

**COMPANY REGISTERED NUMBER: 04687799 (ENGLAND & WALES)**

**CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER: 1101754**

**LUTON ALL WOMEN CENTRE**  
**A Company Limited by Guarantee**

**DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 MARCH 2023**

**LUTON ALL WOMEN CENTRE**  
**A company limited by guarantee**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**LUTON ALL WOMEN CENTRE**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Name: Luton All Women Centre

Luton All Women's Centre aims to make the lives of women and girls from Luton and Bedfordshire safer, healthier and fairer.

Primarily supporting women and girls with experiences of abuse or violence against them, our main objective is to develop and deliver specialist advice, information and intervention services which tackle the consequences of such abuse at the earliest opportunity, help to prevent abuse wherever possible and, in the long-term, improve the quality of life for those affected.

Trustees: The Trustees who served during the financial year and to the date the Report of the Trustees was signed were as follows:

|             |                            |
|-------------|----------------------------|
|             | -                          |
| Lynda Rees  | - December 2011 to present |
| Jill Stuart | - June 2018 to present     |
| Kishwer Raj | - June 2018 to present     |

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees in general meeting. All Officers and members shall retire from office at each Annual General Meeting. Retiring officers are eligible for re-election.

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Chair                    | Lynda Rees  |
| Chief Executive Officer: | Caroline Cook   |
| Treasurer:               | Lynda Rees  |
| Registered Office:       | Suite 2, the Spires, Adelaide Street, Luton, LU1 5DU  |
| Bankers:                 | Lloyds TSB, 65 George Street, Luton, Beds, LU1 2BB.<br>Metro Bank, 10-20 Castle Street, Luton, Beds, LU1 3AJ. |
| Solicitors:              | Pictons, Dunstable Road, Luton  |
| Company No:              | 04687799  |
| Charity No:              | 1101754   |

**LUTON ALL WOMEN CENTRE**  
**A company limited by guarantee**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT) TO THE MEMBERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The Trustees present their report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Constitution**

Luton All Women Centre is a registered charity and a company registered in England limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 5 March 2003, and charitable status was gained on the 27 January 2004. It is exempt from the requirement to include limited in its name.

**Organisational Structure**

The charity is wholly UK based with its head office and projects based in Luton, Bedfordshire. The Trustees meet regularly during the year to determine the policy and strategy of the charity. The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive who supports the specialist staff and volunteer teams.

**Trustee Recruitment & Training**

The Trustees of the company who served during the year are listed on page 1 together with the legal and administrative details. Suitable nominees, according to the regulations covered by the memorandum and articles, are introduced to the work of the organisation and meet with, where possible, a staff member, and/or Board Member and Secretary prior to submission for consideration by the Board. The organisation aims, as far as possible, to include a wide range of skills and representation from the local community which it serves.

Where possible, new Board Members are encouraged to take part in events and networking meetings to ensure an understanding of the issues relating to the organisation's work. The Trustees hold an annual strategy day.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

A detailed report of all the activities and outcomes is available from the Chief Executive, on request.

**Principal Objects and Activities**

The objects of the Charity, as stated in its memorandum of association, are:

- To provide a safe and accessible meeting place and resource centre, run by women and serving the needs of women from the Luton and surrounding districts.
- To provide a drop-in service.
- To provide a meeting place for women and women's organisations.
- To provide a focal point for women's issues and awareness raising.

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- To arrange and provide for, or join in arranging and providing, the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures, classes, seminars and training courses for women.
- To collect, disseminate and exchange information on all matters affecting our objectives.
- To co-operate with other organisations including voluntary and statutory operating in furtherance of the objects or of similar purposes.
- To improve quality of life for our clients.

**Annual Report**

The following is a brief summary of the activities for the year. Further information is available from the Chief Executive at the Centre.

This was the third year where the Covid pandemic and the recovery from it continued to have a significant impact on the work of the organisation and our clients. We have developed our hybrid way of working, which enabled us to continue offering a comprehensive service to clients. We maintained support to clients via phone contact when face to face work was not possible. For some clients this way of working has been preferable, due to for example mobility reasons or work or other daytime commitments.

The ongoing impact of the pandemic on our clients has been significant, in that we have seen increased levels of abuse and complexity. Many women have experienced poor mental health, made worse by the periods of isolation and stop/start nature of some services in the area.

