coordinator
FoodCycle Coordinator	Fundraising Development Manager – Equalities	Volunteering & Work Placement Coordinator	Admin Temp x 2	
Community Development Worker (Businesses)	Digital Access Project Manager	Bank of Things Coordinator		
		Wild Cat Wilderness Coordinator		
	Community Development Worker			

## **Lewisham Local Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### Related parties

There were no related parties during the financial year.

#### Wider network

The charity currently does not operate within a wider network.

#### Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed to and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The charity maintains a risk register and has a risk management strategy to identify and mitigate risks. The high risks are brought to the attention of the Board to minimise any potential impact on the charity. The charity carries out monitoring and evaluation and provides reports to its funders. The charity ensures it has financial procedures, health and safety policy and safeguarding procedures in place. They are reviewed annually to reflect changing legislation and to refresh knowledge and practice.

### **OBJECTIVES**

#### Objectives

To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the public and particularly, but not limited to, the public who live and work in the London Borough of Lewisham and surrounding boroughs, including: a) to promote volunteering, time banking, the giving of time and skills to engage and support local residents including those considered to be suffering from the disadvantage of social exclusion; b) to promote philanthropy to relieve poverty distress and sickness in the interests of social welfare with the aim of improving the conditions of life of the public; c) to promote and broker partnership working and training within the voluntary and charitable sector, statutory and private sectors in the interests of the furtherance of and achievements of the above purposes.

#### Aim and activities

The charity uses an asset-based approach and activities to involve people in volunteering and sharing their skills to connect and create community cohesion. The charity facilitates stakeholders from the voluntary, statutory, education and business sectors to collaborate and share their assets like resources, training, expertise, time and money to help alleviate poverty and reduce social isolation.

Our Vision - A connected Lewisham community that gives, shares and works together to build happier and healthier communities.

Our Mission - Connect and collaborate with individuals and organisations, encouraging all to give and share what they can to respond to needs in the community and strengthen Lewisham's voluntary and community groups.

#### Our Values

- Everyone in the community is an asset and able to contribute, give and share
- We are inclusive, welcoming and open to all
- We are collaborative and committed to working together with a positive attitude
- We are dynamic and responsive to Lewisham's communities' needs and willing to innovate
- We value the diversity of Lewisham's communities and are committed to proactively representing Lewisham's diversity in our Staff, Trustees and projects

#### Living Wage Employer

The organisation is committed to the Living Wage movement and is an accredited Living Wage Employer by the Living Wage Foundation.



### Modern Slavery

As Lewisham Local is well below the threshold of £36m set by the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the Company is not legally required to have a policy on modern slavery. However, the Act is a positive piece of legislation aiming to safeguard workers from exploitation and we support the aims of this legislation. Lewisham Local has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery and human trafficking and is committed to continually improving our policies and procedures to help identify and combat modern slavery and human trafficking.

### Public benefit statement

Lewisham Local's charitable purpose is enshrined in its objects and the Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 7 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

This charity welcomes all sections of society and is for public benefit. The charity has a strong and consistent track record of service to the public, working with individuals in the community, especially the elderly and vulnerable but also across all generations and ethnicity. The activities of the charity are rooted in valuing, welcoming, including and empowering people. This is evidenced by evaluations, feedback, reports, case studies and photographs that demonstrate the charity's public benefit.

### Equality

Across our Staff and Trustee team we are committed to being reflective of the diverse community we serve.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Highlights from the Year**

- Over 600 businesses engaged with Lewisham Local discount card scheme
- 4,466 Community Meals served
- 2,584 volunteer hours provided at Food Cycle
- We distributed £232,471 number of grants to 118 projects
- Developed Lewisham Community Directory to more than 600 organisations
- Supported 2,000 residents through Digital Access for All
- We launched Community Exchange platform
- 31,000 visits were recorded for Time Bank
- 385 young people received essentials as part of Bank of Things project
- 101 people placed into volunteering

## **SUMMARY OF PROJECTS**

### **1. Promoting Access to Good Healthy Food**

#### **Key Achievements**

- 399 people engaged in the Good Food Lewisham network
- 4,466 Community Meals served at FoodCycle Lewisham
- 6,473 kgs of surplus food rescued
- 2,584 volunteer hours provided at FoodCycle Lewisham
- 70 % of FoodCycle Lewisham guests say they eat more fruits and vegetables as a result of coming to the meal

Lewisham's work on food justice and community food action was commended in the Good Food Local report 2024. <https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/post/lewisham-s-work-on-community-food-action-recognised-in-the-good-food-local-report-2024>

- Lewisham Local partnered with Lewisham Public Health to deliver a Community Food Justice grants programme. Over £90k has been invested in 19 projects. This funding enabled groups to buy fresh, ambient and culturally appropriate foods, provide cash-first approaches, and respond to dietary requirements. Cookery course provision was also funded after this need was identified by the partnership.

## **1.1. Good Food Lewisham**

This is the second year hosting Good Food Lewisham, Lewisham's Food Partnership, a network of passionate people working together to change the world of food in the London Borough of Lewisham. The project is currently funded by Lewisham Council until April 2025.

Key achievements have been:

### **1.1.1. Food Giving Network**

Good Food Lewisham hosts a Lewisham Food Giving Network which engages over 40 food giving groups in Lewisham. Supporting this network, they hosted 10 monthly Zoom meetings to problem solve, connect with other partners and share emerging needs alongside training, manage a WhatsApp group to share surplus food and cross refer between partners, and ran two in-person Round Table events. This work has improved referral pathways between projects, saved tonnes of food from going to waste and facilitated more joined up working across community food projects.

*"Ongoing development support from GFL has meant we were able to share our learning and knowledge directly offering advice, guidance and practical help to: Evelyn Community Store, Rehoboth Set up, St Peters Set up, Sydenham Social supermarket Set up, Lewisham Donation Hub food set up. The Mayoresses Lewisham Pack Lunch Appeal Coordination and The Mayoresses Christmas Hamper Appeal"* Good Food Lewisham Steering Group member Stella Headley who founded and runs RMUK Wellbeing CIC, a food project providing cultural foods to meet the needs of Black African and Black Caribbean housebound individuals in Lewisham.

As part of this work, Good Food Lewisham helped establish a temporary food hub at Evelyn Community Store in the summer of 2023 to distribute additional fruit and veg during the summer holidays to address holiday hunger.

Lewisham Local successfully gained funding from GLA Food Roots 2 to develop and embed more sustainable and resilient ways of working to better support food insecure Londoners, especially those who are forced to rely on emergency food aid. A Community Development Worker was employed in October 2023 and is engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders to promote the Healthy Start scheme. Activities include: attending engagement events to promote to local residents in areas identified with low uptake, working with Lewisham Council's cost-of-living programme to run a Healthy Start billboard campaign near Lewisham's markets; visiting food banks to engage members who could be eligible; engaging local market holders and social supermarkets to accept the card, and regular briefing sessions for frontline staff on the Healthy Start initiative. Uptake has increased as a result.

Case study:

More than £400,000 worth of Healthy Start funds are still going unclaimed in Lewisham alone, meaning thousands of families simply don't realise that they are entitled to this benefit.

We are working hard to spread the word about Healthy Start, because we know what a difference it can make for families on a tight budget.

We spoke to Eyambe and her son, Noah, about how the scheme impacts their lives, and the importance of outreach to young families.

