

# SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1110649

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [04617964](#)

**Registered** 2005-07-29

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Eccumenical Centre  
Northway  
skelmersdale  
Lancashire  
WN8 6LU

**Phone** 01695726269

**Email** [SWLICAN2014@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SWLICAN2014@GMAIL.COM)

**Website** [www.swlican.org](http://www.swlican.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE TOWARDS THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY AND NEED IN SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF :(I) ADVICE, REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY POVERTY AND NEED(II) SUPPORT AND ADVICE IN THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION, LEARNING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY POVERTY AND NEED(III) TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AND ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SELF HELP INITIATIVES BY THOSE AFFECTED BY POVERTY AND NEED.

**Activities:** To provide for those affected by poverty and need, employment and unemployment issues : debt and employment advice, representation and advocacy;support and advice in the provision of education, learning and training opportunities;support and assistance in the development of self-help initiatives

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE.
- Lancashire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£155,489	£117,073	-	-
2023-12-31	£169,315	£132,587	-	-
2022-12-31	£117,000	£113,000	-	-
2021-12-31	£112,785	£103,966	-	-
2020-12-31	£103,966	£88,259	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PAUL MCCONNELL	Chair	
CHARLES PENRY EVANS		2012-12-05
DAVID VICKERS		2012-12-05
GEORGE HUGHES		

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1110649

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# Accounts

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Registered number  
04617964  
Charity No:1110649

South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Report Of The Trustees And Unaudited Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2024

WEDNESDAY



A04 \*AEARW6UH\* #178  
10/09/2025  
COMPANIES HOUSE

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Report and accounts  
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**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Company Information**

<b>Trustees</b>	Mr Paul Mcconnell Mr David Vickers Mr Charles Penry Evans Mr George Hughes
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Helen J. Guest Accounting 482 Liverpool Road Ainsdale Southport Merseyside PR8 3BB
<b>Registered office</b>	Ecumenical Centre Northway Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 6LU
<b>Registered number Companies House</b>	1110649 04617964

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number: 1110649 Company 04617964**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of accounting and reporting for charities : Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102 effective 1 January 2019).

**History, Objectives and Activities of The Trust**

The principle activity of the charity in the year under review was that of providing advice and assistance on employment law, health, safety and welfare rights as well as IT facilities and training.

## **South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number:**

**1110649**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

### **Achievements and Performance**

Firstly, I need to have on record how blessed we are as an organisation to be able to deliver this project.

Working with families and individuals who are facing financial hardship and health and well-being inequalities can be very difficult and challenging.

In the main we find it extremely rewarding, lifting people up, battling on their behalf to get them the right benefits, the right support, the proper income their circumstances deserve. Then watching someone as all of their being becomes uplifted as they realise their income and social standing has improved beyond anything they could have hoped, really is amazing.

Every day we do this we count our blessings that during two of the biggest events to hit our Country, Covid and Austerity cutbacks, we had funding that kept us going without a break. The Community Lottery did this and it's right at some point, we recognise the brave decision the panel took in supporting SWLICAN at that time.

Since Covid, in 2020 West Lancashire has lost the last couple of local groups who did welfare rights as part of their services, and in the intervening years the County Council has stopped all its provision, the Borough Council only help Tenants in financial difficulties and the CAB moth balled for 2 and a ½ years and now only opens 8 hours a week. It is fair to say that the poverty and well-being indices for Skelmersdale would be in a significantly different place than it is today without the presence of ICAN. Because of that decision we have been able to deliver a service driven by and for clients and based on real need and a service, that apart from 2020 due to all things Covid, have recovered over £1million pounds each and every year in a range of welfare benefits all for our clients and the wider community.

2024 was yet another year of hard work and amazing achievements by our staff.

### **Achievements and Performance**

Since 2020 and all that Covid brought, ICAN has been a beacon of hope to the tenants and residents of West Lancashire. In fact, we have supported people from all over the North West never turning anyone away who is desperate for help. So, on behalf of the Committee, I wish to pass on our thanks and support to all members of staff and volunteers from us all on the Management Committee.

We continued doing the outreach in Ormskirk, Burscough and Tarleton which had been so well attended during 2023. We eventually went on to add a Parbold outreach, as a report and feedback from our Volunteer Adviser John Earle indicated that it was needed. After a few teething problems it is now a regular part of our services.

In the first half of the year, we were contacted by the Torus Foundation asking if we would like to become a partner on their Household Energy Support scheme, this would give eligible clients up to £300 in gas and or electric credit on their smart meter. The main condition with this is that we can't advertise it. Though this means our clients are getting an extra help when they use our services. We have also mentioned the scheme to a couple of select referring agencies.

On a personal note, I would like to single Jan out for all that she did in supporting me over the last 12 months between losing my Mum at Christmas and a few health issues she has covered for me and it is really appreciated.

Thank You.

Paul McConnell  
Chair

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number:**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1110649**

### **Achievements and Performance**

From the 1st January to 31st of December 2024 SWLICAN has:

Supported 1195 clients

Delivered outreach at 4 geographical locations cross West Lancashire Borough

Recovered £1.5 Million in benefits and other entitlements for clients

This is equivalent to £4198.00 for each client

Delivered 4 Know Your Rights Courses across the Borough

Delivered 4 Cooking on a Budget 'Soup Making Courses' across the Borough

Worked in partnership with over 40 local organisations or groups

Delivered an 'Open Day' Event at our Centre inviting 12 key partner organisations that was open to the community

Become the local delivery partner with the Torus Foundation helping residents get up to £300 in 'Free' home energy top up's

Are the only provider of Home Visits for Welfare Rights across the Borough, seeing 135 clients

### Achievements and Performance



Ian at a Northern Parishes 'Outreach Surgery' in Tarleton Library

### Case Study

I attended a home visit for a client who had all his toes off on one foot and is due to have his other leg taken off, due to his diabetes.

I asked him for a history of health; he explained this situation had been going on for nearly three years! In all that time, he had been out of a job and had no financial support as he did not know he could get financial help. He was thinking he would never work again and was feeling helpless. He wants to get back into work, I was explaining to him that businesses are duty bound by government to put measures in place to support people

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **Other projects support because we have Lottery funding -**

Over 1000 people and their families have been assisted by having outreach services that have been made possible by Lottery funding

To help support him immediately, at the home visit, I used his mobile phone to set up a Universal Credit Account and explained the forward process from this and what to expect. I then phoned up the DWP in support for him to access a PIP claim so he can access more financial support.

Over the past months we have supported him further with his PIP claim and his ESA support claim with the DWP. These have been all completed at a series of home visits as this client could not get out of the home to access our services, he had no additional support.

The client was happy to chat and felt relieved as to the help he received, we also gave him advice on simple ways of saving money via his utilities and explained to him that there are additional services he can access due to his disability in the future, this support give him the impetus to move forward in life something he never saw possible a couple of months ago.

#### **Volunteer Programme**

Money from the Government's Levelling Up Scheme has also helped us work on a volunteer recruitment and training programme. There were a couple of issues getting this started but we have been successful with securing a couple of volunteers as well as providing numerous recognised Training Events for volunteers from other organisations across the Ecumenical Centre. As we grew this project, we were able to provide volunteers not only for SWLICAN but the Ecumenical Centre itself, providing reception and meet and greet posts as well as supporting the Migrant Support Group.

#### **Case Study**

We supported a client with Mandatory Reconsideration (MR) at a home visit. To complete this, the evidence we needed was a brief summary (BS) from her GP, we got the client to call them and suggested we would call over to their Surgery to get it. After getting the BS up we went back to the client and completed the MR and added the BS then posted the application off for her.

**Achievements and Performance**

Whilst at this appointment I could see the client was struggling with her mobility. I made a call to the WLBC housing adaptations team to see if I could put her forward for housing adaptations (grab rails etc) as she is struggling with mobility around the home.

From speaking to WLDC I was directed to the LCC social care. I requested an assessment for housing adaptations this, I was told will take some time LCC suggested to me. Though she is in the system to receive the support. I have left the client with the contact number and her Record ID if she needs to move on her assessment forward herself, she can. I put her forward as urgent as she has had a recent fall.

**Reaching Communities**

Over the year we had been lucky with a number of funding applications which has enabled us to cover the costs of courses including Know Your Rights, Financial Money Go Round and Cooking on a Budget. Courses have been provided in Skelmersdale and Ormskirk, with further courses planned in Tarleton and Upholland in 2025.



Lynne delivering a 'Cooking on a Budget' Air Fryer course at the Greenhill CRC

### **Achievements and Performance**

2024 saw SWLICAN deliver a number of training courses in the heart of our community and for which we learned about the added value or 'Social Capital' and 'Training Courses Social Capital'. In these SWLICAN courses for Know Your Rights, Money Management and Cooking on a Budget, participants all received skills that can be shared with family and friends. It was also reported that attendees did feel a renewed sense of wellbeing and trust in their cohorts as they developed relationships within the course settings. Collective Social Capital has positively impacted the participants as the knowledge they gained is able to be shared throughout the wider communities in which they live and work. Feedback from the courses highlights the bonds formed in the groups, with a sense of belonging. Access to resources previously unknown has had health benefits to participants, particularly in the areas of confidence in knowledge gained which can be shared. The course feedback received an overwhelming 99% satisfaction with the course, the tutor and the content.

"Very informative to individuals who can then pass on the information to others" (CN, July 2024).

"A really informative course. I feel much more confident in helping our clients" (MN, November 2024)

"All the information was available on handouts that were very useful to keep for future use" (DD, November 2024)

Throughout the year, the Cooking on a Budget course saw over 40 participants taking part in four sessions, on how to use an air-fryer and how to use a soup maker. All attendees received a free product at the end of it.

"Lynne explained clearly and presentation was excellent" (SS, October 2024)

"10 out of 10, everything was easy to understand" (NL, October 2024)

Overall, people left with a lot more knowledge on healthier eating and new cooking practices.

We organised Benefit Uptake Events in six Supported Living venues across West Lancs, reaching Banks, Ormskirk, Skelmersdale, Burscough and in conjunction with the local borough council, at two venues in Ormskirk and the Concourse in Skelmersdale. These open day events were specifically placed to talk to the older generation about Pension Credits, due to the recent changes in the law, which meant many pensioners lost their warm home payments in 2024. However, if they were able to get Pension Credits benefits, they were still entitled to this payment. In addition to Pension Credits advice, many pensioners also had benefit checks and further assistance in housing, council tax, Attendance Allowance, the Household

### **Achievements and Performance**

Support Fund, PIP and even applying for a National Rail card amongst other discussions whilst there. Over thirty new clients across six events were assessed and assisted to apply for benefits. This was a great asset to the Borough and SWLICAN Advice and Admin staff were able to reach more people as a consequence of these events, increasing the financial rewards to the local economy.