Referrals have been high in number, with over 800 received from over 40 different sources. The biggest challenge this year continues to be to manage demand and our capacity to respond. We have increased our number of advisers and are now able to deliver end to end services in Urdu, Bengali and Polish. We have supported over 1100 women, with many of them benefitting from our holistic approach, whereby they do 1:1 work with an adviser offering practical and emotional support, attend one of our groups, access solicitor support, engage with gentle exercise and access counselling. We believe that this trauma informed approach is how women are best supported to become more aware of and more knowledgeable about their situation, and better able to recover and move forwards. For many women their children are also indirect beneficiaries of our work.

Our clients reflect the wide diversity of people living in Luton and the surrounding areas, and we actively look to create a welcoming and safe environment where all women can feel welcome.

The very mixed demographic of the Luton population, reflected in our client group, has meant women in the area were disproportionately impacted by Covid, due to ethnicity, financial instability, pressures of home-schooling and the additional pressures on women of caring and dealing with family issues. We are still seeing the impact from all of this.

In spite of these significant challenges, we have continued to support women who needed advice, practical help and emotional support. We have also played a major role in the development of the Transformation Programme of the mental health system in Luton, ensuring that the particular needs of women are considered and that the system moves towards recognising the impact that abuse and trauma have on someone's mental health. We have worked with colleagues in other organisations to educate about and promote the benefits of working in a trauma informed way.

We are part of the Blended approach across the mental health system, working with other voluntary sector organisations and CMHT, to provide a joined-up response to individuals experiencing poor

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mental health, where social factors were recognised to be at the core of their distress. We particularly pick up the referrals coming into triage where there is a domestic abuse element.

We have been very active in relation to domestic abuse, working closely with partners as part of the Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership and in the creation of the new Luton Domestic Abuse Partnership Board. We have continued our Harmful Practices work, with our Chief Executive chairing the Pan Bedfordshire Harmful Practices Group. We are working hard to try to secure specific funding for work around harmful practices, so that we can continue to raise awareness of and train professionals about how women are affected by forced marriage, honour based abuse and FGM.

We have worked with employers to deliver the Employers Against Domestic Abuse programme – a programme of raising awareness with businesses and other employers about the cost to them if staff are experiencing domestic abuse. We encouraged them to think about how domestic abuse is talked about within their company or organisation, how managers might respond to disclosures, etc.

Finally, in relation to all of the above, we have delivered large numbers of online training and awareness sessions on the topics we work with, to professionals and in the community. We have worked with issues of gendered violence and gender inequality, with a national backdrop of violence towards women and girls being giving a high profile in the media.

We really appreciated this year receiving a number of awards. To get this kind of recognition means so much to everyone involved with LAWC. The awards included:

- Winner of the BBC Three Counties Radio award for best community group
- Winner of the Luton's Best Keeping Luton Safe award

We thank our team of staff and volunteers for their amazing efforts and contributions this year, to ensure women are able to access the help and support they need. It is not easy work to be hearing difficult life stories day in, day out, but the reward is seeing women better equipped and more confident to make good choices for themselves and their families.

We also thank our many funders, and individuals who have given money or made donations of items which are passed on to our clients.

### **Aims**

The prime aim of the organisation is any charitable purpose for the benefit of women in Luton and surrounding districts, in particular the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

The provision and maintenance of a meeting place and resource centre in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving access and the availability of a safe place for women.

### **Strategies for achieving Principal Aims and Objectives**

1. Recruitment of appropriate staff and volunteers
2. Ensuring training and development of staff and volunteers in key women's issues
3. Ongoing research and networking with women's organisations and providers to identify issues plus opportunities for developing service delivery
4. Identifying and providing information and resources to women on wide range of subjects
5. Provision of appropriate office and venue spaces for organisation and services

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6. Obtaining and developing sources of funding, support and resourcing for the organisation
7. Development of appropriate procedures and policies for the organisation with regular reviews
8. Ensure good management and financial management of the organisation.

**Contribution of Volunteers**

Luton All Women's Centre provided a number of opportunities for women to volunteer and continues to really appreciate the support of all our volunteers and trainees who have helped with the work of LAWC during the year.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

During the year under review, the following services/projects were funded by grants and managed by LAWC:

- Domestic Abuse: funded by The Big Lottery, Garfield Weston and others
- Mental Health and Wellbeing: funded by the Peoples Health Trust and Postcode Communities Trust
- Counselling Service: funded by The Henry Smith Charity
- Mimosa Group: supported by donations
- Core costs – supported by the Community Investment Fund (supported by profits from Luton Airport)

The following services were provided under the various headings above. Further information about all the activities and outcomes is available from the Chief Executive, on request.