"I've been using Healthy Start since it was introduced, when it used to be vouchers. The card is the best, much better. I use it in supermarkets or anywhere that I can. But I didn't know I could use it in the market along Lewisham High Street!"

"The Healthy Start has helped me very much, very very helpful – because I can buy fruit and vegetables every time; sometimes spinach, sometimes other things. I am not worried about money."

One of the reasons we think not everyone uses Healthy Start is because they either don't know about it, or think it will be hard to apply for. We asked Eyambe if she had any challenges getting the card or using it; and what others could gain from checking their eligibility.

"Because of Healthy Start, my kids love eating fruit and veg, so it's really helpful for me. I get a lot of frozen peas. "We always buy milk with it. I get lentils through the card too."

"Healthy Start has helped my children grow a love of fruit and veg. Broccoli, bananas, carrots – anything. I am French-Cameroonian. What my family eats depends on the seasons, and who is making it. Healthy Start has really helped me to eat well, with ingredients I know."

### **1.1.2. Food Growing**

Activities have included:

- Developing activities through a Food Growing Network, thanks to funding by Sustainable Food Places Growing the Good Food Movement Grant. As part of this project there have been community growing visits to show case gardens through blog posts e.g. St Mary's Therapeutic Garden, Downham Men's Group.
- Supported six groups working with communities who face inequity and barriers to food growing with small grants including 360 Lifestyle Support, AFRIL, Two Mindful Bees.
- A GFL network meeting in June 2023 meeting was co-organised with a school, focusing on young people. The host school went on to set up a gardening club. Feedback at the meeting influenced the Council Task & Finish Group on Community Food Growing - a Council Community Food Growing Officer is in development as a result. Our work was commended. In September 2023 a meeting and community gardens walk was held as part of Capital Growth's Urban Harvest week. This attracted a large diverse group, 55 people signed up, co-organised with community activists, seed saving demonstration by Grow Lewisham, tours of two community gardens.
- The January and March meetings included tours of Coco Collective Bellingham garden, Forster Memorial Park sensory garden and Goldsmiths Community Centre gardens.

- Lewisham Local and partners organised Seeds and Cultural Foods event in February at Besson Street Community Garden was successful with a tour, speakers, seed swap, food from Rastafari Movement UK, attracting many new people. Video.

### **1.1.3. Good Food Business Network**

The Good food Business network has continued to grow, supported via a GFL WhatsApp group, which has linked around 40 businesses and has given a new platform for training support, opportunities, funding, business support and development. The businesses use the network for promotion, and benefit from potential business opportunities such as events and catering requests. In person Breakfast Network Meetings are hosted at different businesses around the borough.

By April 2024, 15 businesses and organisations have signed up to the Good Food Business Charter. We recognise businesses providing healthy food through an online GFL Business Directory. Lewisham Local has signed up to the Charter.

### **1.1.4. Lewisham Food Justice Alliance**

Lewisham Council funded Lewisham Local to host a Food Justice Programme Manager to oversee the delivery of Lewisham's Food Justice Action Plan launched in April 2023 by Public Health Lewisham.

A Food Justice Alliance made up of a range of community stakeholders, statutory partners and services was launched in October 2023 to support the delivery of the plan. The Food Justice Action Plan actions include redirecting surplus food to community partners and gardens; increasing food growing and community cookery provision and improving referral pathways for people in crisis. Lewisham Local helped to set up a strategic steering group with representation from community partners, local authority, NHS and voluntary sector and four task and finish groups that oversee the delivery of different priorities.

## **1.2. FoodCycle Lewisham**

Between April 2023 and March 24 we served:

- 4,466 Community Meals
- 6,473 kgs of surplus food rescued
- 15,411 WRAP-equivalent meals
- 2,584 volunteer hours provided
- 4,057 CO2e saved

FoodCycle Lewisham is one of Lewisham Local's frontline projects which is now seven years old. The project is run in partnership with the national charity FoodCycle.

Every week FoodCycle Lewisham serves a three-course vegetarian community meal at the Lewisham Irish Community Centre in Catford that is made from surplus food that may go to waste, saving food from landfill and providing a community dining experience to those who may not have access to cooked food, suitable cooking facilities or who struggle to access nutritious food.

The project is funded by Lewisham Council's NCIL Rushey Green Ward funding, The Beatrice Laing Trust, The Co-op, The Haberdashers' Benevolent Foundation, Verisk, Neighbourly

### Highlights

- In November 2023, the project opened a second midweek meal on a Wednesday in partnership with the Lewisham Irish Community Centre (LICC) thanks to funding from the Haberdashers' Benevolent Foundation and free hire of the hall and kitchen thanks to LICC. The project is proud to have developed a second project which has been a long-term goal to serve more members of the local community.
- FoodCycle Lewisham now offers 26 volunteers sessions on a weekly basis

## **2. Promoting Lewisham Giving**

### Key Giving Achievements

- More than 600 Businesses giving through our projects
- £232,471 grants distributed
- 118 projects funded
- £2,200 raised from fundraising appeals

A key theme across our projects is encouraging all in Lewisham to give what they can in order to make Lewisham a happier and healthier place. We inspire people to give whatever they can, whether that is time, skills, money, or things in kind. Our work aims to build connections between local residents, businesses and the statutory sector and increase their awareness of local community organisations meeting diverse needs in our community. We worked with the Lewisham Local Collaborative to launch and facilitate the Lewisham Funders Network, bringing together local and regional funders with a particular interest in the borough. We would like to thank City Bridge Foundation for their ongoing funding and the support we receive through the London Funders network, London's Giving, to share ideas with other charities promoting local giving in their London boroughs.

We are continually building our capacity to work with more local people and businesses who are able to give to improve our local community and meet its complex and varied needs.

**2.1. Public Fundraising Appeals** – The people of Lewisham continued to amaze us with their willingness to donate to our Bank of Things Christmas Appeal, in particular St. Andrews Church Catford, which raised £1,000 holding a Christmas fair.

**2.2. Growing our Grants Distribution** – We continued raising money through fundraising appeals and partnering with organisations to distribute small grants to community groups meeting Lewisham's needs. Lewisham Local's knowledge of community needs and our unique connections with community groups have enabled us to develop this work and channel resources towards community needs in a responsive way. We distributed £326,140 in grants to 88 projects. Key themes included food insecurity, supporting local people with energy advice and Lewisham Warm Welcomes, a programme of over 50 local drop-ins with activities and a place to stay warm and receive support. Other funds in development include our Essentials Fund in partnership with Lewisham Council, supporting individuals through one-off purchasing of essential items and Food Justice Grants, supporting local food projects to meet the need for equitable access to food in Lewisham.

Quotes:

“We were also able to use £1,500 of the grant to subsidise beautiful kits for our team. This meant that people on low incomes were not left out in getting the kit, and we were also able to ensure team cohesion and camaraderie through the kit.” **Grant Recipient**

**2.3. Funds decided through Participatory Grants Making** – The charity recognises that we are in a position of power, trusted with public funding resources, and that local people with lived experience know what is best for their communities. We distributed six grants through Participatory Grant Making, which was delivered in partnership with Lendlease, a housing developer. Local people who live close to the Deptford Landings housing development in Deptford were recruited and trained by Lewisham Local and facilitated to make the decisions on the grants that were awarded to local projects.