A study concluded in 2023 by the Office for National Statistics on Wellbeing in the UK, saw the citizens of West Lancs report significantly reduced rates on wellbeing as compared to previous years. Bringing people together, on short courses or open events has increased wellbeing and knowledge for the participants and a sense of social capital as people come together and learn from each other and share their experiences. SWLICAN is proud to be helping towards increasing health and wellbeing in West Lancashire.



Ian at a DWP Job Centre Open Event SWLICAN was invited to attend

### **Case Study**

A referral was sent from Age UK with an address that wasn't making sense to find. After a good look round, it transpired that it was for a canal boat on a permanent mooring on the Leeds to Liverpool Canal. Here an older gentleman was basically a prisoner in his own home (canal boat), as he had so many health issues and wasn't physically capable of leaving. We did a PIP application as well as a carers allowance claim and these were fully successful, resulting in him now being able to pay for carers to come in every day to help him.

### **Achievements and Performance**

He was also passed on to the Social Prescribing Team by us as it appears this gentleman had slipped through the net of a couple of agencies when he left hospital as there was no follow up by anyone. This was an unusual case as it is very rare for someone with this client conditions to be missed by a couple of agencies. We do feel that given the brief information we had about his location it may have been easy to miss that he lived in a canal boat. Happily, it all worked out well in the end

Over 2024 we were also supporting people from across the North West, there weren't many from this area but it highlights the total lack of local support across the region. This is a small but really important part of the work we do, and we do it willingly, knowing that for many vulnerable people in our region access to free independent welfare rights and debt advice is non-existent. Again, this year being contacted by a concerned family member living in Toronto, Canada asking for our help supporting a disabled/ autistic family member living in Burscough. We had helped this family during and after Covid and it's nice to be able to reassure the family when they have concerns.

Central Lancashire and South Ribble residents have also benefitted from our support, if we have availability and we can help, we always will. Another area of our work which has gotten us some amazing feedback is the home visits for the elderly and infirmed. Since we started our outreach surgeries across the Borough, we have been able to reach a group of people who would otherwise have slipped under the radar. Outreach has got us in to some individuals and families who were struggling mentally, physically and financially trying their best to support someone with severe illnesses, disability and isolation.

This has included an elderly woman living in an oxygen bubble, where our adviser had to wear a special suit to enter the room they were in.

As an organisation we continue to meet the ever-changing landscape that is Welfare Rights support, meeting challenges head on whilst all the time keeping focus on our clients needs.

To this end all the staff, management committee and volunteers truly deserve all the plaudits and thanks they have received for the work they do across the Borough and beyond. Ensuring the most vulnerable people

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number:**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1110649**

**Achievements and Performance**

To this end all the staff, management committee and volunteers truly deserve all the plaudits and thanks they have received for the work they do across the Borough and beyond. Ensuring the most

vulnerable people get the right support they need to improve their financial and mental health wellbeing.

Paul McConnell  
Chair  
SWLICAN

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number: 1110649**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

Charity law requires the board to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. It must also document whether operations are at a surplus or deficit for the year. In preparing the accounts the board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- prepare the accounts on an ongoing concern basis unless it becomes inappropriate to assume the charity will continue to operate
- state whether applicable accounting standards and best practice have been followed

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy performance and the current financial position at any given time. The trustees also are responsible for ensuring that the accounts comply with current charities legislation, regulations and the trust of deed. The trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board on: **8 SEPTEMBER 2025**  
on behalf of the trustees.

Name: **PJM'Connell**

Position: **chair**

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

I report on the accounts of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network for the year ending 31 December 2024, which are set out on the following pages.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Helen J Guest ACMA, CGMA

Address: 482 Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 3BB

Date: 8 September 2025

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ending 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
<b>Income and Endowments From</b>					
Donations and Legacies		400	-	400	0
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Advice	2	<u>19,530</u>	<u>135,559</u>	<u>155,089</u>	<u>169,315</u>
		<b>19,930</b>	<b>135,559</b>	<b>155,489</b>	<b>169,315</b>
<b>Expenditure On</b>					
<b>Charitable Activities</b>	3	21,826	151,399	173,225	132,857
Advice					
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<u>(1,896)</u>	<u>(15,840)</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>	<u>36,458</u>
Transfers Between Funds				-	-
<b>Net Movement In Funds</b>		<u>(1,896)</u>	<u>(15,840)</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>	<u>36,458</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total Funds Brought Forward				88,761	52,303
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u><u>(1,896)</u></u>	<u><u>(15,840)</u></u>	<u><u>71,025</u></u>	<u><u>88,761</u></u>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number: 110649 Co 04617964**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2024 Total Fund	2023 Total Fund
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets		268		268	1,334
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors					0
Cash at The Bank and In hand		118,024		118,024	89,717
		<u>118,024</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,024</u>	<u>89,717</u>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year		(47,267)		(47,267)	(2,290)
		<u>70,757</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,757</u>	<u>87,427</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>					
		<u>71,025</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>71,025</u>	<u>88,761</u>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>					
		<u>71,025</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>71,025</u>	<u>88,761</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Funds				71,025	88,761
Restricted Funds					
<b>Total Funds</b>				<u>71,025</u>	<u>88,761</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2024.

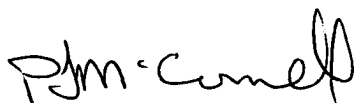
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 in accordance with S476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a) Ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus and deficit for each financial year in accordance with requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Mr Paul McConnell  
 Director  
 8 September 2025



**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Notes to the Accounts**

**1 Accounting policies**

***Basis of preparation***

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102. They have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "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 (FRS102) effective 1 January 2019 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under historical cost convention.

***Turnover***

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds. It is probable that it will be received and measured reliably.

***Expenditure***

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure and accounted for by the accruals basis.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met as at the year end are noted as a commitment and not accrued.

***Tangible fixed assets***

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment

Fixtures & Fittings	20% reducing balance
Equipment	33% straight line

***Taxation***

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

***Fund Accounting***

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

***Support Costs***

Since all of the activities/costs relate to the charities single charitable activity heading, all support costs have been allocated here and as such a separate analysis/description or allocation basis is not required.

<b>2 Income From Charitable Activities</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants	Advice	155,089	169,315
Grants received include			
Big Lottery		77,761	77,681
Garfield Weston			10,000
Awards 4 All		19,530	-
NHS Lancashire			4,494
Eleanor Rathbone			3,000
Community Foundation			3,000
CVS - Debt Manager Funding			1,000
John Moores Funding Debt Advisor			9,890
Lancs CC			250
West Lancs Council		57,798	60,000
		<u>155,089</u>	<u>169,315</u>

**3 Charitable Activities Costs**

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

	£ Direct Costs	£ Support Costs	£ Total
Advice	0	-	-
<b>4 Support Costs</b>			<b>Governance Costs</b>
Advice			£0
<b>5 Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
Net income/expenditure is stated after charging:			
Depreciation - owned assets		1,066	1,066
<b>6 Trustees Remuneration and Benefits</b>			
There were no trustees remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2024 or for the year ended 31 December 2023.			
<b>7 Comparatives For The Statement of Financial Activities</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted Fund £</b>	<b>Restricted Fund £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Income and Endowments From Donations and Legacies</b>	400	-	400
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Advice	19,530	135,559	155,089
	<u>19,930</u>	<u>135,559</u>	<u>155,489</u>
Expenditure on Charitable Activities			
Advice	21,826	151,399	173,225
Net Income/(Expenditure)	<u>(1,896)</u>	<u>(15,840)</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>
Total Funds Brought Forward	75,951	12,810	88,761
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>74,055</u>	<u>(3,030)</u>	<u>71,025</u>
<b>8 Tangible fixed assets</b>			
	<b>Fixtures &amp; Fittings £</b>	<b>Computer Equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2024	16,306	12,430	28,736
Additions	-	-	-
Surplus on revaluation	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>16,306</u>	<u>12,430</u>	<u>28,736</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 January 2024	15,946	11,456	27,402
Charge For The Period	118	948	1,066
Surplus on revaluation	-	-	-
On disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>16,064</u>	<u>12,404</u>	<u>28,468</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 December 2024	<u>242</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>268</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>360</u>	<u>974</u>	<u>1,334</u>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

<b>9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Taxation and social security costs	4,344	1,968
Other creditors	42,924	322
	<u>47,268</u>	<u>2,290</u>

<b>10 Movement In Funds</b>				
	<b>01.01.24</b>	<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31.12.24</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	88,761	(1,896)	-	86,865
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted	-	(15,840)	-	(15,840)
	<u>88,761</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,025</u>

Net movement in funds is as follows:

		<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement In Funds</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund		19,930	21,826	(1,896)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted		135,559	151,399	(15,840)
		<u>155,489</u>	<u>173,225</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>

**Comparatives For Movement In Funds**

	<b>01.01.24</b>	<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31.12.24</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	33,633	(1,896)	-	31,737
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted	55,128	(15,840)	-	39,288
	<u>88,761</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,025</u>

Net movement in funds is as follows:

		<b>Incoming Resources £</b>	<b>Resources Expended £</b>	<b>Movement In Funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund		19,930	(21,826)	(1,896)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted		135,559	(151,399)	(15,840)
		<u>155,489</u>	<u>(173,225)</u>	<u>(17,736)</u>

**11 Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	400	0
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Grants	155,089	169,315
<b>Total Incoming Activities</b>	<b>155,489</b>	<b>117,073</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Wages	99,523	79,123
Rent	11,559	7,014
Insurance	1,587	907
Telephone	2,262	1,829
Sundries	2,465	1,333
Volunteer Expenses	1,785	2,492
Office Expenses	2,125	5,819
Repairs and Renewals	945	2,628
Recruitment		
Training	14,447	1,225
Subscriptions	718	6,045
Travel Costs	4,591	1,085
Consultancy and Advice	600	4,863
Equipment Expensed	2,038	-
Computer Equipment		-
Cost of Living Grants & Vouchers	22,815	15,625
Advertising & Marketing	4,539	1,470
Donation	70	1,000
	<b>172,069</b>	<b>132,458</b>
<b>Support Costs</b>		
<b>Governance Costs</b>		
Accountancy Fees	1,156	399
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>173,225</b>	<b>132,857</b>
 <b>Net Income</b>	 <b>-17,736</b>	 <b>5,482</b>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1110649

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# Accounts

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Registered number  
04617964  
Charity No:1110649

South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Report Of The Trustees And Unaudited Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2023



**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Report and accounts  
Contents**

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**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Company Information**

<b>Trustees</b>	Mr Paul McConnell Mr David Vickers Mr Charles Penry Evans Mr George Hughes
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Helen J. Guest Accounting 482 Liverpool Road Ainsdale Southport Merseyside PR8 3BB
<b>Registered office</b>	Ecumenical Centre Northway Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 6LU
<b>Registered number Companies House</b>	1110649 04617964

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number: 1110649 Company 04617964**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of accounting and reporting for charities : Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102 effective 1 January 2019).

**History, Objectives and Activities of The Trust**

The principle activity of the charity in the year under review was that of providing advice and assistance on employment law, health, safety and welfare rights as well as IT facilities and training.