1. Advice and Information:  
LAWC provides information, advice and support services for women over a diverse range of issues. Our trained advisers provide a listening ear, referral/signposting service, advice and emotional support. They offer advice on Domestic and other forms of Abuse, Health and Wellbeing, Forced Marriage/Honour based abuse, FGM, Family/Relationship issues, Housing, and help into volunteering or employment.
2. Counselling:  
Since 2011 LAWC has offered a counselling service. The service adheres to the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) guidelines, and LAWC is an organisational member.
3. Support Groups:  
LAWC continues to run regular psychoeducational and support groups, delivered both online and face to face. The support groups this year included: the Wellbeing Group for women experiencing anxiety/depression or social isolation; and the Mimosa group for women who have experienced childhood sexual abuse.  
  
We ran 2 different Domestic Abuse groups - Own My Life, a 12-week online or in-person course to help women who have been subjected to abuse to regain ownership of their lives. Our Lives is a 6 week programme for South Asian women, delivered in Urdu and Bengali, including where ideas about the role of women come from in relation to culture and faith, and information about the UK law.
4. Surgeries:  
Partner surgeries included: a fortnightly solicitor's surgery. We thank JKC Solicitors for their ongoing support.

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5. Mental and Physical Health:

As well as a number of exercise sessions, we have delivered the Wellbeing Group online and offered a range of therapeutic art and craft activities. LAWC is an active member of local mental health networks, including the Luton Collaborative initiative and the Luton Mental Health Partnership Board.

6. Domestic Violence and Abuse Issues:

LAWC is a member of the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board in Luton and the Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership. We support women who are currently experiencing domestic abuse and those recovering from the aftermath of all forms of Domestic Abuse.

7. Learning and Employment:

We have offered a variety of online courses to support the needs of our clients.

8. Gender Inequality:

LAWC seeks to raise questions and issues around gender equality wherever there is an opportunity or need.



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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty, set out in the 2011 Charity Act, to have due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation;

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

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Following the closure of Family Groups (Bedford), (see note 18 to the accounts), the net funds were transferred to Luton All Women Centre and totalled £99,202. After expenses, £78,551 contributed to the total reserves at the year end. The total reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 increased by £94,558 to £260,655. Restricted reserves decreased by £24,137 to £103,654 and unrestricted reserves increased by £118,695 to £157,001. Income for the year increased to £534,258 from £342,360 while expenditure increased to £439,700 from £360,033.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees aspire to maintain sufficient reserves (that is funds that are freely available) at a level which equates to approximately six months total expenditure. This would provide sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs and to make emergency applications for grants should the need arise. Including the funds transferred from Family Groups (Bedford), at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 free reserves are £59,760 which represents approximately 7 months at the 2022-23 activity level.

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**Risk review**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, including those in relation to Covid-19 and in particular those related to the operational finances of the charity. They are satisfied that reasonable systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks but recognise that in the current economic climate any organisation which is dependent on grant funding is at risk. A longer term more diverse income generation strategy is being actively pursued.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the board of directors and Trustees on 26 March 2024 and signed on its behalf.



.....  
Lynda Rees (Trustee)

26 March 2024

**LUTON ALL WOMEN CENTRE**  
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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Luton All Women Centre**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Luton All Women Centre for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 11 to 23.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Signed: ..... 

Date: 26 March 2024

R A Cox FCA (ICAEW)  
Miller & Co Chartered Accountants  
5 Imperial Court  
Laporte Way  
Luton, Bedfordshire  
LU4 8FE

**LUTON ALL WOMEN CENTRE**  
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

|   | <u>Note</u> | <b>Unrestricted<br/>Fund</b> | <b>Restricted<br/>Fund</b> | <b>Total<br/>Fund<br/>2023</b> | <b>Total<br/>Fund<br/>2022</b> |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|   |             | <b>£</b>                     | <b>£</b>                   | <b>£</b>                       | <b>£</b>                       |
| <b><u>Income from:</u></b>                |             |                              |                            |                                |                                |
| Donations and legacies                    | 2           | 124,427                      | -                          | 124,427                        | 153,209                        |
| Charitable activities                     | 3           | 7,250                        | 303,379                    | 310,629                        | 189,151                        |
| Other income – transfer of funds          | 18          | 89,121                       | 10,081                     | 99,202                         | -                              |
| <b><u>Total income</u></b>                |             | <b>220,798</b>               | <b>313,460</b>             | <b>534,258</b>                 | <b>342,360</b>                 |
| <b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>             |             |                              |                            |                                |                                |
| Raising funds                             |             | 7,433                        | -                          | 7,433                          | 7,145                          |
| Charitable activities                     | 4           | 94,670                       | 337,597                    | 432,267                        | 352,888                        |
| <b><u>Total expenditure</u></b>           |             | <b>102,103</b>               | <b>337,597</b>             | <b>439,700</b>                 | <b>360,033</b>                 |
| <b><u>Net income/(expenditure)</u></b>    |             | <b>118,695</b>               | <b>(24,137)</b>            | <b>94,558</b>                  | <b>(17,673)</b>                |
| <b><u>Transfers between funds</u></b>     |             | <b>-</b>                     | <b>-</b>                   | <b>-</b>                       | <b>-</b>                       |
| <b><u>Net movement in funds</u></b>       |             | <b>118,695</b>               | <b>(24,137)</b>            | <b>94,558</b>                  | <b>(17,673)</b>                |
| <b><u>Total funds brought forward</u></b> |             | <b>38,306</b>                | <b>127,791</b>             | <b>166,097</b>                 | <b>183,770</b>                 |
| <b><u>Total funds carried forward</u></b> |             | <b>157,001</b>               | <b>103,654</b>             | <b>260,655</b>                 | <b>166,097</b>                 |