Quotes:

“We have achieved SO MUCH thanks to the amazing grant from Lewisham Local/Lendlease and we are immensely grateful.” **Grants Recipient**

**2.4. Lewisham Local Card** – We continue to invest in our local discount card as it is an effective tool that connects local residents, local businesses and community groups. 60 businesses joined the network over the last year and we had an 24% increase on cards sold this year, raising over £1,587 with targeted promotional campaigns. With our increased capacity we look forward to promoting the card even more and increasing the number of locals who receive a card.

**2.5. Lewisham Community Lottery** – After two years, 90 community organisations are now actively fundraising using the platform. 519 local people bought tickets to fundraise for the groups and this has raised over £16,912 for Lewisham’s good causes in one year. We look forward to building on this progress over the next year.

**2.6.** We launched the **Lewisham Community Exchange** platform, enabling community organisations to put forward their ‘requests’ for support, and for businesses with social value commitments to put forward their ‘offers’ of support.

Our other giving projects continue to make an impact meeting needs in the community:

**2.7. Lewisham Community Toilets** – increased our network to 95 establishments allowing free access to their toilet facilities for members of the public. We were pleased to be able to promote our achievements at an Age UK London event focusing on toilet provision.

**2.8. Refill Lewisham** – added 21 new sites to our network of over 100 local businesses offering free water refills to the public to help reduce single-use plastic waste.

**2.9. Training & Workshops** – businesses offering free skills-sharing workshops to upskill local charities and other businesses as a way of giving to the community.

### **3. Strengthening Lewisham's Voluntary Sector**

#### **Key Achievements**

- Fundraising Development support for more than 300 individuals
- Infrastructure mentoring and training for 80 individuals and 35 groups representing Black Community-Based Organisations
- Supported 2,000 Lewisham residents through Digital Access For All
- Developed the Lewisham Community Directory to more than 600 organisations
- Distributed £125,000 in Warm Welcomes grants to 43 organisations

#### **3.1. Black Infrastructure Support Project (BISP)**

The Black Infrastructure Support Project (BISP) has strengthened Black Community-Based Organisations (BCBOs) in Lewisham this year by providing essential support and resources.

#### **Key achievements**

- Building a Stronger Network: We initiated and supported the development of Lewisham's Black Voluntary Sector Network which advocates for the priorities of Lewisham's BCBO's.
- Increased capacity: 35 groups received mentoring and 80 individuals accessed training, improving their organisational skills.
- Immediate support: Our 24/7 WhatsApp help desk provided rapid assistance to over 200 people.
- Funding success: 75% of participating BCBOs reported securing more funding than ever before.
- Expert advice: 25 black community champions accessed professional support from solicitors and accountants.
- Greater Profile: In partnership with Lewisham Council and Lewisham Public Health, LL delivered the Black VCS Expo '23, a sector showcase event attended by 100 BCBO leaders. This event served as a launch and recruitment platform for the LBVN and helped raise the profile of BCBOs working in Lewisham's Black community sector.
- Access to Mentoring: 15 mentors offered individual support to 25 BCBO leaders.
- Easier access to help: We collaborated with the FDM Equalities project and local infrastructure partners to streamline access to support services.
- Digital skills boost: BCBOs improved their digital skills and learned about new fundraising tools.

#### **3.2. A Collaborative Ecosystem**

BISP fosters a connected and thriving Black community sector in Lewisham by working collaboratively with other organisations and stakeholders. BISP's impact extends well beyond individual organisations. By working closely with the FDM Equalities project and other infrastructure support Sector stakeholders and volunteers, we are fostering a vibrant and interconnected Black Community Development Ecosystem in Lewisham. This collaborative approach ensures that developmental support is readily available and accessible to those most in need.

#### **3.3. Fundraising Development**

- Fundraising for Equality: Empowering Lewisham's Communities

- The Fundraising Development Manager (Equalities) project has strengthened community groups led by and serving those with protected characteristics in Lewisham. We've focused on building fundraising skills and knowledge, connecting them with funders, and promoting equitable access to resources.

#### Key achievements

- Increased capacity: 291 individuals received training and support, leading to a 15% average increase in funding applications and a 10% rise in successful grant awards.
- Stronger networks: We facilitated connections with funders, resulting in five new partnerships and three joint funding applications.
- Improved access to information: Our online funders list and resources were accessed by over 500 individuals and groups.
- Greater awareness: We actively promoted our services and advocated for equitable funding practices, influencing funding guidelines to be more inclusive.

#### Highlights

- Friday Fundraising Club: Delivered 12 sessions on a wide range of fundraising topics.
- Fundraising Plus Program: Provided in-depth support to 15 groups, with 70% securing funding and 90% reporting increased confidence.
- Fundraising Conference: Hosted a successful conference with 50 groups, funders and stakeholders.

#### Impact:

- Essential skills: Participants reported significant improvement in fundraising knowledge and confidence.
- Funding secured: Groups secured a total of £150,000 in funding, enabling them to expand services and launch new programmes.
- Sustainable organisations: Groups strengthened their infrastructure and long-term sustainability.

### **3.4. Digital Access for All**

The Digital Access for All (DAFA) project has made significant strides in ensuring Lewisham residents can effectively access and use digital services. We've focused on providing digital skills training, support and resources to individuals and community organisations, tackling digital exclusion and promoting digital inclusion.

#### **3.4.1. Reaching those most in need**

DAFA has reached over 2,000 Lewisham residents through digital drop-in centres, training programmes and community events. Our focus has been on those facing digital exclusion, particularly older adults (with 10 out of 13 attendees at our "Get Connected Catford" event being over 60), individuals with disabilities, and low-income households. While data on ethnicity is limited, anecdotal evidence suggests we are reaching a diverse community.

#### Key achievements

- Expanded support network: Launched new digital drop-in centres in Orchard Gardens, Newstead Community, and Downham.



- Targeted training: Delivered tailored programmes, such as Microsoft Office skills and Excel training for Lewisham Parent Carers.
- Improved access: Provided laptops and home visits for individuals with specific needs, including voice banking support.
- Increased awareness: Promoted DAFA and Lewisham Digital Access Listings through various channels.
- Stronger collaborations: Worked closely with Catbytes, Lewisham Council, Good Things Foundation and local community organisations.

#### Impact

DAFA has empowered individuals and community organisations to improve their digital skills, access online services and participate more fully in the digital world. This has resulted in increased confidence, independence and opportunities for beneficiaries.

### **3.5. Lewisham Community Directory**

The Lewisham Community Directory Project has successfully created a central online hub connecting residents, community groups and public sector services. This year, we focused on improving access to information, fostering collaboration and strengthening the local community network.

#### Key achievements

- Expanded listings: The directory grew significantly, with 613 community groups and 99 public sector services listed by December 2023.
- Increased engagement: Website views and engagement time steadily increased, demonstrating growing interest and usage.
- Positive feedback: Users praised the directory's user-friendliness, diverse listings, and ease of navigation.
- Successful outreach: We actively promoted the directory through community events and initiatives, expanding our reach.
- Valuable partnerships: Collaborations with Lewisham Local, Catbytes, and Lewisham Libraries strengthened the project's impact.

#### **3.5.1. Reaching our community**

The directory benefits a wide range of Lewisham residents, including individuals seeking local services, community groups aiming to expand their reach and public sector organisations improving their visibility. Hundreds of people use the directory each month to connect and access information.

#### **3.5.2. Data highlights**

- Listings: Increased from 576 community groups and 91 public sector profiles in Q1 to 613 and 99 respectively by Q3.
- Website views: Showed a steady increase from January to March 2024, with March recording the highest number at 72 views.
- Engagement time: Averaged 3.2 minutes in October, 3 minutes 11 seconds in November, and 3 minutes 32 seconds in December 2023.