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number:**

**1110649**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Achievements and Performance**

To say the last few years have been challenging would be an understatement.

Our aim to provide quality independent advice has been both hindered and helped by covid, lockdowns, voluntary and charity closures and more recently the cost of living crisis. Each one brought its own unique challenges to the citizens of West Lancashire. Each time we found new ways of working new ways of supporting those people who were at the receiving end of everything we were facing.

Being successful in securing continuation funding means we are able to continue the great work we started four years ago. Giving hope and support to the poorest in our community ensures that there is a pathway out of poverty and a way of being released from the poverty trap. Each of the last four years SWLICAN has worked hard with our clients and partners to make sure as many people as possible get access to quality advice and support. This year saw us further develop our outreach in the northern parishes a very large rural area that relatively, has all the issues somewhere like Skelmersdale does but has no access to the type of support we offer.

To improve our monitoring and evaluation we purchased Advice UK's Advice Pro6, this gives us the ability to record even more information about clients, their issues, remedies and outcomes etc. For the first time we are now able to get up to date data on their age, gender, address, post code, ward as well as a host of other data that we can use to improve our services and help inform our partners on a range of subjects. We will also be able to provide clear and concise information to potential funders about our work, delivery and outcomes. Also, Advice Pro lets us keep a connection with the client too, we can follow up on PIP, DLA, AA and many other decisions we apply for on their behalf, giving us exact information on any financial support they receive.

We started 2024 the same way we ended 2023 very, very, busy, working hard to meet the many challenges we continue to face as being the main welfare rights provider in West Lancashire. This has seen us reacting positively to feedback by service users and referral partners to develop outreach provision across the Borough. To this end we now have outreach in Ormskirk, Burscough and Tarteaton and it will be our aim, funding pending, to open one in Parbold.

Some of these are in what most local people would call the more 'affluent' areas of the Borough. The impact of the cost of living crisis has genuinely impacted people greatly and everyone is looking at as many ways as they can to improve their financial wellbeing, and this is happening across all age groups. This has been evidenced on a number of occasions over the year for example we helped a pensioner couple achieve pension credit and then carers allowance for the husband who had numerous health issues. It then seems that they shared their good news with neighbours and we had 5 clients from the same supported living scheme. Though not all were as successful as the first couple.

### **Achievements and Performance**

In March we were able to secure some funding from the council to give out discretionary payments to our clients and to those referred by one of our partners. This has proved to be a really useful tool for the advisers as they are able to make on the spot decisions about who would benefit from some extra, non-repayable funding, this can be used for energy bills, food, clothing etc. We had run a similar scheme coming out of Lockdown on behalf of DEFRA so advisers were really pleased we were able to get extra funding for our own scheme.

This 'cash first' approach has been further developed by the Trussel Trust who have ran a small project in Leeds where people are offered an amount of cash as an alternative to getting food parcels and it appears to have been quite successful. The Trussel Trust made a call for further evidence from other organisations that were using a similar or same approach. In mid-2023 Jan, our project developer undertook a research project into our clients who had received cash funding and the impact it had on them and their lives. Following on from this, we will be meeting up with the Trussel Trust North West manager in 2024 to feed into a wider study to be delivered to a Parliamentary Committee to consider.

Halfway through the year client numbers were constant without any sign of it easing. We spoke to local councillors about the client numbers making them aware that the local CAB hadn't opened its normal hours since lockdown choosing to direct people online for help. This means we are the only face to face provider in West Lancashire. Unfortunately, the council, like so many organisations, have no way of supporting us. We did manage to secure a local councillor as well as an Ormskirk councillor on to our management board at the start of the year and their support has been really good and has given staff a bit of a lift too.

Referrals from NHS based clinics has significantly increased, mental health referrals in particular have always come from the main hospitals. Now, we are also receiving more from the West Lanc's long covid clinic, with many having to leave their jobs all together or give up being self-employed. This has caused many of these clients to have multiple issues, such as anxiety and stress of leaving their work, financial and personal worries. Supporting these clients offers challenges to the client and the adviser and having an inhouse registered debt adviser means clients aren't running around looking for different agencies; we provide almost everything they'll need to get them through these difficult and challenging times.

We have developed a really good relationship with Age UK both locally and in the Leyland and South Preston areas. Their referrals are typically patients being sent home from hospital who may have been in weeks or even months as in-patients, and on return to their homes, their health has taken a turn for the worse and they may need attendance allowance, carers allowance or other support. We will do a home visit in special circumstances, a service that is only provided by SWLICAN and has proved invaluable to the seriously ill, elderly and the housebound. We will do all we can to meet the needs of clients. This work can be stressful for everyone involved so we also make sure all staff and volunteers get access to free personal (anonymous) support from a local mental health support group.

### **Achievements and Performance**

Internally this year we have faced many challenges also, with staff, volunteers and committee members dealing with the loss of life partners or close relatives or them being very poorly etc; but like a good family we all pull together to ensure friends are supported and the best service continues.

During the second half of the year work continued at the same pace and debt client numbers were also increasing. We felt this was a good time to look at rolling out our 'Money go Round' managing personal finances on a budget courses as well as the 'Know Your Rights' an overview of all the types of benefits available and guidance about filling out a benefit application form. These courses have proven to be very successful with excellent feedback by the pupils. The local Council Financial Inclusion Lead also attended the Money go Round training and was impressed with the knowledge of our adviser.

Working from the Ecumenical Centre has seen us forge links with all the main organisations in the building and between us people can usually get all the support they need in one place. By working together we have all enhanced the services we provide, something that is being acknowledged by the Borough Council and the NHS. At SWLICAN we have benefitted from the close work with the local church groups who collectively help support the Centre so much so we are regularly mentioned in prayers across Skelmersdale which was nice to hear.

Below you will see feedback and the odd case study which can probably do better justice to how we work and the impact we have.

#### **Know Your Rights - Spring 2023 - Lottery funded from underspend**

"I will definitely recommend the course, quite complex rules were made very accessible and the telephone numbers were helpful, so people know where to go to speak to someone, particularly when people may not go online!

"It was good" "I am more informed"

#### **Know Your Rights and Money Management – Autumn 2023**

Altogether over 60 people attended the courses on Zoom and in person, and became more informed on welfare rights, and able to manage their finances better for themselves and their families

"Very informal, everyone participates. I've gained lots of new information"

"Good mix of examples of people's circumstances with accessing the benefits system"

"The amount of knowledge of Lynne is superb"

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered 1110649**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Achievements and Performance**

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**



**MONEY-GO-ROUND**

**Join our FREE Short Course**

**Would you like to get financially fitter?**

- Are you facing challenges or struggling with the increasing cost of living?
- Maybe you are paying too much for your Water Rates?
- Can you get a cheaper deal for your Utilities?
- Do you want to learn how to take control of your debts or even have them written off!

**Attend all 4 sessions and receive a FREE £30 gift voucher**

Tuesdays: 12.30pm to 3.00pm  
 at The Ecumenical Centre, Skelmersdale, WN8 6LU

- 10th October 2023** - Introduction to Household Management
- 17th October 2023** - Setting a Budget
- 24th October 2023** - Utilities – How to make savings
- 31st October 2023** - Financial Security and Recap – Where to go for Advice



South West Lancashire  
 Independent Community  
 Advice Network

*"The sessions were very clear, the vocal presentation well supported by the PowerPoint, questions answered clearly, presenter had excellent knowledge of the subject"*

**FREE courses for West Lancashire Residents**

To find out more or to register:

**Tel: 01695726269 or E-mail: admin@swlican.org**

Or go to <https://swlican.org/courses.php>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**



**Join our FREE Short Course in Welfare Rights**

Ideal for Individuals claiming benefits for themselves or for others who need an understanding of benefits.

**Attend all 4 sessions and receive a FREE £30 gift voucher**

Mondays: 10.00am - 12.30pm  
 at The Ecumenical Centre, Skelmersdale, WN8 6LU

- 9th October 2023** - An overview of Benefits
- 16th October 2023** - Benefits for those with health issues
- 23rd October 2023** - Benefits for older persons
- 30th October 2023** - Recap: How we can help others, including volunteering



South West Lancashire  
 Independent Community  
 Advice Network

*"The sessions were very clear, the vocal presentation well supported by the PowerPoint, questions answered clearly, presenter had excellent knowledge of the subject"*

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Or go to <https://swlican.org/courses.php>

**Achievements and Performance**

**Other projects support because we have Lottery funding -**

Over 1000 people and their families have been assisted by having outreach services that have been made possible by Lottery funding

**Outreach - Tarleton**



"Ian has been a great help to me he helped me get my benefits. Without his help I would not have been able to get this, I would not have known where to start. Without this additional money from my benefits and Ian's support I would not be able to live with the price of food and electricity these days, I am very grateful for his help" - JF

"I would like to thank Ian for helping me fill the form in for attendance allowance and then help me for pension credit he was such a big help to my family and I and my claims was successful thank you so much." Anne Dickinson

**Outreach Ormskirk**



### **Achievements and Performance**

"Ian has been a huge help to me supporting me with help for my husband who has dementia Ian helped us both of us get attendance allowance, and additional support with respite care and other services for my husband. Without his support I would have been lost - AG"

### **Debt Advice**

Services provided:

Debt matters range from multiple debts and potential insolvency, rent arrears, utilities, like water, gas and electricity arrears dealt with using trust funds.

Advice support and information with regards budgeting, and best practise in dealing with debts that are historical.

Unpaid parking fines

Making online applications for help towards those in significant hardship (trusts/grants).

Preventing increasing arrears with rent by applying for Discretionary Housing Payments, in addition to advice on Repossession of mortgage properties.

Advice on fuel banks/food banks and accessing West Lancashire Borough Council funding for help towards cost of living.

Disputing debts that are statute barred (older than 6 years)

Providing advice on benefits to increase income (to prevent hardship- and often before making any payment plans/budgets)

Writing or phoning creditors to ask for breathing space/holding actions.

Setting up affordable payment plans or writing off debts if due to mental ill health/capacity issues.

Preventing Bailiff actions with Council Tax/Utility companies trying to disconnect or unpaid fines.

Talking to concerned clients to relieve their worries and provide some practical resolutions to their money worries.

Providing personal money management skills, i.e., living on a low income and managing a budget

**Achievements and Performance**



**New Debt Advice Service  
Now Available**

Are you struggling to make ends meet?  
Debts building up?  
Being Chased by creditors?

**WE CAN OFFER YOU A HELPING HAND.**  
We provide **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL**  
**Debt Advice**

Covering all areas of money management including budgeting, banking and claiming benefits.  
We can offer assistance to anyone with debt and money problems.