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

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**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

|                                     | <b><u>Note</u></b> | <b><u>2023</u></b> | <b><u>2022</u></b> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                     |                    | <b><u>£</u></b>    | <b><u>£</u></b>    |
| <b><u>Fixed assets</u></b>          |                    |                    |                    |
| Tangible assets                     | 6                  | 54,741             | 38,865             |
| <b><u>Current Assets</u></b>        |                    |                    |                    |
| Debtors                             | 9                  | 103,647            | 10,139             |
| Cash at bank and in hand            |                    | 113,806            | 132,140            |
|                                     |                    | <hr/>              | <hr/>              |
|                                     |                    | 217,453            | 142,279            |
| <b><u>Creditors</u></b>             |                    |                    |                    |
| Amounts falling due within one year |                    |                    |                    |
| Sundry creditors and accruals       | 10                 | (11,539)           | (15,047)           |
|                                     |                    | <hr/>              | <hr/>              |
| <b><u>Net Current Assets</u></b>    |                    | 205,914            | 127,232            |
| <b><u>Net assets</u></b>            |                    | <hr/>              | <hr/>              |
|                                     |                    | 260,655            | 166,097            |
|                                     |                    | <hr/>              | <hr/>              |
| <b><u>Charity funds</u></b>         |                    |                    |                    |
| Unrestricted Funds                  | 8                  | 157,001            | 38,306             |
| Restricted Funds                    | 8                  | 103,654            | 127,791            |
| <b><u>Total funds</u></b>           |                    | <hr/>              | <hr/>              |
|                                     |                    | 260,655            | 166,097            |
|                                     |                    | <hr/>              | <hr/>              |

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

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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Directors' responsibilities

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation and approval of accounts.

The trustees declare that they have approved the financial statements on pages 11 to 23 on 26 March 2024.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



**L Rees (Trustee)**

For and on behalf of the board

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

Company Registration Number: 04687799

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**(a) Basis of preparation**

Luton All Women Centre is a private company limited by guarantee registered in England. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 3 of these financial statements.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1.

**(b) Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. The organisation has a policy of capitalising fixed asset expenditure over £500.

A full year's depreciation is charged in the year of purchase and nothing in the year of sale. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets over their expected useful lives, except restricted assets which are written off over the period of the revenue grant funding, on the following bases:

|                       |               |                  |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Fixtures and fittings | 25% per annum | Reducing balance |
| Computer equipment    | 33% per annum | Reducing balance |
| Motor vehicles        | 25% per annum | Reducing balance |

**(c) Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity are either:

*Unrestricted funds*

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees

*Designated funds*

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



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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** (Continued)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

*Restricted funds*

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Restricted funds may include grants received in advance of the relevant expenditure hence restricted fund balances can vary substantially year on year.

**(d) Income**

All income is accounted for when the charity has entitlement, there is certainty of receipt and the amount is measurable. Where possible income is accounted for on a receivable basis, except where material grant funding is received in advance. Grant in advance of expenditure is included in the restricted funds and thereby carried forward for use in future years.