### **3.6. Community Development Work in Rushey Green Ward**

The "Every RG Resident Deserves a Voice" project has worked to strengthen the community infrastructure in Rushey Green, making it more resilient and responsive to local needs. We've focused on amplifying the voices of seldom-heard communities and fostering collaboration among residents, businesses and local organisations.

#### Key achievements

- Community engagement: We held two community assemblies, including a "Taste of Rushey Green Marketplace" event.
- Youth engagement: A dedicated pop-up event engaged approximately 50 young people, gathering valuable feedback on local resources and community perceptions.
- Food and shopping focus: A pop-up event on Catford Broadway engaged 30 residents, highlighting the importance of local businesses and gathering insights on the area's appearance and cleanliness.
- Community asset mapping: Developed an interactive map of local groups and resources, which was shared with 100+ local organisations.
- Increased communication: Reached over 250 residents through in-person consultations, events and festivals.
- Supporting local events: Sponsored Catford Pride, amplifying the voices of 30+ LGBTQ+ artists and small businesses. Supported the "Food, Folk 'N' Fun in the Fields" event, with 9 community groups and 25 businesses participating.
- Collaboration with local services: Partnered with the Rushey Green Safer Neighbourhood team on a "Diversion Day" to provide community information and resources.

#### Challenges and lessons learned

- Staffing changes: The departure of the Rushey Green Development Worker in November 2023 required adjustments to project delivery.
- Outreach effectiveness: Low attendance at some events highlighted the need for tailored outreach strategies for different audiences.

### **3.7. Lewisham Warm Welcomes**

The Lewisham Warm Welcomes programme provided vital support to residents during the cost-of-living crisis, offering warm spaces, activities and a sense of community. Working with 50 community organisations – including libraries, churches, community centres and even Millwall Football Stadium – we created a network of welcoming spaces across the borough.

#### Key achievements

- Funding support: Distributed £125,000 in grants to 43 organisations, enabling them to provide food, activities and a warm welcome.
- Diverse offering: Warm Welcomes spaces offered a wide range of activities, from sewing and singing to exercise classes and dementia-friendly sessions.
- Community impact: Over 31,000 visits were recorded across the network, highlighting the significant need for these spaces.
- Social connection: The most common reason for visiting a Warm Welcome was "to talk to other people," emphasising the importance of social interaction and combating loneliness.

- Supporting vulnerable residents: The programme successfully reached vulnerable residents, particularly those aged 55-74, who are facing increasing financial pressures.

#### Key findings

- Footfall: Over 31,000 visits were recorded during the four-month period, a significant increase from the previous year's 18,000.
- Activities: A diverse range of activities catered to different interests and needs.
- Demographics: A wide range of demographics was served, with the 55-74 age group being the most prevalent.
- Motivation: Social connection was the primary motivation for visiting, highlighting the importance of community and combating loneliness.

### **4. Volunteering, Health & Wellbeing**

#### Key Achievements

5. 95 volunteer role posted
6. 101 placed into volunteering roles
7. 1,404 new signup to volunteering newsletter

#### **4.1. Volunteering Projects**

##### **4.1.1. Support Into Volunteering (Volunteering Brokerage)**

Our volunteering project supports people with low confidence, learning disabilities and those managing poor mental health into voluntary roles in Lewisham. This year we have worked with people on a 1:1 basis supporting them to identify their knowledge, skills and qualities they can bring to a volunteering role. We offered tailored support to match people with a volunteering role that were right for them.

Another aspect of this work is supporting community organisations to develop their volunteering program. This year we continued to grow our network of community groups hosting training and networking opportunities.

In the upcoming year, we plan to continue our work supporting a wider range of people to start volunteering. We will work with community organisations helping them to strengthen their volunteering program, encouraging people to volunteer using volunteer days and Work with Business and organisations to volunteer through skill and knowledge sharing. We were very pleased to hear that project funding would be extended from the Lewisham local Main Grants fund for one extra year until March 2026

##### **4.1.2. Mayor's Awards for Volunteering**

We continued work with Lewisham Council to recognise the contribution of volunteers through the Lewisham Mayors award for Volunteering.

## **4.2. Timebank**

With three year funding from the National Lottery, the Time Bank project was able to continue to support individuals to increase their health and wellbeing through actively giving and sharing their time and skills. The Timebank currently has an active membership of around 100 people.

**4.2.1. Tea and Chat** - Our most popular group with 20 or more people coming together on a Wednesday afternoon to do needlework, arts and crafts. Goods produced are then sold locally at events such as Brockley Christmas Fayre.

**4.2.2. Coffee Club** - this group sees Time Bank members do a Quiz, board games and meet up for a chat on Thursday mornings.

**4.2.3. Choir** - The Choir has between 8-12 members attending as well as colleagues from the Lewisham Local team. Over the last half year, more members have taken an active part in leading the choir even though we are supported by a professional musician. Some of the places the choir has performed this year are Lewisham Foodcycle, The Kings coronation event, Hayes Galleria London Bridge, Salifest and Wild Cat Wilderness

**4.2.4. Friday Art** -This is a group that brings together Time Bank members who work on their own art projects on a Friday morning or we offer workshops such as felting.

We organise a number of stand-alone workshops events, such as our Bring & Fix day where members can bring broken items to be fixed and saved from landfill. Our yearly seaside outings are very popular as well as events and presentations during Black History Month and Christmas time. The Timebank is what its members brings to it and we are very lucky to count many talented members who share skills ranging from poetry to gardening to the table. But most importantly, they generously give their time in our groups.

“I love the Time Bank it gets me out of my flat and helps my mental health. Its good to meet new people”

## **5. Wild Cat Wilderness**

The Wild Cat Wilderness community green space in Riverview Park, Catford, has gone from strength to strength this year.

Regular volunteering on a Thursday and Friday plus with additional community days and corporate volunteering have been enormously influential in successfully maintaining the green space, as well as expanding through the thickets to create new space for our service users.

This included creating a new pond in the orchard. After our City Bridge Trust funding ended in December 2022, we focused on applying for new funding and were successful with our joint bid with the Timebank -Well Together in Lewisham with the National Lottery Community Fund which started in October 2023. This enabled us to restart work in the new woodland area ready for the new fence and gate to be installed at the Bellingham end of the site. We also organised a community feedback session in February 2023 to ensure local people had a say in planning for the future.

We had a full programme of events during the school holidays including a Be Wild at Easter fundraiser, summer programme called the Wild Nature Club including open afternoons, minibeast hunt, building a bug hotel, fruit picking and campfire pizzas. Our pumpkin fun day hosted more than 100 people.

Other popular events, which were fully booked, included the Wassail, wild pancakes and nest building sessions. Adult workshops included tree pruning and a spring forage and wild lunch.

Across the year, over 550 people engaged in nature in our space through community events alone.

Due to fundraising challenges at the start of the period, we were creative in finding solutions. We requested donations for our events, held a summer Plant Sale, sold jams and chutneys and hosted a wreath-making workshop, altogether raising more than £1500.

Hiring out the site to the Mud Club for their independent Forest School sessions 3-4 times a week was a big part of our income generation and their three-day festival in September was a great success with the community and raised substantial funds. This revenue allowed us to continue to operate and pay for repairs from historic vandalism including a new kitchen roof.