**We are available and ready to help you.**

To make an appointment with an adviser or to find out how we can help contact us on:  
**01695 726269**  
E-mail [admin@swlican.org](mailto:admin@swlican.org)  
or visit our website [www.swlican.org](http://www.swlican.org)

**SWLICAN**

**FCA** Financial Conduct Authority

**Grant Funding from WLBC**

"Instant stress relief. Peace of mind knowing I was back up to date"

"At the time I was awaiting a Universal Credit claim so the grant gave me some breathing space"

"I was able to eat and look for work"

"Peace of mind that I could recover in warmth"

"Helped alleviate stress in a time of need"

"Helped a lot just when we needed it. Had little money left"

**SWLICAN Cash First Research Report 2023** - made possible as we had clients attending due to the presence at the Ecumenical Centre that the Lottery provided - available on request

### **Achievements and Performance**

Client called in for money advice due to experiencing exceptional financial hardship and homelessness.

She has recently secured a tenancy after 15 months of being homeless (her marriage broke down and she was forced out of the marital home, unable to go back to collect any belongings). She had been living a very unsettled way of life and both her and a 19-year-old granddaughter sleeping for a few nights a week in with her daughter's home then staying with other members of her family.

We checked her benefits, client received State Retirement Pension so we assisted client to claim housing and council tax rebates. She was very upset at her situation and with her marriage breaking down. She had no savings and was struggling to budget on her small pension. She was more upset as she had no income to purchase any furniture.

She asked for advice on how she can budget on one income we then completed an income and expenditure and a benefit check. It transpired that client may be eligible to claim Attendance Allowance as she suffers with physical disabilities. Client had support from the welfare team for this matter.

We helped her to apply for help through the 'rainy day fund' and she was delighted to report she was given 2 beds (her granddaughter lives with her) bedding, an electric cooker, fridge, washing machine, settee and 2 chairs, a table and chair set, pot/pans crockery and carpets.

We then assisted her with a 'West Lancashire Household Support Fund' to help pay towards her essential bills and additional costs of moving into her new home. As SWLICAN administer a fund (DEFRA) we were able to help her with a financial payment of £200 towards the costs of having an electric cooker fitted.

Client can now manage better financially for the foreseeable future. She was awarded Attendance Allowance (an extra £92.40 per week) for 3 years. She was provided with a decorating grant via West Lancashire Council (we signposted her to the service) and her family were helping her decorate her home

She was very grateful for the help she received from SWLICAN. We were able to help her set a budget. Provided advice that helped to increase her income. And offered assistance to apply for the grants that helped her to furnish her home. She said she felt so much more relieved, the stress she was under had been eased. And she could now plan for the future!!

L Dempsey – SWLICAN

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number: 1110649**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Achievements and Performance**

**SWLICAN**

**Year 1 Outcomes**

Advice filling in PIP,DLA	600
	160
Carers allowance and Attendance allowance advice	
	70
Help with pensions and pension credit application	
Support receiving UC or ESA	50
Help with appeals and mandatory reconsiderations	52
Tax advice	40
Offenders to be re-housed, re-join society, find a new job	12
Mental health problems will relieve support	40
Referral to food or clothes bank	500
Homeless or need housing support advice	120
Debt advice	70
Veterans or ex-forces civilians will receive a range of support	29
Employment law support	18
Support into employment	10
Digital services support	15
<i>Volunteers recruited and trained in advice or admin</i>	2
Welfare rights and money management skills	20

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number: 1110649**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Achievements and Performance**

Unique beneficiaries be better able to manage financially	18%
Better financial position and their health and well-being improved	16%
Be less suicidal due to money or benefit issues	4%
Be able to heat their homes and have direct food to eat	8%
Feel more pension secure and be able to heat and eat	3%
Support the infirm they care for	6%
Be more mobile across the borough	4%
Feeling more secure having eased their housing issues	2%
Helped into employment ,participate in increasing virtual society	1%
Will not feel abandoned by armed forces	1.40%

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number: 1110649**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

Charity law requires the board to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. It must also document whether operations are at a surplus or deficit for the year. In preparing the accounts the board is required to:

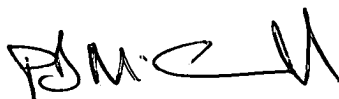
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- prepare the accounts on an ongoing concern basis unless it becomes inappropriate to assume the charity will continue to operate
- state whether applicable accounting standards and best practice have been followed

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy performance and the current financial position at any given time. The trustees also are responsible for ensuring that the accounts comply with current charities legislation, regulations and the trust of deed.

The trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board on:  
on behalf of the trustees.

Name:



Position:

chair

23 AUGUST 2024

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

I report on the accounts of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network for the year ending 31 December 2023, which are set out on the following pages.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Helen J Guest ACMA, CGMA  
Address: 482 Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 3BB

Date: August 23rd 2024

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ending 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
<b>Income and Endowments From</b>					
Donations and Legacies		-	-	-	300
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Advice	2	11,744	157,571	169,315	116,773
		<u>11,744</u>	<u>157,571</u>	<u>169,315</u>	<u>117,073</u>
<b>Expenditure On</b>					
<b>Charitable Activities</b>	3	9,215	123,642	132,857	111,591
Advice					
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<u>2,529</u>	<u>33,929</u>	<u>36,458</u>	<u>5,482</u>
Transfers Between Funds		21,119	(21,119)	-	-
Net Movement In Funds		<u>23,648</u>	<u>12,810</u>	<u>36,458</u>	<u>5,482</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total Funds Brought Forward				52,303	46,821
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u><u>23,648</u></u>	<u><u>12,810</u></u>	<u><u>88,761</u></u>	<u><u>52,303</u></u>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

Registered number: 110649 Co 04617964

**Balance Sheet**

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2023 Total Fund	2022 Total Fund
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets		1,334		1,334	2,400
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors					0
Cash at The Bank and In hand		89,717		89,717	53,754
		<u>89,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,717</u>	<u>53,754</u>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year		(2,290)		(2,290)	(3,851)
		<u>(2,290)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,290)</u>	<u>(3,851)</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>87,427</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87,427</u>	<u>49,903</u>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		<u>88,761</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>88,761</u>	<u>52,303</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Funds				88,761	52,303
Restricted Funds					
<b>Total Funds</b>				<u>88,761</u>	<u>52,303</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 in accordance with S476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- Ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus and deficit for each financial year in accordance with requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Mr Paul McConnell  
Director  
August 23rd 2024



**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**1 Accounting policies**

***Basis of preparation***

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102. They have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "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 (FRS102) effective 1 January 2019 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under historical cost convention.

***Turnover***

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds. It is probable that it will be received and measured reliably.

***Expenditure***

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure and accounted for by the accruals basis.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met as at the year end are noted as a commitment and not accrued.

***Tangible fixed assets***

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment

Fixtures & Fittings	20% reducing balance
Equipment	33% straight line

***Taxation***

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

***Fund Accounting***

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

***Support Costs***

Since all of the activities/costs relate to the charities single charitable activity heading, all support costs have been allocated here and as such a separate analysis/description or allocation basis is not required.

<b>2 Income From Charitable Activities</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants	Advice	169,315	116,773
Grants received include			
Big Lottery		77,681	83,583
Garfield Weston		10,000	10,000
Northern Trains		-	5,890
Peter Latham Charity		-	1,000
NHS Lancashire		4,494	-
Eleanor Rathbone		3,000	-
Community Foundation		3,000	-
CVS - Debt Manager Funding		1,000	3,300
John Moores Funding Debt Advisor		9,890	9,600
Lancs CC		250	400
West Lancs Council		60,000	3,000
		<u>169,315</u>	<u>116,773</u>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**3 Charitable Activities Costs**

	£ Direct Costs	£ Support Costs	£ Total
Advice	0	-	6,045

**4 Support Costs**

	Governance Costs
Advice	£399

**5 Net Income/(Expenditure)**

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/expenditure is stated after charging:		
Depreciation - owned assets	1,066	1,066

**6 Trustees Remuneration and Benefits**

There were no trustees remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2023 or for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**7 Comparatives For The Statement of Financial Activities**

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total £
<b>Income and Endowments From</b>			
Donations and Legacies	300	-	300
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Advice	19,890	96,883	116,773
	<u>20,190</u>	<u>96,883</u>	<u>117,073</u>
Expenditure on Charitable Activities			
Advice	29,927	81,664	111,591
Net Income/(Expenditure)	<u>-9,737</u>	<u>15,219</u>	<u>5,482</u>
Total Funds Brought Forward	48,955	-2,135	46,820
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>39,218</u>	<u>13,084</u>	<u>52,302</u>

**8 Tangible fixed assets**

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2023	16,306	12,430	28,736
Additions	-	-	-
Surplus on revaluation	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>16,306</u>	<u>12,430</u>	<u>28,736</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 January 2023	15,828	10,508	26,336
Charge For The Period	118	948	1,066
Surplus on revaluation	-	-	-
On disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>15,946</u>	<u>11,456</u>	<u>27,402</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 December 2023	<u>360</u>	<u>974</u>	<u>1,334</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>478</u>	<u>1,922</u>	<u>2,400</u>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

<b>9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Taxation and social security costs	1,968	1,996
Other creditors	322	1,855
	<u>2,290</u>	<u>3,851</u>

<b>10 Movement In Funds</b>				
	<b>01.01.23</b>	<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31.12.23</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	52,303	2,529	21,119	75,951
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted	-	33,929	(21,119)	12,810
	<u>52,303</u>	<u>36,458</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88,761</u>

Net movement in funds is as follows:

	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement In Funds</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	11,744	9,215	2,529
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Restricted	157,571	123,642	33,929
	<u>169,315</u>	<u>132,857</u>	<u>36,458</u>

**Comparatives For Movement In Funds**

	<b>01.01.22</b>	<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31.12.22</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	46,821	(9,737)	(13,059)	24,025
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted	-	15,219	13,059	28,278
	<u>46,821</u>	<u>5,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,303</u>

Net movement in funds is as follows:

	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement In Funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	20,190	(29,927)	(9,737)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Restricted	96,883	(81,664)	15,219
	<u>117,073</u>	<u>(111,591)</u>	<u>5,482</u>

**11 Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	0	300
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Grants	169,315	116,773
<b>Total Incoming Activities</b>	<b>169,315</b>	<b>117,073</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Wages	79,123	76,347
Rent	7,014	10,960
Insurance	907	1,397
Telephone	1,829	1,911
Sundries	1,333	872
Volunteer Expenses	2,492	2,970
Office Expenses	5,819	1,736
Repairs and Renewals	2,628	-
Recruitment		948
Training	1,225	1,053
Subscriptions	6,045	2,136
Travel Costs	1,085	1,493
Consultancy and Advice	4,863	1,486
Fixtures & Fittings	-	-
Computer Equipment	-	-
Grants to Individuals	-	100
Cost of Living Grants	15,625	4,705
Advertising & Marketing	1,470	2,277
Donation	1,000	-
	<b>132,458</b>	<b>110,391</b>
<b>Support Costs</b>		
<b>Governance Costs</b>		
Accountancy Fees	399	1,200
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>132,857</b>	<b>111,591</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>36,458</b>	<b>5,482</b>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1110649

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# Accounts

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Registered number  
04617964  
Charity No:1110649

South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Report Of The Trustees And Unaudited Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2022

WEDNESDAY



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COMPANIES HOUSE

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Report and accounts  
Contents**

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Income and expenditure charity accounts	8
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**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Company Information**

**Trustees** Mr Paul Mcconnell  
Mr David Vickers  
Mr Charles Penry Evans  
Mr George Hughes

**Independent Examiner** Helen J. Guest Accounting  
482 Liverpool Road  
Ainsdale  
Southport  
Merseyside  
PR8 3BB

**Registered office** Evermoor Hub  
1 Birleywood  
Skelmersdale  
WN8 9HR

**Registered number** 1110649  
**Companies House** 04617964

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number: 1110649 Company 04617964**  
**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2022**

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of accounting and reporting for charities : Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102 effective 1 January 2019).