**(e) Expenditure**

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT, which cannot be recovered. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. The costs of each activity are made up of the total direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**(f) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year**

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

**(g) 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.

**(h) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make significant judgements in applying the accounting policies of the Charity and estimates and assumptions that have a significant effect on the recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may be different to these estimates.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** (Continued)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2 Donations and legacies**

|                         | <b><u>Unrestricted<br/>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>Restricted<br/>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>Total<br/>2023</u></b> | <b><u>Total<br/>2022</u></b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                         | <b><u>£</u></b>                      | <b><u>£</u></b>                    | <b><u>£</u></b>              | <b><u>£</u></b>              |
| Donations               | 24,227                               | -                                  | 24,227                       | 48,655                       |
| Community Interest Fund | 100,200                              | -                                  | 100,200                      | 104,554                      |
|                         | <u>124,427</u>                       | <u>-</u>                           | <u>124,427</u>               | <u>153,209</u>               |

Income from donations and legacies in 2022 was £153,209 of which £nil was attributable to restricted funds and £153,209 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

**3 Charitable Activities**

|   | <b><u>Unrestricted<br/>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>Restricted<br/>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>Total<br/>2023</u></b> | <b><u>Total<br/>2022</u></b> |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|   | <b><u>£</u></b>                      | <b><u>£</u></b>                    | <b><u>£</u></b>              | <b><u>£</u></b>              |
| <u>Grants</u>   |                                      |                                    |                              |                              |
| Central Beds Council (DA)   | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 7,080                        |
| Wixamtree (DA)  | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 5,000                        |
| Garfield Weston (DA)  | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 20,000                       |
| Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) (DA)             | -                                    | 45,000                             | 45,000                       | -                            |
| CIF (DA)  | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 14,446                       |
| Lloyds Bank Foundation (DA)   | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 25,000                       |
| Sport England (MH&W)  | -                                    | 9,800                              | 9,800                        | -                            |
| Early Childhood P'ship (DA)   | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 15,000                       |
| Esmee Fairbairn (MH & W)  | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 20,000                       |
| National Lottery Community Fund (DA)                                | -                                    | 91,132                             | 91,132                       | -                            |
| Open Access (MH & W)  | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 49,725                       |
| Steel Charitable Trust (DA)   | -                                    | 30,000                             | 30,000                       | 15,000                       |
| Compass Wellbeing (MH & W)  | -                                    | 37,813                             | 37,813                       | -                            |
| Postcode Places (DA)  | -                                    | 25,000                             | 25,000                       | -                            |
| James Tudor Foundation (MH & W)                                     | -                                    | 9,500                              | 9,500                        | -                            |
| Charities Trust (DA)  | -                                    | 500                                | 500                          | -                            |
| Lloyds Bank (Emergency Fund) Beds & Luton Community Foundation (DA) | 7,250                                | -                                  | 7,250                        | -                            |
| Beds Police (Emergency Fund)  | -                                    | 13,334                             | 13,334                       | -                            |
| SEMLEP (Women's Academy)  | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 2,500                        |
| Henry Smith Charity (Counselling)                                   | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | 15,000                       |
| Training delivered  | -                                    | 41,300                             | 41,300                       | -                            |
|   | <u>7,250</u>                         | <u>303,379</u>                     | <u>310,629</u>               | <u>189,151</u>               |

Income from charitable activities in 2022 was £189,751 of which £188,751 was attributable to restricted funds and £400 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** (Continued)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

| 4 | Charitable expenditure (including Governance costs) | <b><u>Total</u></b> |                    | <b><u>LAWC</u></b> |                         | <b><u>Harmful</u></b>   |                     | <b><u>Domestic</u></b> |                         | <b><u>Family</u></b>  |                     | <b><u>Mental</u></b> |                 | <b><u>Counselling</u></b> |                 | <b><u>Other</u></b> |                 | <b><u>2022</u></b> |                 |
|---|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|   |   | <b><u>£</u></b>     | <b><u>2023</u></b> | <b><u>£</u></b>    | <b><u>&amp; BWC</u></b> | <b><u>Practices</u></b> | <b><u>Abuse</u></b> | <b><u>Groups</u></b>   | <b><u>Wellbeing</u></b> | <b><u>Service</u></b> | <b><u>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>£</u></b>      | <b><u>£</u></b> | <b><u>£</u></b>           | <b><u>£</u></b> | <b><u>£</u></b>     | <b><u>£</u></b> | <b><u>£</u></b>    | <b><u>£</u></b> |
|   | Staff Costs & project start-up costs                | 292,116             | 47,759             | 18,390             | 146,423                 | 10,081                  | 43,850              | 23,113                 | 2,500                   | 241,160               |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Premises  | 64,039              | 17,275             | 8,344              | 25,957                  | -                       | 7,233               | 5,230                  | -                       | 55,488                |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Centre activities and events                        | 10,077              | 4,819              | -                  | 5,243                   | -                       | 15                  | -                      | -                       | 1,669                 |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | General expenses                                    | 46,447              | 17,825             | 4,052              | 10,950                  | -                       | 5,553               | 8,067                  | -                       | 41,958                |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Resources   | 1,100               | -                  | -                  | 1,100                   | -                       | -                   | -                      | -                       | 506                   |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Professional fees                                   | 16,736              | 5,240              | 807                | 4,535                   | -                       | 1,264               | 4,890                  | -                       | 11,087                |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Governance costs (note 5)                           | 1,752               | 1,752              | -                  | -                       | -                       | -                   | -                      | -                       | 1,020                 |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Total year to 31 March 2023                         | 432,267             | 94,670             | 31,593             | 194,208                 | 10,081                  | 57,915              | 41,300                 | 2,500                   | 352,888               |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |
|   | Total year to 31 March 2022                         | 352,888             | 168,631            | 6,442              | 108,037                 | -                       | 69,725              | -                      | 53                      |                       |                     |                      |                 |                           |                 |                     |                 |                    |                 |