The Wild Cat Wilderness has become a vital community asset, offering a place for people of all ages to connect with nature, learn new skills and foster a sense of belonging. Beyond maintaining the space, our activities have helped create a thriving, inclusive environment where residents can explore, relax, and engage with each other. By involving the community in everything from planning sessions to hands-on activities, we have ensured that Wild Cat Wilderness remains a space shaped by and for the local people. As we continue to grow, we remain committed to offering enriching experiences that promote health and well-being, accessible volunteering opportunities, environmental awareness, access to a welcoming and safe green space for young people in Lewisham and an enhanced sense of community connection.

## **6. Bank of Things**

Bank of Things Lewisham (BoT) supports young people aged 11 to 25 living, working and/or studying in Lewisham with everyday essentials to support education, employment and/or training. We have a shop in a central location in Lewisham Shopping Centre that is open Wednesday and Friday for young people to drop in and receive support.

### **Outreach and pop ups**

This year, the Bank of Things project began to focus on reaching out in the community to get much needed essential items to young people in various parts of the borough. Through the Elizabeth fund, we were able to employ an outreach worker to reach more young people in need. Bank of Things delivered pop up sessions with several community groups including Lewisham Community Space, Young Lewisham Project, Young women's hub, Sports fun for all, Lewisham Family Hubs, XLP, Youth First and Orchard Gardens community centre.

### **Key Achievements**

- 385 young people served at outreach sessions
- 990 items given away including toiletries and school supplies
- collection boxes in four Better Leisure Centres (Glassmill, Wavelengths, Forest Hill Pools and Bellingham and on all floors at Laurence House).

As well as all the donations given to the project this year, we were grateful for funding from Elizabeth fund and Clarion housing, allowing us to continue the project for another year. In the upcoming year, we hope to develop the project to include activities that will contribute to improved wellbeing for

young people. We will continue to build partnerships with local businesses and sponsorship and continue to fundraise to grow the project to reach more people.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### Funding sources

The charity is grateful for the financial support funders have kindly provided. The principal funders were The London Borough of Lewisham, The City Bridge Trust, National Lottery and Merchant Taylors Foundation.

Additional funding came from The Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe, London Plus, NAVCA, Sustainable Food places, The Beatrice Laing Trust, Elizabeth Fund, Greater London Authority, Tesco Groundwork, Lendlease Foundation, Clarion and Hubbub Foundation.

Lewisham Local would like to thank members of the community who gave so generously to the organisation and its projects through community fundraising appeals.

Lewisham Local undertakes fundraising activities through its supporters via fundraising events, individual giving. We do not have face to face (or door to door) fundraising activities. We also raise funds from trusts and foundations and corporate partnerships. Lewisham Local is a member of the Fundraising Regulator and adheres to its Code of Fundraising Practice and its associated rulebooks for fundraising activities.

Lewisham Local is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation and only contacts prospective and existing supporters in line with its Privacy Policy and Data Protection Statement. Lewisham Local recognises the importance of protecting vulnerable supporters and follows the guidance issued by the Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator on treating donors fairly.

Lewisham Local supports its staff and fundraisers who come into contact with supporters in providing high-quality customer care, ensuring anyone donating to the charity is in a position to make a free and informed decision. Lewisham Local welcomes feedback on its fundraising activities and has a complaint policy which outlines how the charity will react should a complaint be received regarding its fundraising methods. Lewisham Local has received no complaints during the year.

### Financial Risks

The ongoing cuts from central government to local government continue to have a deep impact on the local voluntary sector as we continue to see cuts to their grant funding. Medium and long-term planning is difficult with few core funds available increasing reliance on short-term project funding. Economic challenges look set to stay the many challenges created by inflation. We are increasingly seeing valuable local voluntary organisations closedown due to funding pressures. New opportunities are emerging with the public sector thinking differently about how it delivers for communities.

Key risks:

- Loss of core funding through local government cuts and changing focus
- Inflation increasing costs and reducing the value of existing charity reserves
- Increasing competition from other voluntary sector organisations bidding for reduced funding
- Building reserves during an ongoing economic uncertainty.

The charity is currently stable, having been able to increase its unrestricted reserves. However, the loss of core funding from Lewisham Council and a shift to project funding presents a challenge for us

to cover our overheads. Trustees are financially prudent but are aware that there may be a need at times to use some unrestricted funds to manage this gap. Nevertheless, the charity remains able and willing to trial innovative new ideas for the community and respond quickly to emerging needs through fundraising campaigns and new projects. The charity must continue to attract core funding where possible and will continue to develop income generation activities to raise unrestricted funds and maintain reserves as well as developing new projects that contribute to a share of overhead costs.

#### Financial review

The significant source of funding has been from the London Borough of Lewisham Council. Other financial assistance was given by charitable trusts, corporate supporters and private donors. The results of the year are shown on Page 27.

There was a surplus of £169,613 of in the year. When the surplus added to the funds brought forward of £559,341, this leaves a figure of £728,954 for total funds carried forward at 1 April 2024.

#### Reserves policy

The charity aims to retain up to six months of annual expenditure but no less than three months in unrestricted reserves for essential staffing and running costs. This will enable the continuation of its core activity in the case of funding crises or other needs. The Trustees review this policy annually in line with the budget and the adopted projects for the financial year.

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 Lewisham Local's reserves were £397,017 restricted, £37,093 designated, £294,844 unrestricted (free) reserves.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The core value of 'Repair, Reuse, and Recycle' is important to the workings of the charity. The charity aims to avoid waste where possible and is mindful of creating excessive materials and printing. Where possible, items are re-purposed at various projects and people are also asked to donate surplus items like tools and cooking equipment. We have several projects that particularly promote reducing environmental impact such as:

- Foodcycle Lewisham - using supermarket surplus food waste to cook a weekly vegetarian community meal
- Refill Lewisham - free water refill scheme to reduce single-use plastic waste
- Lewisham Warmer Together - Campaign to raise awareness and funds of fuel poverty and to train energy champions to educate others in the community how to reduce their bills
- Bring & Fix - community repair events to fix household items for free

#### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The charity has grown in size and impact, demonstrating its agility and flexibility to respond to the changing funding landscape and to new opportunities to make a difference for local people and community groups. The next year presents challenges for the charity after losing a core grant from Lewisham Council and the restructuring of our work has been important to enable a shift to a project focus. Finding new funders for our longstanding grassroots projects will be key as funding for Timebank and Wild Cat Wilderness come to an end.

The charity will continue to be collaborative, strategic and responsive to existing and emerging needs that only seem to be increasing for Lewisham's communities. Launching new funding campaigns and projects to address these needs and support community groups will be a key area of growth.

## Statement of Responsibilities

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

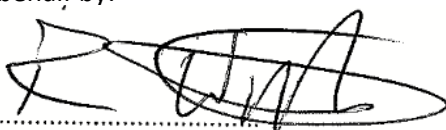
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources 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 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 business.

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

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

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 14 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Roy Witter', written over a dotted line.