**History, Objectives and Activities of The Trust**

The principle activity of the charity in the year under review was that of providing advice and assistance on employment law, health, safety and welfare rights as well as IT facilities and training.

## **South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number:**

**1110649**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2022**

### **Achievements and Performance**

We are now at the end of the 3-year, Community Fund supported AIMS Project; the project has been extremely successful excelling all expected outcomes. Which given the dramatic start we had, the Friday we moved to our new Town Centre offices was also the start of 'Lockdown'. What happened next were two and a half years of the most challenging circumstances we have ever operated in as a charity.

The staff and volunteers agreed to work from home throughout Covid supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our community and many others from across the North West and beyond. They all deserve the highest of praise for their commitment to their work and the people of West Lancashire.

#### **Client Numbers each month:**

**January = 374**

**February = 433**

**March = 499**

This year we were looking forward to a quieter one, just focussing on service delivery and ensuring we continued to provide the best one possible. In the first quarter of the year, we started our outreach in Burscough trying to engage with those living in the Northern Parishes who have little or nothing in the way of support services such as ours. Over the last 5 years we have made some very good partnerships with a number of small organisations providing a range of support to families across the parishes. In the second quarter, we were able to secure extra funding from Northern Rail to deliver more outreach in Ormskirk based in Brookside, Supported Living complex. This too has proved to be very popular especially to older people but also a range of clients from different backgrounds who live in the wider area. All needing the specialist help and support with PIP, Attendance Allowance and Carers Allowance we provide.

**April = 545**

**May = 499**

**June = 337**

This year with funding from Garfield Weston and John Moores Foundation, we started our Money Advice service and in no time at all we were getting referrals from across the Borough as well as walk-ins. All of this would not have been possible without the amazing support we received from the National Lottery.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The second quarter brought us a young local family who lost their father to Covid-19 in 2020 (one of the first in Lancashire to die of Covid), and then in November 2021 they lost their mother to health complications brought on by Covid. The brothers Sean and Andrew were then left in total shock as the local Council ordered them to vacate the property by Boxing Day as although they were both born at the property neither of them was 'named' on the rent book so they had to leave! They were told that they had No continuity rights! as it had already passed from Father to Mother.

When we were contacted for help by the brother's they had already endured months of stress and anxiety with the threat of eviction hanging over them. Andrew the younger brother was autistic and also had Asperger's Syndrome. We knew that all Councils had 'discretion' to overrule the continuation rule guidance and could not understand why the Council had taken such a hard stance in not letting them stay in what was their family home since birth. At the same-time we joined the family's campaign we reached out to DPAC (Disabled People Against Cuts) to seek their expertise in housing matters for disabled people and they were able to spread the Brogan's plight, nationwide. A petition was then started on Change.org and pretty soon their case was in the national press. SWLICAN started representing them at meetings with housing officers raising numerous concerns around Andrew's disabilities asking that his health and wellbeing be a main factor in their decision making, at one point they were offered a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor flat in a building that didn't allow dogs! Meaning that there was a possibility that Andrew's dog may have had to be put down.

Thankfully though, and after many meetings and much soul searching the Council finally relented and made a 'discretionary' decision, which was one of the first things we pointed out to them they could do, to allow Sean and Andrew take over the rent book and keep their family home. We were so proud to have been a part of the Brogan family's campaign, especially given such a positive outcome.

Moving through the summer months still saw the client numbers increasing on previous years and found the local CAB office still closed meaning more and more agencies referring to us. In effect the CAB has been closed since lockdown and our staff and volunteers have been amazing, always looking at different or better ways for us to work and support clients. Never complaining and always making sure service users get the best service possible. We were also able to re-start our home-visit service to clients who were severely disabled or were otherwise

House-bound, we have been pleased to help support the local Age UK who supports older people leaving hospital care.

**Achievements and Performance**

**July = 347**

**August = 385**

**September = 332**

Then on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 22 the SWLICAN family were rocked by some devastating news, Karen Dempsey one of our lead advisers was killed whilst having a drink with family and friends. She was only 55 years old and had given so much to her local community as well as the West Lancashire community. We were so shocked and saddened by this news we paused for a few days to take it all in as Karen was such a bubbly vibrant character and everyone loved her. She will be so missed by us all.

RIP Karen x

We struggled through to the end of the year, the loss of Karen weighed heavy on everyone involved with SWLICAN, client numbers started high in January and stayed that way to the end of the year. Our accomplishments over this and the other two years have been amazing. Both Sarah's and the rest of the local Lottery Team have been so supportive during this time.

Due to all our good work throughout the pandemic, we have been made the main referrer in our area for the Smallwood Trust. They are a charity that only supports women in overcoming financial insecurity and improving their social and emotional well-being.

We have also been chosen by SELNET as a main referrer for their 'Under one roof' project which supports families and individuals in real need of 'white goods' or household furniture.

As you will see above the client numbers are very concerning as we move in to 2023 with everything that has happened so far in the energy and financial sectors. SWLICAN will be there as we have been for the last 20 years plus. Supporting our community, being there for anyone that needs us and fighting on their behalf to make sure they get the best quality of life and well-being possible.

**October = 367**

**November = 386**

**December = 297**

**Total No of Clients across AIMS Project 2022 = 4801**

**Total Amount of monies recovered for Clients across the AIMS Project = £1.6 Million**

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Registered number: 1110649**

**Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

Charity law requires the board to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. It must also document whether operations are at a surplus or deficit for the year. In preparing the accounts the board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- prepare the accounts on an ongoing concern basis unless it becomes inappropriate to assume the charity will continue to operate
- state whether applicable accounting standards and best practice have been followed

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy performance and the current financial position at any given time. The trustees also are responsible for ensuring that the accounts comply with current charities legislation, regulations and the trust of deed.

The trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board on:  
on behalf of the trustees.

Name: Pm<sup>c</sup> Connell  
Pm<sup>c</sup> Connell  
Position: Chair 16/9/2023

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

I report on the accounts of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network for the year ending 31 December 2022, which are set out on the following pages.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Helen J Guest ACMA, CGMA

Address: 482 Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 3BB

Date: 15 September 2023

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network  
Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ending 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
<b>Income and Endowments From</b>					
Donations and Legacies		300	-	300	798
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Advice	2	<u>19,890</u>	<u>96,883</u>	<u>116,773</u>	<u>111,986</u>
		<b>20,190</b>	<b>96,883</b>	<b>117,073</b>	<b>112,784</b>
<b>Expenditure On</b>					
<b>Charitable Activities</b>	3	29,927	81,664	111,591	108,102
Advice					
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<u>(9,737)</u>	<u>15,219</u>	<u>5,482</u>	<u>4,682</u>
Transfers Between Funds		(13,059)	13,059	-	-
Net Movement In Funds		<u>(22,796)</u>	<u>28,278</u>	<u>5,482</u>	<u>4,682</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total Funds Brought Forward				46,821	42,139
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u><u>(22,796)</u></u>	<u><u>28,278</u></u>	<u><u>52,303</u></u>	<u><u>46,821</u></u>

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Registered number: 110649 Co 04617964**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2022 Total Fund	2021 Total Fund
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets		2,400		2,400	3,467
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors					3,191
Cash at The Bank and In hand		53,754		53,754	42,544
		<u>53,754</u>	-	<u>53,754</u>	<u>45,735</u>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year		(3,851)		(3,851)	(2,381)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>49,903</u>	-	<u>49,903</u>	<u>43,354</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		52,303	-	52,303	46,821
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>52,303</u>	-	<u>52,303</u>	<u>46,821</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Funds				52,303	46,821
Restricted Funds					
Total Funds				<u>52,303</u>	<u>46,821</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 in accordance with S476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- a) Ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus and deficit for each financial year in accordance with requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Mr Paul McConnell  
 Director  
 14 September 2023



**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**1 Accounting policies**

***Basis of preparation***

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102. They have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "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 (FRS102) effective 1 January 2019 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under historical cost convention.

***Turnover***

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds. It is probable that it will be received and measured reliably.

***Expenditure***

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure and accounted for by the accruals basis.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met as at the year end are noted as a commitment and not accrued.

***Tangible fixed assets***

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment

Fixtures & Fittings	20% reducing balance
Equipment	33% straight line

***Taxation***

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

***Fund Accounting***

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

***Support Costs***

Since all of the activities/costs relate to the charities single charitable activity heading, all support costs have been allocated here and as such a separate analysis/description or allocation basis is not required.

<b>2 Income From Charitable Activities</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants	Advice	116,773	111,986
Grants received include			
Big Lottery		83,583	82,152
Garfield Weston		10,000	-
Northern Trains		5,890	-
Peter Latham Charity		1,000	-
CVS Covid Grant		-	10,000
Covid 19Grant		-	871
CVS - Debt Manager Funding		3,300	9,000
John Moores Funding Debt Advisor		9,600	9,963
Lancs CC		400	-
West Lancs Council		3,000	-

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

		<u>116,773</u>	<u>111,986</u>
<b>3 Charitable Activities Costs</b>			
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Costs</b>	
Advice	110391	1,200	111,591
<b>4 Support Costs</b>			
			<b>Governance</b>
			<b>Costs</b>
Advice			£1,200
<b>5 Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net income/expenditure is stated after charging:			
Depreciation - owned assets		1,066	1,562
<b>6 Trustees Remuneration and Benefits</b>			
There were no trustees remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2022 or for the year ended 31 December 2021.			
<b>7 Comparatives For The Statement of Financial Activities</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income and Endowments From</b>			
<b>Donations and Legacies</b>	798	-	798
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Advice	<u>19,834</u>	<u>92,152</u>	<u>111,986</u>
	20,632	92,152	112,784
<b>Expenditure on Charitable Activities</b>			
Advice	7,131	100,971	108,102
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<u>13,501</u>	<u>(8,819)</u>	<u>4,682</u>
<b>Total Funds Brought Forward</b>	35,454	6,685	42,139
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<u>48,955</u>	<u>(2,134)</u>	<u>46,821</u>
<b>8 Tangible fixed assets</b>			
	<b>Fixtures &amp;</b>	<b>Computer</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Fittings</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2022	16,306	12,430	28,736
Additions	-	-	-
Surplus on revaluation	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>16,306</u>	<u>12,430</u>	<u>28,736</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