Expenditure consists of costs allocated directly to the relevant cost centres at the time of payment, together with an appropriate share of support costs. Support costs totalled £143,379 and related to, staff costs, premises costs, general expenses and professional fees.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** (Continued)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**5 Governance costs**

|                           | <b><u>Unrestricted<br/>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>Restricted<br/>Funds</u></b> | <b><u>Total<br/>2023</u></b> | <b><u>Total<br/>2022</u></b> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                           | <b>£</b>                             | <b>£</b>                           | <b>£</b>                     | <b>£</b>                     |
| Trustee expenses          | -                                    | -                                  | -                            | -                            |
| Independent examiners fee | 1,752                                | -                                  | 1,752                        | 1,020                        |
|                           | <u>1,752</u>                         | <u>-</u>                           | <u>1,752</u>                 | <u>1,020</u>                 |

**6 Tangible fixed assets**

|                               | <b><u>IT<br/>and<br/>Computer</u></b> | <b><u>Fixtures<br/>and<br/>Fittings</u></b> | <b><u>Motor<br/>Vehicles</u></b> | <b><u>Total</u></b> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|
|                               | <b>£</b>                              | <b>£</b>                                    | <b>£</b>                         | <b>£</b>            |
| <b><u>Cost:</u></b>           |                                       |   |                                  |                     |
| As at 1st April 2022          | 22,172                                | 51,943                                      | 43,850                           | 117,965             |
| Additions                     | 2,268                                 | -   | 21,534                           | 23,802              |
| Disposals                     | -                                     | -   | -                                | -                   |
| As at 31st March 2023         | <u>24,440</u>                         | <u>51,943</u>                               | <u>65,384</u>                    | <u>141,767</u>      |
| <b><u>Depreciation:</u></b>   |                                       |   |                                  |                     |
| As at 1st April 2022          | 18,483                                | 49,654                                      | 10,963                           | 79,100              |
| Charge for the year           | 1,969                                 | 573   | 5,384                            | 7,926               |
| Disposals                     | -                                     | -   | -                                | -                   |
| As at 31st March 2023         | <u>20,452</u>                         | <u>50,227</u>                               | <u>16,347</u>                    | <u>87,026</u>       |
| <b><u>Net Book Value:</u></b> |                                       |   |                                  |                     |
| As at 31st March 2023         | <u>3,988</u>                          | <u>1,716</u>                                | <u>49,037</u>                    | <u>54,741</u>       |
| As at 31st March 2022         | <u>3,689</u>                          | <u>2,289</u>                                | <u>32,887</u>                    | <u>38,865</u>       |

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** (Continued)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**7 Analysis of net assets by fund**

|                     | <b><u>Unrestricted</u></b> | <b><u>Designated</u></b> | <b><u>Restricted</u></b> | <b><u>Total</u></b> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
|                     | <b><u>£</u></b>            | <b><u>£</u></b>          | <b><u>£</u></b>          | <b><u>2023</u></b>  |
|                     |                            |                          |                          | <b><u>£</u></b>     |
| Fixed assets        | 54,741                     | -                        | -                        | 54,741              |
| Current assets      | 71,299                     | 42,500                   | 103,654                  | 217,453             |
| Current liabilities | (11,539)                   | -                        | -                        | (11,539)            |
|                     | <u>114,501</u>             | <u>42,500</u>            | <u>103,654</u>           | <u>260,655</u>      |
|                     |                            |                          |                          |                     |
|                     | <b><u>Unrestricted</u></b> | <b><u>Designated</u></b> | <b><u>Restricted</u></b> | <b><u>Total</u></b> |
|                     | <b><u>£</u></b>            | <b><u>£</u></b>          | <b><u>£</u></b>          | <b><u>2022</u></b>  |
|                     |                            |                          |                          | <b><u>£</u></b>     |
| Fixed assets        | 38,865                     | -                        | -                        | 38,865              |
| Current assets      | (28,012)                   | 42,500                   | 127,791                  | 142,279             |
| Current liabilities | (15,047)                   | -                        | -                        | (15,047)            |
|                     | <u>(4,194)</u>             | <u>42,500</u>            | <u>127,791</u>           | <u>166,097</u>      |