Roy Witter  
Chairman and trustee



## Independent auditors' report

### To the members of Lewisham Local Limited

### For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Lewisham Local Limited (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including [Financial Reporting Standard 102](#): The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

#### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## **Independent auditors' report**

### **To the members of Lewisham Local Limited**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material

misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

### **Responsibilities of the trustees**

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

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

## Independent auditors' report

### To the members of Lewisham Local Limited

For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

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

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

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities)]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with [Chapter 3 of Part 16](#) of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or

**Independent auditors' report**

**To the members of Lewisham Local Limited**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Anthony Epton*

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

14 November 2024

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
(incorporating an income and expenditure account)  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**


	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	22,500	268,060	<b>290,560</b>	856,261
Charitable activities	4	39,190	839,389	<b>878,579</b>	33,008
Other Trading Activities	5	2,642	-	<b>2,642</b>	2,491
Other Income	6	28,092	18,930	<b>47,022</b>	25,584
<b>Total income</b>		<b>92,424</b>	<b>1,126,379</b>	<b>1,218,803</b>	917,344
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities		36,072	1,013,118	<b>1,049,190</b>	800,299
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	<b>36,072</b>	<b>1,013,118</b>	<b>1,049,190</b>	800,299
<b>Net income / (expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>56,352</b>	<b>113,261</b>	<b>169,613</b>	117,045
Transfers between funds		(22,926)	22,926	-	-
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the year</b>	7	<b>33,426</b>	<b>136,187</b>	<b>169,613</b>	117,045
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		298,511	260,830	<b>559,341</b>	442,296
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>331,937</b>	<b>397,017</b>	<b>728,954</b>	559,341

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.  
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.  
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets:</b>					
Debtors	11	201,644		58,053	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>532,710</u>		<u>520,000</u>	
		734,354		578,053	
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(5,400)</u>		<u>(18,712)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>728,954</u>		<u>559,341</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>728,954</u>		<u>559,341</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
	15				
Restricted funds			397,017		260,830
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds		37,093		20,449	
General funds		<u>294,844</u>		<u>278,062</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			<u>331,937</u>		<u>298,511</u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>728,954</u>		<u>559,341</u>

Approved by the trustees on .....14/10/24  
and signed on their behalf by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Witter (Chair)

Company registration number: 04681564

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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	<b>Note</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<b>16</b>		<b>12,710</b>		102,833
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			<b>12,710</b>		102,833
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			<b>520,000</b>		417,167
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>532,710</b>		520,000

**1 Accounting policies**

**a) Basis of preparation**

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

The charitable company 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 or note.

**b) Going concern**

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

**c) Income**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

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

**d) Donations of gifts, services and facilities**

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

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

**e) Interest receivable**

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

**f) Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.



**1 Accounting policies (continued)**

**g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**h) Allocation of support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 7.

**i) Operating leases**

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

**j) Tangible fixed assets**

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £2,000. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	25%
Computer equipment	33%

**k) Debtors**

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

**l) Cash at bank and in hand**

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

**m) Creditors and provisions**

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

**n) Financial instruments**

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

**o) Pensions**

The Charity operates a Defined Contributions pension scheme.

## 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations	125,802	730,459	856,261
Charitable activities	32,438	570	33,008
Other Trading Activities	2,491	-	2,491
Other Income	25,554	30	25,584
<b>Total income</b>	<b>186,285</b>	<b>731,059</b>	<b>917,344</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities:	229,175	571,124	800,299
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>229,175</b>	<b>571,124</b>	<b>800,299</b>
<b>Net income / expenditure before transfers</b>	<b>(42,890)</b>	<b>159,935</b>	<b>117,045</b>
Transfers between funds	500	(500)	-
<b>Net income / expenditure</b>	<b>(42,390)</b>	<b>159,435</b>	<b>117,045</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Total funds brought forward	340,901	101,395	442,296
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>298,511</b>	<b>260,830</b>	<b>559,341</b>

## 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Designated £	General £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Appeals and Donations	18,070	4,430	10,670	33,170	35,627
Grants - Trusts &	-	-	257,390	257,390	820,634
	<b>18,070</b>	<b>4,430</b>	<b>268,060</b>	<b>290,560</b>	<b>856,261</b>

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**4 Income From Charitable Activities**

	Designated	General	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Contract Income	-	36,425	441,944	<b>478,369</b>	-
Grants - Local Authority	-	-	352,251	<b>352,251</b>	-
Grants - Regional /	-	-	44,976	<b>44,976</b>	-
Fees and Supplies	-	-	-	-	26,542
Fundraising	2,765	-	218	<b>2,983</b>	6,466
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,765</b>	<b>36,425</b>	<b>839,389</b>	<b>878,579</b>	<b>33,008</b>

**5 Income From Other Trading Activities**

	Designated	General	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Local Card Sales	2,642	-	-	<b>2,642</b>	2,491
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>2,491</b>

**6 Other income**

	Designated	General	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Other Income	1,090	5,801	18,930	<b>25,821</b>	2,995
Rental Income	15,599	5,602	-	<b>21,201</b>	22,589
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,689</b>	<b>11,403</b>	<b>18,930</b>	<b>47,022</b>	<b>25,584</b>

## **7 Analysis of expenditure**

	Charitable activities	Support & Governance costs	<b>2024 Total</b>	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Project costs	118,502	-	<b>118,502</b>	82,403
Computer software and maintenance	33,576	-	<b>33,576</b>	43,137
Events and Hospitality	22,018	-	<b>22,018</b>	9,168
Room hire	-	-	-	5,160
Cost of trustee meetings	291	-	<b>291</b>	126
Marketing and publicity	9,295	-	<b>9,295</b>	7,359
Facilitators and project management	-	-	-	9,736
Management	-	-	-	1,875
Legal and professional	6,178	-	<b>6,178</b>	3,399
Volunteer expenses	3,018	-	<b>3,018</b>	1,463
Grant funding of activities	295,590	-	<b>295,590</b>	149,513
Staff costs	-	519,778	<b>519,778</b>	431,959
Rent and rates	-	11,043	<b>11,043</b>	14,629
Light, heat and power	-	12,853	<b>12,853</b>	16,289
Insurance	-	2,079	<b>2,079</b>	2,205
Printing, postage and stationery	-	712	<b>712</b>	7,188
Trade subscriptions	-	1,747	<b>1,747</b>	779
Cleaning	-	4,475	<b>4,475</b>	4,454
Travel and subsistence	-	1,608	<b>1,608</b>	1,227
Audit Fee	-	5,400	<b>5,400</b>	3,660
Bad debts written off	-	-	-	4,000
Bank charges	-	-	<b>73</b>	72
Private health insurance	-	954	<b>954</b>	498
	<b>488,468</b>	<b>560,649</b>	<b>1,049,190</b>	800,299
Support costs	560,649	(560,649)		
<b>Total expenditure 2024</b>	<b>1,049,117</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,049,190</b>	
<b>Total expenditure 2023</b>	<b>800,299</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>800,299</b>	

Of the total expenditure, £36,072 (2023: £229,175) was unrestricted and £1,013,118 (2023: £571,124) was restricted.

Support and governance costs refer to the costs involved in operational activity which support the delivery of the charitable aims. They are allocated on the basis of full-time equivalent staff working on each activity.

## **8 Net income / (expenditure) for the year**

This is stated after charging / (crediting):	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Auditor's remuneration:		
Net Audit fees	<b>4,500</b>	3,050

## **9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel**

Staff costs were as follows:	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	<b>451,469</b>	375,657
Social security costs	<b>41,352</b>	31,181
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	<b>26,957</b>	22,540
Other staff costs	-	2,581
	<b>519,778</b>	<b>431,959</b>

No employee received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) exceeding £60,000 during the year (2023: No employee).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £56,606 (2023: £50,750).