At 1 January 2022	15,709	9,560	25,269
Charge For The Period	119	948	1,067
Surplus on revaluation	-	-	-
On disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>15,828</u>	<u>10,508</u>	<u>26,336</u>

<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 December 2022	<u>478</u>	<u>1,922</u>	<u>2,400</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>597</u>	<u>2,870</u>	<u>3,467</u>

<b>9 Debtors</b>		<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,021</b>
		£	£
Other debtors		-	3,191
		-	<u>3,191</u>

<b>10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,021</b>
		£	£
Taxation and social security costs		1,996	-
Other creditors		1,855	2,381
		<u>3,851</u>	<u>2,381</u>

<b>11 Movement In Funds</b>				
	<b>01.01.22</b>	<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31.12.22</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	46,821	(9,737)	(13,059)	24,025
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted	-	15,219	13,059	28,278
	<u>46,821</u>	<u>5,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,303</u>

Net movement in funds is as follows:

		<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement In Funds</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund		20,190	29,927	(9,737)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted		96,883	81,664	15,219
		<u>117,073</u>	<u>111,591</u>	<u>5,482</u>

**Comparatives For Movement In Funds**

	<b>01.01.21</b>	<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31.12.21</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	35,454	13,501	(2,134)	46,821
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Restricted	6,685	(8,819)	2,134	-
	<u>42,139</u>	<u>4,682</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,821</u>

Net movement in funds is as follows:

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

	<b>Incoming Resources £</b>	<b>Resources Expended £</b>	<b>Movement In Funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	20,632	(7,131)	13,501
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Restricted	92,152	(100,971)	(8,819)
	<u>112,784</u>	<u>(108,102)</u>	<u>4,682</u>

**12 Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022

**South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 December 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	300	798
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Grants	116,773	111,986
<b>Total Incoming Activities</b>	<b>117,073</b>	<b>112,784</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Wages	76,347	68,694
Rent	10,960	8,500
Insurance	1,397	633
Telephone	1,911	1,160
Sundries	872	2,695
Volunteer Expenses	2,970	1,670
Office Expenses	1,736	4,025
Repairs and Renewals	-	80
Recruitment	948	-
Training	1,053	-
Subscriptions	2,136	-
Travel Costs	1,493	1,335
Consultancy and Advice	1,486	5,248
Fixtures & Fittings	-	1,440
Computer Equipment	-	122
Grants to Individuals	100	11,850
Cost of Living Grants	4,705	-
Advertising & Marketing	2,277	-
	<b>110,391</b>	<b>107,452</b>
<b>Support Costs</b>		
<b>Governance Costs</b>		
Accountancy Fees	1,200	650
Total Resources Expended	111,591	108,102
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>5,482</b>	<b>4,682</b>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1110649

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04617964 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1110649

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**  
**FOR**  
**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The principal activity of the Charity in the year under review was that of providing advice and assistance on Employment Law, Health and Safety and Welfare Rights, as well as I.T. facilities and training.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

West Lancashire AIMS is a unique 3-year Lottery Funded Project based in Skelmersdale that covers the whole of the West Lancashire Borough.

This Project is being managed by South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network (SWLICAN), a TUC Unemployed Workers Centre together, with its partner West Lanc's ARK. As you read through, I will include monthly client numbers as well as any monies we recovered for clients directly from welfare benefit claims (please note we do not include any passported benefits, such as Housing Benefit). I will also include some brief case studies which show how we and in some cases we and our partners support clients. It is also worth noting at this point that in the majority of cases where we recover moneys for our clients, this money feed's in to and supports the West Lancashire economy.

We wanted to develop a project that delivers in essence a quality, independent 'one stop shop' in the centre of West Lancashire's largest Town. We want to provide somewhere friendly and non-judgemental where clients can trust that the staff and volunteers are there to support them and their families to improve their health and well-being. Together with our partners we do this by providing a range of advice and support on welfare rights, employment law and basic IT advice and support, as well as a range of support to the homeless, ex-veterans and those who are struggling with drugs and alcohol. The project came about due to a lack of similar support across the Borough of West Lancashire due to a number of organisations closing down, thus leaving large numbers of residents without any real access to the support they need.

The start of 2021 had SWLICAN being the main deliverer of DEFRA's\* Emergency Financial Support Scheme across West Lancashire (These stats are not included in our lottery stats, unless they were a client at the time). The scheme was managed through the Borough Council via local West Lanc's CVS. This scheme offered unconditional financial support to families and individuals facing hardship as a direct result of Covid-19, ie lost job, made sick it, long Covid etc. What was supposed to be a month or two scheme ended up carrying on in to May and had an amazing impact on those who received the support, staff said "being able to pass over varying amounts of money to the most vulnerable and seeing the instant and positive impact it had on them, was something they will never forget".

At the end of the first quarter of the year client numbers continue to stay at high levels and it's around this time clients are making us aware that the West Lanc's CAB had still not opened its doors since last March and it stayed that way for the rest of the year. They did later start working from home but we never noticed as client numbers stayed high throughout the year culminating in October November, December recording the highest month to month numbers we've ever had.

**Client Numbers:**

January 160  
February 162  
March 130

Money Recovered: £ 202k

**Case Study 1:**

**John - Digmaoor**

John had struggled badly throughout the pandemic and already had general poor health, when he got Covid-19. Bad bouts of anxiety were made worse by falling into debt on his utility bills. He had very little winter clothing, only a threadbare fleece jacket and cloth trainers which were worn out. John was battling mentally with his priorities. He stopped buying food to pay bills and was very proud to accept help. John need money for clothing, debts, good quilt and pillows. Food parcels were organised with Digmaoor Foodbank immediately, John had a benefit check with ICAN too (3 months later received full Attendance Allowance).

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

At the end of March and for the next 2 months we delivered online courses offering in depth 'Know Your Rights Courses' to anyone but especially to those unemployed, Trade Union members, the disabled or providing care to someone disabled etc. Over 6 weeks, one day a week a different benefit was discussed in depth, with the adviser encouraging learners to share their newly found knowledge with family and friends. These courses were well attended and built on similar work we did in 2019, and a good number of those when asked, said they would do more courses like this in the future.

We were approached by a new local start up disability charity (Purple Umbrella) towards the end of last year regards referrals and other possible shared areas of work. They had a specific worry for their more disabled members with a lack of access to digital equipment being a main area concern. We put a couple of bids together and started talking to the Knowsley Credit Union about offering lower rate loans learners who used our Lap Top Loan scheme and then wanted to buy their own. They couldn't offer lower rates but they gave us £500 to use towards laptop costs for learners wanting to buy their own. Over the rest of the year, we supported 15 people on the Lap Top Loan scheme (stats not included in lottery figures) and our IT Facilitator supported 64 more clients either on-line, zoom, face-time or over the phone (these stats are included). The work being done by our IT Facilitator has received some wonderful comments from service users who say that they would have been totally isolated had it not been for the support they received from SWLICAN through the pandemic.

Throughout the pandemic staff and volunteers have been amazing in their commitment and dedication to ensuring the citizens of West Lancashire get the right help and support. We have been able to offer service users many different ways of contacting us and getting advice, from face to face, over the phone, face-time, skype and zoom. We have also been building strong relationships with many agencies across the Borough and other areas of Lancashire who are referring more and more clients to us some of whom are being released from hospitals or mental health care. Together with our project partner, West Lanc's ARK, we have been able to meet head on the ever-changing needs of clients and user groups something we are very proud of.

**Client Numbers:**

April 93  
May 135  
June 138  
Money Recovered: £194k

**Case Study 2**

**Martin -**

Martin lost his job due to having Covid-19, and now has Long Covid. He has multiple health and well-being problems made worse by now needing dialysis 4 times a week and has a significant loss of mobility too. Living on wife's wage but behind with the mortgage and no money for food. Referred from Social Worker ICAT.

SWLICAN completed emergency applications for PIP and ESA on his behalf. (He later received full rate PIP and ESA).

The second half of the year brought more of the same, more referrals and more client enquiries and invitations from a number of NHS and CCG backed Teams and Managers to take part in discussions on a number of local and regional initiatives including the development of a Lancashire and Cumbria Health Equity System which is in effect an holistic approach to health inequalities around the County, but looking at more targeted preventative remedies. Being invited to these forums and presentations has really enhanced our reputation.

**Client Numbers:**

July 185  
Aug 190  
Sept 242  
Money Recovered: £ 247K

**Case Study 3**

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**Ronald - Birch Green**

Ronald has just come out of Bickerstaffe House after 4 weeks on a secure mental health ward. He lost his job in summer 2020, he was self-employed and struggled to find work. His wife and Children left him. He has had a number of illnesses made worse by getting Covid-19 and is suffering especially with his mental health and has been for a number of months. He was today released from hospital to go home to his wife, there just supporting him. Homecare identified that he only had £1.91 in the bank and is not expecting SSP for at least another 3 weeks and has no other means of income. Homecare is providing the extra support at home for him. This was a referral from Homecare Community Support, Ormskirk. We were able to give Ron an Emergency Payment to get him through the next week or two as well as Food parcels, SWL ICAN are urgently working with him to get a PIP application put through. (Ron received PIP within 3 months).

September: We were contacted by the Learning Support Team at the Open University to see if we could support a housebound disabled, distance learning student who lives in Skelmersdale which we still continue to do.

This year we have been surprised at the number of over 65's taking advantage of our IT support online, we have been able to help them with, tablets, I-pads and computers for a few it was actually opening and starting their machines, for others it was knowing how to set up emails, search for holidays, pay bills and search the internet in general. I must admit our IT Facilitator has the patience of a saint and clients acknowledge this regularly. He has also been supporting a couple of County/Local Councillors who were having a number of issues with their new tablets.

Following Government and local guidelines at the end of September we started limited face to face interviews at the Centre. We continued to operate through to the end of the year like this, some staff working from home and others from the office. In October we also reinstated our outreach again at Burscough Methodist Church and at a local mental health charity called PULSE, and these have been well received.

**Client Numbers:**

October 213  
November 239  
December 240

Money Recovered £218 K

Total Clients for Year = 2127  
Total Recovered for Year = £861k

**Case Study 4**

**Bernadette - Holmeswood**

Bernadette (78) is physically disabled and had Covid last year and was really ill. This led to her getting Sepsis and she has hardly left her home in over 12 months. Sadly, her husband who was her carer, now has dementia, Sepsis and is double incontinent and confined to his bed and was released from hospital 6 weeks ago into Bernadette's care. Bernadette has developed depression and anxiety for the last 6 weeks as she is now the main carer for her husband John (82). During this time what little money they have is being spent on incontinence pads, bedding and pyjamas (currently in West Lanc's the Incontinence Service has a 12/16week wait time). Bernadette got to the point where she was just ringing numbers randomly in total desperation to get help and we were the first to ring back. After speaking to her, ICAN rang the Social Prescribing team to get someone out to the lady asap. The Emergency Intervention Team were called. It's staggering to believe that someone so ill could be sent home with no support, to a disabled elderly wife. We have spoken to the Trussell Trust to get food parcels sent and ICAN sourced him 2 large boxes of pads and will regularly check in with Bernadette to make sure things are happening for them. SWLICAN is also doing a benefits review and assisting with an application for AA. He got full AA after 10 weeks.