**8 Fund reconciliation**

|                           | <b><u>Opening</u></b>  | <b><u>Income</u></b> | <b><u>Expenditure</u></b> | <b><u>Transfers</u></b> | <b><u>Closing</u></b>  |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
|                           | <b><u>Balance</u></b>  |                      |                           |                         | <b><u>Balance</u></b>  |
|                           | <b><u>01/04/22</u></b> |                      |                           |                         | <b><u>31/03/23</u></b> |
|                           | <b><u>£</u></b>        | <b><u>£</u></b>      | <b><u>£</u></b>           | <b><u>£</u></b>         | <b><u>£</u></b>        |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                        |                      |                           |                         |                        |
| General funds LAWC        | (4,194)                | 131,677              | (91,533)                  | -                       | 35,950                 |
| General funds BWC         | -                      | 89,121               | (10,570)                  | -                       | 78,551                 |
| Designated funds          | <u>42,500</u>          | <u>-</u>             | <u>-</u>                  | <u>-</u>                | <u>42,500</u>          |
|                           | <u>38,306</u>          | <u>220,798</u>       | <u>(102,103)</u>          | <u>-</u>                | <u>157,001</u>         |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                        |                      |                           |                         |                        |
| Domestic Abuse            | 35,478                 | 204,966              | (194,208)                 | -                       | 46,236                 |
| Family Groups - BWC       | -                      | 10,081               | (10,081)                  | -                       | -                      |
| Counselling Service       | -                      | 41,300               | (41,300)                  | -                       | -                      |
| Panacea                   | 10,000                 | -                    | -                         | -                       | 10,000                 |
| Harmful Practices         |                        |                      |                           |                         |                        |
| Service                   | 31,593                 | -                    | (31,593)                  | -                       | -                      |
| Covid Emergency Fund      | 2,500                  | -                    | (2,500)                   | -                       | -                      |
| Mental Health and         |                        |                      |                           |                         |                        |
| Wellbeing Service         | 22,413                 | 57,113               | (57,915)                  | -                       | 21,611                 |
| Women's Academy           | 19,860                 | -                    | -                         | -                       | 19,860                 |
| Impacts & Outcomes        | <u>5,947</u>           | <u>-</u>             | <u>-</u>                  | <u>-</u>                | <u>5,947</u>           |
|                           | <u>127,791</u>         | <u>313,460</u>       | <u>(337,597)</u>          | <u>-</u>                | <u>103,654</u>         |
|                           | <u>166,097</u>         | <u>534,258</u>       | <u>(439,700)</u>          | <u>-</u>                | <u>260,655</u>         |

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**8 Fund reconciliation continued - comparative**

|                           | <b><u>Opening<br/>Balance<br/>01/04/21</u></b> | <b><u>Income</u></b> | <b><u>Expenditure</u></b> | <b><u>Transfers</u></b> | <b><u>Closing<br/>Balance<br/>31/03/22</u></b> |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
|                           | <b><u>£</u></b>                                | <b><u>£</u></b>      | <b><u>£</u></b>           | <b><u>£</u></b>         | <b><u>£</u></b>                                |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |  |                      |                           |                         |  |
| General funds             | 17,973   | 153,609              | (175,776)                 | -                       | (4,194)  |
| Designated funds          | 42,500   | -                    | -                         | -                       | 42,500   |
|                           | <u>60,473</u>                                  | <u>153,609</u>       | <u>(175,776)</u>          | <u>-</u>                | <u>38,306</u>                                  |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |  |                      |                           |                         |  |
| Domestic Abuse            | 46,989   | 96,526               | (108,037)                 | -                       | 35,478   |
| Counselling Service       | -  | -                    | -                         | -                       | -  |
| Panacea                   | 10,000   | -                    | -                         | -                       | 10,000   |
| Harmful Practices         |  |                      |                           |                         |  |
| Service                   | 33,035   | 5,000                | (6,442)                   | -                       | 31,593   |
| Covid Emergency Fund      | -  | 2,500                | -                         | -                       | 2,500  |
| Mental Health &           |  |                      |                           |                         |  |
| Wellbeing Service         | 22,413   | 69,725               | (69,725)                  | -                       | 22,413   |
| Women's Academy           | 4,860  | 15,000               | -                         | -                       | 19,860   |
| Impacts & Outcomes        | 6,000  | -                    | (53)                      | -                       | 5,947  |
|                           | <u>123,297</u>                                 | <u>188,751</u>       | <u>(184,257)</u>          | <u>-</u>                | <u>127,791</u>                                 |
|                           | <u>183,770</u>                                 | <u>342,360</u>       | <u>(360,033)</u>          | <u>-</u>                | <u>166,097</u>                                 |

**Fund descriptions**

(a) Unrestricted funds

These are funds that the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects.