None of the trustees received any remuneration and reimbursement for any expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

### **Staff numbers**

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

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Charitable activities	<b>18</b>	13
	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>

## **10 Taxation**

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

## **11 Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	<b>201,644</b>	53,138
Prepayments	-	4,915
	<b>201,644</b>	<b>58,053</b>

## 12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	-	52
Accruals	<b>5,400</b>	18,660
	<b>5,400</b>	18,712

## 13 Pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined Contributions pension scheme.

## 14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Current Assets	300,244	37,093	397,017	<b>734,354</b>
Current Liabilities	(5,400)			<b>(5,400)</b>
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>294,844</b>	<b>37,093</b>	<b>397,017</b>	<b>728,954</b>

### Analysis of net assets between funds 2023

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Current Assets	296,774	20,449	260,830	<b>578,053</b>
Current Liabilities	(18,712)			<b>(18,712)</b>
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>278,062</b>	<b>20,449</b>	<b>260,830</b>	<b>559,341</b>

## 15 Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 Mar 2024 £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Tesco Groundwork - Bank of Things	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Merchant Taylors Foundation - Bank of Things	3,729	-	(3,729)	-	-
The Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe - Bank of Things	(504)	3,500	(3,500)	504	-
London Borough of Lewisham: Bank of Things	6,616	-	(6,616)	-	-
Hubbub Foundation - Bank of Things	3,000	1,100	(4,100)	-	-
Bank of Things - Christmas Appeal	-	6,756	(6,282)	-	<b>474</b>
Bank of Things - Elizabeth Fund	-	16,189	(8,724)	(504)	<b>6,961</b>
Bank of Things – Clarion Futures	-	5,000	(130)	-	<b>4,870</b>
Local Giving: WcW Bees Appeal	1,840	-	-	-	<b>1,840</b>
Unit 19	-	15,000	(7,677)	-	<b>7,323</b>
Wild Cat Wilderness - National Lottery Community Fund	-	30,574	(21,522)	-	<b>9,052</b>
Town Centre Small Grants	1,000	-	-	-	<b>1,000</b>

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

The Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe - Time Bank	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Time Bank - National Lottery Community Fund	-	27,270	(21,392)	(3,097)	<b>2,781</b>
Time Bank Waldron Center	-	500	(500)	-	-
Time Bank Windrush	-	1,050	(1,050)	-	-
London Plus - Community Emergency Resilience	5,000	5,000	(5,107)	-	<b>4,893</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Building People Changing Minds	9,269	16,666	(18,706)	-	<b>7,229</b>
LBL Volunteer Brokerage	-	30,250	(16,424)	-	<b>13,826</b>
Time Bank - Warm Welcome	-	-	2,600	(2,600)	-
London Borough of Lewisham: Inclusion Growth Builder	15,858	-	(8,095)	-	<b>7,763</b>
London Borough of Lewisham: Launchpad	12,517	-	-	-	<b>12,517</b>
City Bridge Trust: Lewisham Local	5,974	64,700	(53,915)	-	<b>16,759</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Warm Welcomes	18,111	215,000	(162,132)	2,600	<b>73,579</b>
Lendlease Grants (Deptford Landings)	-	-	(21,565)	21,565	-
Lewisham Local Giving Fund	-	3,348	-	-	<b>3,348</b>
Local Giving - Essentials Grants 2 - LBL & Merchant Taylors	-	92,000	(92,000)	-	-
LBL - Household Support Fund 4 (Essentials & Food Justice)	-	69,000	-	(8,370)	<b>60,630</b>
City Bridge Foundation - Place Based Funding	-	95,966	(64,969)	-	<b>30,997</b>
Lewisham Foodbank	(600)	-	-	600	-
Merchant Taylors Foundation - Cost of Living	14,060	-	-	(14,060)	-
The Beatrice Laing Trust - Food Cycle Lewisham	3,000	6,000	(3,257)	(600)	<b>5,143</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Catford Food Projects	1,232	6,537	(8,150)	381	-
FoodCycle Haberdashers	-	3,600	(2,040)	-	<b>1,560</b>
Children England - Food Growing	500	-	-	-	<b>500</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Food Justice	101,955	40,450	(84,436)	-	<b>57,969</b>
Greater London Authority - Food Roots	13,200	-	(13,200)	-	-
Sustainable Food Places - Good Food Lewisham	13,860	-	(8,000)	-	<b>5,860</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Food Growing	1,920	45,956	(43,298)	-	<b>4,578</b>
Good Food - GLA Food Roots 2	-	44,976	(19,093)	-	<b>25,883</b>

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

London Borough of Lewisham - Every Rushey Green Resident Deserves a Voice	3,311	28,686	(30,851)	-	<b>1,146</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Community Directory	2,699	40,000	(25,889)	(1,108)	<b>15,702</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Fundraising Development	7,707	60,100	(64,374)	-	<b>3,433</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Black Infrastructure Support	8,511	60,000	(67,231)	-	<b>1,280</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Digital Inclusion	1,668	60,000	(53,547)	-	<b>8,121</b>
Time Bank	-	1,728	(4,825)	3,097	-
Cost of Living Appeal	-	2,157	(24,587)	22,430	-
Food'n'Fun in the Fields Festival	(603)	2,820	(3,197)	980	-
LBL - Toilets	-	24,500	(25,608)	1,108	-

<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>260,830</b>	<b>1,126,379</b>	<b>(1,013,118)</b>	<b>22,926</b>	<b>397,017</b>
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**Unrestricted funds:**

**Designated funds:**

Bank of Things	-	4,356	-	-	<b>4,356</b>
Foodcycle Lewisham	11,072	14,155	1,106	(382)	<b>25,951</b>
Food'n'Fun in the Fields Festival	979	-	-	(979)	-
Lewisham Local Card sales	-	2,662	(1,859)	-	<b>803</b>
Wild Cat Wilderness	8,398	18,993	(21,408)	-	<b>5,983</b>

<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>20,449</b>	<b>40,166</b>	<b>(22,161)</b>	<b>(1,361)</b>	<b>37,093</b>
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**General funds**

Integrated Care System	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	-
LBL - Borough of Culture	-	5,000	-	-	<b>5,000</b>
General funds	278,062	38,258	(4,911)	(21,565)	<b>289,844</b>

<b>Total General Funds</b>	<b>278,062</b>	<b>52,258</b>	<b>(13,911)</b>	<b>(21,565)</b>	<b>294,844</b>
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<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>298,511</b>	<b>92,424</b>	<b>(36,072)</b>	<b>(22,926)</b>	<b>331,937</b>
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<b>Total funds</b>	<b>559,341</b>	<b>1,218,803</b>	<b>(1,049,190)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>728,954</b>
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**Movements in funds 2023**