All our staff, Committee Members and Volunteers have been nothing short of amazing this last two years their commitment and dedication to our community and the vulnerable residents of Lancashire, Merseyside and Greater Manchester has been unbelievable. Next year we all go again, together.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Public Benefit**

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance regarding public benefit and are content that the Charity has met the requirements as described above.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Principal funding sources**

There have also been monies received in the year from the T.U.C. which have enabled us to meet basic running costs to keep projects going.

**Investment policy and objectives**

The Trustees are responsible for the investment of any surplus funds of the Charity. As such funds may be required for immediate use, the Trustees continue to review various interest bearing, instant access deposit accounts in which to place such monies.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves that would enable the Charity to continue and be financially viable for a period of six months unrestricted expenditure before one off costs, if income streams were to diminish; This equates approximately £10,000.

However, given the nature of funding being solely from the Big Lottery in previous years, it is necessary to ensure that, should new funding not be received, funds are maintained at an appropriate level for small scale activities. The actual level of free reserves at the year end was £46,821.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

**Recruitment and training of new trustees**

New Trustees can be appointed by a resolution of the existing Trustees, based on skills required for the benefit of the Charity and the Board.

Training and induction is provided verbally by existing Trustees.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

04617964 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1110649

**Registered office**

The Ecumenical Centre  
Northway  
Skelmersdale  
Lancashire  
WN8 6LU

**Trustees**

P McConnell  
G Hughes  
C Evans  
Dr A Vickers

**Company Secretary**

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

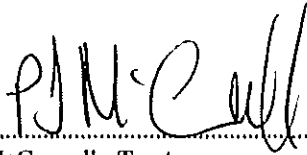
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

P Buck FCA DChA  
Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... 26-9-2022 ..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
P McConnell - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network Limited ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2021.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's 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').

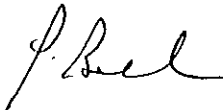
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). 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**

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. 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
4. 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)).

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.



P Buck FCA DChA  
Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

Date: ..... 27.9.2022 .....

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		798	-	798	15,027
<b>Charitable activities</b>	2				
Advice		19,834	92,152	111,986	88,939
<b>Total</b>		<u>20,632</u>	<u>92,152</u>	<u>112,784</u>	<u>103,966</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	3				
Advice		7,131	100,971	108,102	88,259
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<u>13,501</u>	<u>(8,819)</u>	<u>4,682</u>	<u>15,707</u>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<u>(2,134)</u>	<u>2,134</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		11,367	(6,685)	4,682	15,707
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		35,454	6,685	42,139	26,432
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>46,821</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>46,821</u></u>	<u><u>42,139</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**BALANCE SHEET  
31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	9	3,467	-	3,467	4,229
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	10	3,191	-	3,191	-
Cash at bank and in hand		42,544	-	42,544	40,526
		<u>45,735</u>	-	<u>45,735</u>	<u>40,526</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,381)	-	(2,381)	(2,616)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>43,354</u>	-	<u>43,354</u>	<u>37,910</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		46,821	-	46,821	42,139
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>46,821</u>	-	<u>46,821</u>	<u>42,139</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
	12				
Unrestricted funds				46,821	35,454
Restricted funds				-	6,685
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>46,821</u>	<u>42,139</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued**  
**31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26.09.2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
P McConnell - Trustee

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Support costs**

Since all of activities/costs relate to the charity's single charitable activity heading, all support costs have been allocated here and as such a separate analysis/description or allocation basis is not required.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Activity	2021	2020
Grants	Advice	£	£
		111,986	88,939

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Big Lottery	82,152	75,100
West Lancs Borough Council	-	6,000
CVS Covid 19 grant	10,000	-
Covid 19 grant	871	7,839
CVS- Debt advisor funding	9,000	-
John Moores Funding- Debt Advisor	9,963	-
	111,986	88,939

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs	Grant funding of activities (see note 4)	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
Advice	£	£	£	£
	95,602	11,850	650	108,102

**4. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2021	2020
Advice	£	£
	11,850	-

Grants were paid to a large number of individuals but not exceeding £600.

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

		Governance costs
Advice		£
		650

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	1,562	1,901
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2021 nor for the year ended 31st December 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

Trustees expenses amounted to £101 for one trustee's reimbursement of expenses (2020: £29).

**8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	15,026	1	15,027
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Advice	7,839	81,100	88,939
<b>Total</b>	<u>22,865</u>	<u>81,101</u>	<u>103,966</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Advice	1,115	87,144	88,259
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<u>21,750</u>	<u>(6,043)</u>	<u>15,707</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	13,704	12,728	26,432
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>35,454</u>	<u>6,685</u>	<u>42,139</u>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1st January 2021	16,306	11,630	27,936
Additions	-	800	800
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31st December 2021	16,306	12,430	28,736
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1st January 2021	15,560	8,147	23,707
Charge for year	149	1,413	1,562
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31st December 2021	15,709	9,560	25,269
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31st December 2021	597	2,870	3,467
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31st December 2020	746	3,483	4,229
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	3,191	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2021 £	2020 £
Social security and other taxes	-	2,034
Accrued expenses	2,381	582
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,381	2,616
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	35,454	13,501	(2,134)	46,821
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	6,685	(8,819)	2,134	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	42,139	4,682	-	46,821
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	20,632	(7,131)	13,501
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	92,152	(100,971)	(8,819)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>112,784</u>	<u>(108,102)</u>	<u>4,682</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	13,704	21,750	35,454
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	12,728	(6,043)	6,685
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>26,432</u>	<u>15,707</u>	<u>42,139</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	22,865	(1,115)	21,750
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	81,101	(87,144)	(6,043)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>103,966</u>	<u>(88,259)</u>	<u>15,707</u>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	13,704	35,251	(2,134)	46,821
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	12,728	(14,862)	2,134	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>26,432</u>	<u>20,389</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,821</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	43,497	(8,246)	35,251
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	173,253	(188,115)	(14,862)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>216,750</u>	<u>(196,361)</u>	<u>20,389</u>

**13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2021.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1110649

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04617964 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1110649

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**  
**FOR**  
**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The principal activity of the Charity in the year under review was that of providing advice and assistance on Employment Law, Health and Safety and Welfare Rights, as well as I.T. facilities and training.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

West Lancashire AIMS is a unique 3 year Lottery Funded Project based in Skelmersdale that covers the whole of West Lancashire being managed by South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network (SWLICAN) with its partner West Lanc's ARK. As you read through I will put in client numbers as well as any monies we recovered from benefit claims, in terms of monies recovered, in the main this feeds in to and supports the local economy the figures do not include any amounts for passported benefits they may be entitled to.

We wanted to develop a project that delivers a quality, independent welfare rights, employment law and basic IT advice and support. Together with our partners South West Lancashire ARK we also provide help and support to homeless, ex-veterans and those who are struggling with drugs and alcohol. The project came about due to a lack of similar support across the Borough of West Lancashire due to a number of organisations closing down thus leaving large numbers of residents without any real access to the support they need. This was then compounded by Lancashire County Council repurposing their welfare rights staff from welfare support to only providing Tribunal assistance only.

Our first year started really well, we hit the ground running developing outreach in two previously under supported areas Ormskirk and Burscough. Burscough in particular was an area we were keen to get in to as this was a way of reaching the Northern Parishes. This was a rural area with a number of small villages and a high number of farming families; the local NHS had identified this area as one of real concern especially around suicides or attempted suicides. That staff where able to get outreaches established so quickly was very pleasing to us all and meant a strategic objective was already met.

Another major objective was also about to be met in the first quarter, moving to our new Town Centre location in the Ecumenical Centre. The refurbished offices were now ready for us to move in to in mid March 2020 and then..... We just had time to move in, then the nationwide lockdown came in to affect and we wondered what may happen next.

**January 20**

160 clients and £145,200.00 in benefits recovered

**February 20**

162 Clients and £332,640.00 in benefits recovered

In late March 20 our Management Committee met via zoom and telephone and agreed to ask the staff and volunteers to a joint meeting where we discussed 'what to do next'. It was a short meeting as everyone agreed to work from home and look at all ways of engaging with our Community to ensure they have access to the much needed support they will need, especially now with Covid -19 casting a cloud over the whole country.

**March 20**

130 Clients and £89,100.00 in benefits recovered

***Katie Middleton@DivineDaysUK***

*"Just wanted to give some feedback on the excellent work Lynne Dempsey has done for one of my guys. He was in a real pickle. I asked him to call SWLICAN and Lynne has done exactly what she said she does on the course".  
@DivineDaysUK*

April 2020. The whole SWLICAN Family is devastated to learn of the death of one of our most loved and respected member of our Management Committee.

Alan Lewis MBE had been a Community Champion in every sense of the word his 20 years supporting the young people of Skelmersdale lead to him receiving his MBE. He was a vociferous supporter of SWLICAN for many years and 4 years ago joined our Committee, something we are very proud of, his presence and humour will be greatly missed by us all.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Whilst losing Alan was a bitter blow we used his memory to forge ahead with our decision to continue to work from home. We looked at what staff and volunteers had or needed to work from home. Some needed a lap top another needed printer and a couple needed a modern mobile to handle social media apps etc had all the calls to our main phone diverted by our provider (NBC) to a mobile phone, which staff and volunteers shared 2 weeks about. Our IT Facilitator was developing ways to provide support to clients of varying ages and skills by offering them face-time, zoom etc and this has proved popular with clients who have little or know IT experience but are comfortable with a phone. We worked on improving our social media presence and contacted almost every group or organisation we had worked with as well as our local CVS to let them know we were still here ready to support them. We were accepted as part of the Borough Councils Covid-19 Support, indeed some staff volunteered to do food/chemist runs etc for those now shielding.

In mid April 20 the County Council announced there was a Covid-19 support fund available to groups across the County to get equipment etc to help keep them working through the pandemic. Our prayers were answered by mid May 20 we had everything we needed to provide a 'full service'. We were now engaging with clients, groups and organisations via phone, e-mail, face time, DM on Facebook and Twitter we also started work on a new website.

**Apri 120**

94 Clients and £31,300.00 in benefits recovered

May Day 2020 was our 40th year of service to the West Lancashire Community.

MP (West Lancashire) Rosie Cooper

"ICAN has been a huge support for the community of Skelmersdale and West Lancashire their help and advice to local residents has been invaluable.

"Since I became an MP in 2005 ICAN have been a part of so many projects locally, and their work in recent years supporting those who have been forced onto Universal Credit has been invaluable.

"My thanks to Paul, Jimmy and all the other workers, volunteers and supporters over the years who have worked hard to make ICAN the success it is, and hope for many more years at the heart of the community."