(b) Designated funds

Designated funds comprise £42,500 which has been set up to ensure sufficient funds are available to cover the potential future cost of reparations to the property at the end of the lease.

(c) Restricted funds

(1) Domestic Abuse fund to support women via the Freedom Programme/Own My Life to learn more about the reality of domestic abuse and the local resources available to them.

(2) Counselling fund (includes Mimosa) to support women through talking therapy with a counsellor to explore emotional difficulties that may be causing stress and anxiety.

(3) Harmful Practices (includes Forced Marriage) fund to help support women to be safe and have stability in their lives, improve health, wellbeing and freedom from discrimination through advice and advocacy, therapy, outreach work, counselling and referral to legal advice.

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

(4) Covid Emergency Fund to support the organisation with increased costs and adapting to new ways of working as a result of the Covid pandemic.

(5) Panacea fund to provide counselling in Bedford.

(6) Mental Health & Wellbeing fund to support women via the Revive programme who are suffering from anxiety/depression or social isolation.

(7) Family Groups represents the income and expenses relating to Family Groups (Bedford) also known as Bedford Women's Centre, which was taken over by Luton All Women Centre on 17 January 2023 following that's charity's closure. See note 18.

(8) Women's Academy fund which provides education, training and skills development activities specifically designed to help women who are escaping or recovering from abuse or other difficulties to move forward with their lives and improve their long-term employment prospects.

(9) Impacts & Outcomes work to improve the evidencing of the difference the work of LAWC makes.

| <b>9 Debtors</b>             | <b><u>2023</u></b> | <b><u>2022</u></b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                              | <b><u>£</u></b>    | <b><u>£</u></b>    |
| Prepayments & accrued income | 103,647            | 10,139             |
|                              | <u>103,647</u>     | <u>10,139</u>      |

| <b>10 Creditors</b>          | <b><u>2023</u></b> | <b><u>2022</u></b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                              | <b><u>£</u></b>    | <b><u>£</u></b>    |
| Trade Creditors              | 527                | 7,627              |
| Taxation and social security | 7,663              | 4,968              |
| Accruals:                    |                    |                    |
| Independent examination      | 1,752              | 1,020              |
| Salary costs                 | 1,597              | 1,432              |
|                              | <u>11,539</u>      | <u>15,047</u>      |

**11. Independent examiners remuneration**

The independent examiners remuneration amounts to an independent examination fee of £1,302 (2022: £870) and accountancy services of £450 (2022: £150).

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**12. Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses**

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2022: £nil). The trustees did not have any expenses reimbursed in the year (2022: £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £52,553 (2022: £50,976).

**13. Staff costs and employee benefits**

The total staff costs and employee benefits were as follows:

|   | <b>2023</b>    | <b>2022</b>    |
|---|----------------|----------------|
|   | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| Wages and salaries                              | 265,954        | 218,292        |
| Social security                                 | 18,186         | 18,624         |
| Defined contribution pension costs              | 5,578          | 4,244          |
|   | <u>289,718</u> | <u>241,160</u> |
| <br>Average number of employees during the year | <br><u>12</u>  | <br><u>7</u>   |

No employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

**14. Leases**

Operating leases – lessee

Total future minimum lease payment under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

|  | <b>2023</b>   | <b>2022</b>   |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | <b>£</b>      | <b>£</b>      |
| Not later than one year                      | 12,000        | 21,637        |
| Later than one and not later than five years | 39,320        | -             |
|  | <u>51,320</u> | <u>21,637</u> |

Operating lease rentals in the year totalled £28,850 (2022: £28,850).

**15. Related parties**

There are no related party transactions during the period (2022: £nil).



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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**16. Financial commitments**

Contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets contracted for but not provided in the financial statements amounted to £nil (2022 - £21,180).

**17. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £5,578 (2022: £4,244).

The defined contribution liability is allocated to unrestricted funds relating to charitable activities.

**18. Family Groups (Bedford) – Bedford Women's Centre**

Following the closure of Family Groups (Bedford) – Charity number 1045275, Company registration number 0294861 – the excess of the fair value of the assets received over the fair value of the liabilities assumed was gifted to Luton All Women Centre on 17 January 2023. This has been recognised as income in the income and expenditure account, being other income – transfer of funds.