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 Mar 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
London Borough of Lewisham: Inclusion Growth Builder	24,892	-	(9,034)	-	<b>15,858</b>
Tesco Groundwork - Bank of Things	-	1,000	-	-	<b>1,000</b>
Merchant Taylors Foundation - Bank of Things	-	3,729	-	-	<b>3,729</b>
The Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe - Bank of Things	-	1,300	(1,804)	-	<b>(504)</b>
London Borough of Lewisham: Bank of Things	25,105	-	(18,489)	-	<b>6,616</b>
Hubbub Foundation - Bank of Things	-	3,000	-	-	<b>3,000</b>
Local Giving: WcW Bees Appeal	1,840	-	-	-	<b>1,840</b>
Town Centre Small Grants	1,000	-	-	-	<b>1,000</b>
The Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe - Time Bank	-	5,000	-	-	<b>5,000</b>
London Plus - Community Emergency Resilience	-	5,000	-	-	<b>5,000</b>
London Catalyst	2,500	-	(2,000)	(500)	-
London Borough of Lewisham: Launchpad	12,517	-	-	-	<b>12,517</b>
Lendlease	600	-	(600)	-	-
City Bridge Trust: Lewisham Local	7,981	64,700	(66,707)	-	<b>5,974</b>
Lewisham Foodbank	10,000	-	(10,600)	-	<b>(600)</b>
City Bridge Trust - Wild Cat Wilderness	14,960	11,050	(26,010)	-	-
Merchant Taylors Foundation - Cost of Living	-	37,500	(23,440)	-	<b>14,060</b>
NAVCA - Warm Welcomes	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
The Beatrice Laing Trust - Food Cycle Lewisham	-	5,000	(2,000)	-	<b>3,000</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Catford Food Projects	-	6,538	(5,306)	-	<b>1,232</b>
Children England - Food Growing	-	1,100	(600)	-	<b>500</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Food Justice	-	121,350	(4,395)	(15,000)	<b>101,955</b>
Greater London Authority - Food Roots	-	13,200	-	-	<b>13,200</b>
Sustainable Food Places - Good Food Lewisham	-	51,956	(38,096)	-	<b>13,860</b>
London Borough of Lewisham - Food Growing	-	1,920	-	-	<b>1,920</b>

**Lewisham Local Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

London Borough of Lewisham - Warm Welcomes	-	85,208	(82,097)	15,000	18,111
London Borough of Lewisham - Volunteering Borkerage	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
London Borough of Lewisham - Building People Changing Minds	-	33,333	(24,064)	-	9,269
London Borough of Lewisham - Every Rushey Green Resident Deserves a Voice	-	19,124	(15,813)	-	3,311
London Borough of Lewisham - Community Directory	-	40,000	(37,301)	-	2,699
London Borough of Lewisham - Fundraising Development	-	59,998	(52,291)	-	7,707
London Borough of Lewisham - Black Infrastructure Support	-	60,000	(51,489)	-	8,511
London Borough of Lewisham - Digital Inclusion	-	60,000	(58,332)	-	1,668
Fun Food 'n' Fun in the Fields Festival	-	5,053	(5,656)	-	(603)
Total restricted funds	101,395	731,059	(571,124)	(500)	260,830
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Wild Cat Wilderness	11,473	9,603	(12,678)	-	8,398
Food'n'Fun in the Fields Festival	3,239	12,180	(4,847)	500	11,072
Foodcycle Lewisham	979	-	-	-	979
Total designated funds	15,691	21,783	(17,525)	500	20,449
General funds	325,210	164,502	(211,650)	-	278,062
Total unrestricted funds	340,901	186,285	(229,175)	500	298,511
Total funds	442,296	917,344	(800,299)	-	559,341

### **Purposes of restricted funds**

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Lewisham Inclusive Growth Builder Fund - funds for digital costs, promotion and marketing.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Covid Support - covid measures funding, infection control and testing.

**Small Charities Coalition:** funds for Kickstart project; to create six month jobs for young people.

**Local Giving:** Wild Cat Wilderness bees appeal.

**Prudential:** for FoodCycle Lewisham to provide a weekly meal for isolated people affected by food poverty. Town Centre Small Grants - funds for bank of things and to promote Lewisham Local Card.

**London Catalyst:** Launchpad seedcorn funding for Health and Wellbeing Projects.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Launchpad grants for distribution Lendlease - Grant distribution projects addressing the impacts of Covid-19 on BAME communities in Lewisham

**The City Bridge Trust (Lewisham Local):** towards a Director of Lewisham Local plus associated running costs for the development and consolidation of Lewisham Local Lewisham Foodbank - funds to be shared with other food projects through Lewisham Local

**The City Bridge Trust (Wild Cat Wilderness):** for salaries and associated direct costs of the Wild Cat Wilderness project

**London Borough of Lewisham:** resource for young people for educational and other wellbeing supplies, and support and additional activities

**Co-op Local Community Fund:** to run arts and crafts workshops in Bellingham NAVCA - Warm welcomes - supporting our Warm Welcomes initiative distributing grants to local groups

**Tesco Groundwork:** Bank of Things - Distributing hygiene and educational supplies to young people in need.

**Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe:** Time Bank - Coordinator and activity costs supporting local people to improve their health and wellbeing through sharing time and skills.

**Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe:** Bank of things - Activity costs distributing hygiene and educational supplies to young people in need.

**London Plus:** Community Emergency Resilience - Building a network of local organisations and partnering with Lewisham Council to increase our preparedness for future emergencies.

**Merchant Taylors Foundation:** Bank of Things - Activity costs distributing hygiene and educational supplies to young people in need.

**Merchant Taylors Foundation:** Cost of Living - Match funding our Cost of Living campaign to give small grants to community organisations supporting residents through the cost of living crisis with food, energy advice, signposting to additional support.

**Sustainable Food Places:** Good Food Lewisham - Strengthening networks between food growing groups, growers, related organisation and increasing food growing and awareness of different food cultures. a partnership with Grow Lewisham CIC.

**The Beatrice Laing Trust:** Food Cycle Lewisham - Core costs for our project and to launch a new second community meal.

**Children England:** Food Growing - Small grants for local people to start food growing activities in their communities.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Food Justice - In partnership with Lewisham Council develop the Food Justice Action Plan and the Food Justice Alliance

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Warm welcomes - Coordinate a programme of local community organisations supporting residents through the Cost of Living crisis. Warm Welcomes would offer a safe, warm space with social activities and refreshments as well as additional signposting support.

**Greater London Authority:** Food Roots Winter Crisis Grants - Expanding our food partnership work to help improve the sustainability and resilience of local efforts to address food insecurity.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Catford Food Projects - Coordination support for our FoodCycle Project and wider support for other food projects in Catford.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Volunteering Brokerage - Supporting individuals into volunteering roles and working with voluntary sector organisations to promote roles to the wider public.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Every Rushey Green Resident Deserves a Voice - Pilot project to build the connections of local businesses, residents and community groups to understand the needs and aspirations for the local community.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Community Directory - Maintaining a digital directory of community organisations within Lewisham

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Fundraising Development - Providing fundraising development support to equalities focused organisations, initially focused on organisations led by and for black and/or disabled communities in Lewisham

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Black Infrastructure Support - Providing capacity building support for organisations led by and for black communities in Lewisham, a partnership with Kinaraa CIC.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Digital Inclusion - Increase access to digital devices and digital support across

Lewisham, facilitating a network of partners focused on digital inclusion, in partnership with Catbytes CIC.

**London Borough of Lewisham:** Warm Welcomes - Coordinate a project of 50+ local community spaces allowing free access to warm space, hot refreshments and signposting support, including distributing grants and facilitating a network of organisations

#### 16 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period</b>	<b>169,613</b>	117,045
<b>(as per the statement of financial activities)</b>		
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors	<b>(143,591)</b>	(12,156)
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	<b>(13,312)</b>	(2,056)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>12,710</b>	102,833

#### 17 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April		Other	At 31
	2023	Cash flows	changes	March
	£	£	£	2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	520,000	12,710	-	532,710
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>520,000</b>	<b>12,710</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>532,710</b>
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents 2023</b>	<b>417,167</b>	<b>102,833</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>520,000</b>

#### 18 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Each member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the charity being wound up.

#### 19 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year (2023: none).