Over the next couple of months we were receiving steady numbers of clients and by the early July we had a secured document delivery system set up where clients documents and advisers notes could be exchanged safely for although there was a DWP moratorium in place regarding areas of the benefit system people who were halfway or more through an benefit application were still receiving letters etc. Referrals were steadily increasing as some organisations came back to do some form of work.

It was around this time when we started receiving enquiries from different areas of the Country from people desperate for some sort of help with their benefits, this included Hull, Carlisle, Lincoln, Truro North Wales as well as across the North West. When we asked people how they got our number most said "kept looking through Google and you were the only ones to actually answer the phone". It was becoming obvious many community based charities and organisations had either temporarily or fully closed, and locally we were struggling to get answers to who were still operating. Early August we were contacted by Lancashire Welfare Rights to be told that with immediate effect they will no longer be providing welfare rights in West Lancashire, instead Tribunal level only advice will be offered. They went from 34+ Advice staff to just 8 covering the whole of Lancashire! For West Lancashire this is the third such organisation in as many years to pull out or close down offering this type of support, it's starting to feel like the worst game of last-man standing, ever!

**May 20**

136 Clients and £51,300.00 in benefits recovered

**June 20**

139 Clients and £150,000.00 in benefits recovered

**July 20**

181 Clients and £140,000.00 in benefits recovered

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Greg Mitten, CEO WL CVS**

*SWLICAN, known locally and informally as ICAN is one of the most essential support networks for the community of West Lancashire. We would like to join our colleagues from across the West Lancs Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise sector in thanking them for their hard work in bringing together their essential resources, quality advice and training programmes over the last 40 years. ICAN's hard work should not only be recognised for the positive impact it has made for thousands of local residents who have received its support during a time of personal crisis but also for the very practical resources such as its community-based IT suites used by local residents in their daily lives. Over the years it has had to work through many challenges to survive as a charitable organisation which is, in itself, an incredible achievement as it is its determination to continue to ensure it remains connected with its original aims and values as described in their own words "ICAN's basic philosophy is the empowerment of people to be active citizens who are able to help themselves, either by accessing services or volunteering and employment opportunities. We want people to be able to solve their problems themselves by providing them with the necessary life skills, confidence, resources and facilities to do so". West Lanc's CVS would like to acknowledge all of the individual volunteers, trustees and staff members, past and present through the 40 years, who have contributed to ICAN's success in making such a major contribution to the well-being of our community.*

**A.I.M.S. client Garry Morgan**

*I think ICAN are heaven sent. People like us who have worked all our lives simply don't have the knowledge, vocabulary, or the special methodology of the system needed to claim benefits and the government certainly don't assist in any way. Quite the opposite they seem to look for any excuse to deny people like us benefits they know we are entitled to. I cannot thank John and Jan from ICAN enough. I have already offered to work for them on a voluntary basis as I feel their work is so essential and special.*

August/September started seeing a rise in mental health, domestic abuse and homeless clients, something that carried on to the end of the year. The local Social Prescribing Team were making more referrals than ever as well as NHS Mental Health Teams locally and from the Lancashire and South Cumbria teams as well. We have been invited to sit in on a couple of the NHS TEAMS Meeting. We have also been asked to work with the NHS offering support to disabled job applicants for a scheme they are trialling in North Lancashire. We have also been identified as a local partner for the West Lancashire Recovery College scheme once Covid regulations lifted and people can come in to the IT Suite.

**August 20**

190 Clients and £200,344.00 in benefits recovered

**Ewan McHenry, Virgin Care:**

*I have known about the services that ICAN deliver for almost two years and have been impressed by their local knowledge of the priorities and needs of residents of West Lancashire and their commitment to making a difference for communities.*

*I have been very impressed with their response to the Covid-19 pandemic when services have either been advised to close or have been unable to deliver their services safely during the pandemic. ICAN has certainly risen to the challenge of delivering services during Covid being quick to adapt their services to safe platforms such as virtual and telephone. It has been great to see how they have quickly understood the needs of local residents, developed innovative solutions and through their funding and bid writing skills made successful applications for funding.*

*ICAN clearly values the contributions of its staff and volunteers in keeping them involved and thanks for them all for their contribution - please keep up the excellent work.*

September saw the start of 3 months of our online courses 'Know Your Rights' which was free to anyone and covered all thing welfare rights based. We also provided online courses helping people on benefits or low income called 'Money Go Round' this course provided learners with useful tools and tips on money management and living on a budget. Both these courses have since been requested by the local NHS for future Recovery College programmes.

Client numbers and referrals are reaching numbers we have never had to handle or seen before, in September 2019 we saw 144 clients, this year we have seen a further 98 clients on top of that and the following months have seen between 50% and 70% increases and some weeks we are struggling to get back to clients, something we are not used too. It could be lockdown or a reflection of the lack of suitable welfare rights provision either way it is something we were monitoring.

**September 20**

242 Clients and £216,344.00 in benefits recovered.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

October, as mentioned previously client numbers are in an area way beyond we could ever have imagined or predicted and having spoken to the advisers a form of tri-aging was introduced. We are still no wiser for the sudden upturn in client numbers.

Responding to a number of requests from organisations and individuals we developed a number of on line courses called 'Know Your Rights' these were initially Q&A based and covered a range of welfare rights and disability rights topics and were very well received. They are now accessible on our website.

**We also supported:**

32 ex Veterans

42 Homeless people

And over 550 Foodbank referrals (this figure has been normally between 78 and 124 in previous years)

Supported 101 local and national organisations

**Public Benefit**

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance regarding public benefit and are content that the Charity has met the requirements as described above.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Principal funding sources**

There have also been monies received in the year from the T.U.C. which have enabled us to meet basic running costs to keep projects going.

**Investment policy and objectives**

The Trustees are responsible for the investment of any surplus funds of the Charity. As such funds may be required for immediate use, the Trustees continue to review various interest bearing, instant access deposit accounts in which to place such monies.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves that would enable the Charity to continue and be financially viable for a period of six months unrestricted expenditure before one off costs, if income streams were to diminish; This equates approximately £10,000.

However, given the nature of funding being solely from the Big Lottery in previous years, it is necessary to ensure that, should new funding not be received, funds are maintained at an appropriate level for small scale activities. The actual level of free reserves at the year end was £35,454.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

**Recruitment and training of new trustees**

New Trustees can be appointed by a resolution of the existing Trustees, based on skills required for the benefit of the Charity and the Board.

Training and induction is provided verbally by existing Trustees.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

04617964 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1110649

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Registered office**

The Ecumenical Centre  
Northway  
Skelmersdale  
Lancashire  
WN8 6LU

**Trustees**

P McConnell  
G Hughes  
C Evans  
Dr A Vickers

**Company Secretary**

**Independent Examiner**

P Buck FCA DChA  
Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... 22/9/2021 ..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
P McConnell - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network Limited ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's 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 charity'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**

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. 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
4. 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)).

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.



P Buck FCA DChA  
Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

Date: ..... 22-09-2021 .....

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		15,026	1	15,027	26,196
<b>Charitable activities</b>	2				
Advice		7,839	81,100	88,939	20,201
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total</b>		22,865	81,101	103,966	46,397
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	3				
Advice		1,115	87,144	88,259	29,674
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		21,750	(6,043)	15,707	16,723
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		13,704	12,728	26,432	9,709
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>35,454</u>	<u>6,685</u>	<u>42,139</u>	<u>26,432</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**BALANCE SHEET  
31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	8	4,229	-	4,229	4,407
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand		33,841	6,685	40,526	22,576
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,616)	-	(2,616)	(551)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>31,225</u>	<u>6,685</u>	<u>37,910</u>	<u>22,025</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>35,454</u>	<u>6,685</u>	<u>42,139</u>	<u>26,432</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>35,454</u>	<u>6,685</u>	<u>42,139</u>	<u>26,432</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	10				
Unrestricted funds				35,454	13,704
Restricted funds				<u>6,685</u>	<u>12,728</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>42,139</u>	<u>26,432</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22-09-2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
P McConnell - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Support costs**

Since all of activities/costs relate to the charity's single charitable activity heading, all support costs have been allocated here and as such a separate analysis/description or allocation basis is not required.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

		2020	2019
	Activity	£	£
Grants	Advice	<u>88,939</u>	<u>20,201</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Big Lottery	75,100	-
West Lancs Borough Council	6,000	20,201
Covid 19 grant	<u>7,839</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>88,939</u>	<u>20,201</u>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 4) £	Totals £
Advice	<u>87,677</u>	<u>582</u>	<u>88,259</u>

**4. SUPPORT COSTS**

		Governance costs £
Advice		<u>582</u>

**5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,901</u>	<u>1,944</u>

**6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS - continued**

**Trustees' expenses**

Trustees expenses amounted to £29 for one trustee's reimbursement of expenses (2019: £Nil).

**7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	5,681	20,515	26,196
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Advice	-	20,201	20,201
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total</b>	5,681	40,716	46,397
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Advice	2,496	27,178	29,674
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	3,185	13,538	16,723
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<u>810</u>	<u>(810)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	3,995	12,728	16,723
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	9,709	-	9,709
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>13,704</u>	<u>12,728</u>	<u>26,432</u>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 January 2020	16,306	9,907	26,213
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>1,723</u>	<u>1,723</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>16,306</u>	<u>11,630</u>	<u>27,936</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 January 2020	15,374	6,432	21,806
Charge for year	<u>186</u>	<u>1,715</u>	<u>1,901</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>15,560</u>	<u>8,147</u>	<u>23,707</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 December 2020	<u>746</u>	<u>3,483</u>	<u>4,229</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>932</u>	<u>3,475</u>	<u>4,407</u>

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2020 £	2019 £
Social security and other taxes	2,034	-
Accrued expenses	<u>582</u>	<u>551</u>
	<u>2,616</u>	<u>551</u>

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	13,704	21,750	35,454
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	<u>12,728</u>	<u>(6,043)</u>	<u>6,685</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>26,432</u>	<u>15,707</u>	<u>42,139</u>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	22,865	(1,115)	21,750
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	81,101	(87,144)	(6,043)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>103,966</u>	<u>(88,259)</u>	<u>15,707</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.19 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	9,709	3,185	810	13,704
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	-	13,538	(810)	12,728
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>9,709</u>	<u>16,723</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,432</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	5,681	(2,496)	3,185
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	40,716	(27,178)	13,538
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>46,397</u>	<u>(29,674)</u>	<u>16,723</u>

**SOUTH WEST LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT  
COMMUNITY ADVICE NETWORK LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	9,709	24,935	810	35,454
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	-	7,495	(810)	6,685
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>9,709</u>	<u>32,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,139</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	28,546	(3,611)	24,935
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	121,817	(114,322)	7,495
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>150,363</u>	<u>(117,933)</u>	<u>32,430</u>

**11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**12. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

The closing balance on restricted funds relates to monies received and not yet spent in relation to the following :  
West Lancs Borough Council (DEFRA Funding) £6,685.