

RAISE LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1112830

Details

Other names	BENFITS ADVICE TRAINING TEAM
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03854479
Registered	2006-01-25
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Raise 107 Great Mersey Street Liverpool L5 2PL
Phone	0151 459 1556
Email	admin@raiseadvice.org.uk
Website	www.raiseadvice.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE POOR PERSONS BY THE PROVISION TO SUCH PERSONS OF LEGAL AND ADVICE SERVICES WHICH THEY COULD NOT OTHERWISE OBTAIN THROUGH LACK OF MEANS; AND TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY THE IMPROVEMENT AND DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF THE LAW AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE HAVING REGARD ESPECIALLY TO THOSE AREAS OF LAW AND PRACTICE WHICH ARE OF CONCERN TO POOR PEOPLE AND WHICH ARE DIRECTED TO RELIEF OF POVERTY; AND TO PROMOTE OTHER CHARITABLE OBJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

Activities: We provide welfare rights and debt advice and casework assistance, and financial inclusion advice by home visit and telephone to Housing Association tenants in Merseyside, and to other residents of Liverpool, and training in welfare rights, debt and financial literacy to the general public. We also provide support to social housing tenants aimed at improving their financial confidence.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** MERSEYSIDE, CHESHIRE, LANCASHIRE, GREATER MANCHESTER
- Halton
- Knowsley
- Liverpool City
- Sefton
- St Helens
- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£640,187	£534,708	£314,840	16
2024-03-31	£552,119	£545,471	£214,736	18
2023-03-31	£673,274	£713,726	£208,088	25
2022-03-31	£786,572	£804,858	£248,540	26
2021-03-31	£711,898	£690,565	£266,826	25

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Chris Hudson	Chair	2020-07-15
ANDREW STEPHEN WILSON		
Benjamin Peach		2026-02-25
David Babatunde Akinola		2025-11-19
JULIE GUINAN		2012-02-16
Jon Metcalfe		2026-01-21
Rachael Stott		2022-05-11
Simon Thornton		2025-11-19
Weronica Roznowska		2025-11-19

RAISE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1112830

Accounts

Charity registration number 1112830 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 03854479

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr C Hudson (Chair)	
	Mr A Wilson (Vice Chair)	
	Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)	
	Ms R Stott	
	Mr B Akinola	(Appointed 19 November 2025)
	Ms W Roznowska	(Appointed 19 November 2025)
	Mr S Thornton	(Appointed 19 November 2025)
Secretary	Ms L Daley	
Charity number	1112830	
Company number	03854479	
Registered office	107 Great Mersey Street Liverpool L5 2PL	
Independent examiner	Tony Stanley ACA Mitchell Charlesworth Suites C,D,E, & F 14th Floor The Plaza 100 Old Hall Street Liverpool L3 9QJ	
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc P O Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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RAISE LIMITED COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

About Raise

Raise is an independent anti-poverty charity operating in one of the five most deprived areas in the country. We have delivered specialist Welfare Rights and Debt (Money Advice) support for over 25 years across the Liverpool City Region. We work with local agencies, social landlords, and community hubs to reach the most difficult-to-engage clients and provide a responsive, person-centred casework service, delivered flexibly to meet the needs of vulnerable clients. We are FCA Registered and hold Advice Quality Standards and Cyber Essentials Accreditations.

Raise offers free, confidential, and impartial information, advice, and advocacy to ensure that the most vulnerable individuals have equal access to support and justice. A large proportion of our clients face engagement barriers due to various reasons, including low self-confidence, digital exclusion, poor literacy skills, mental ill-health, physical disabilities, learning differences, alcohol and/or substance dependency, and/or chaotic lifestyles. Our personable approach by our Caseworkers/Advisors helps to tease out information from clients, assisting and supporting them at all stages.

Our flexible delivery approach allows our workers to engage with clients in the most inclusive and effective ways, including face-to-face appointments at our offices or local community hubs and drop-ins, by telephone, email, text, or live video support. Uniquely, we also deliver our services in the client's home if this is appropriate and the best option to support the client.

By working in partnership with other organisations, including directly in community hubs and with entities such as food banks and home furnishings charities, we build and develop on established community trust, enabling us to reach clients who would otherwise struggle to access our services.

Working with Housing Associations

Raise has forged strong, long-term partnerships with Housing Associations. They continue to manage huge challenges due to the consequences of the cost-of-living crisis, the impact of the pandemic, and the continued impact of Welfare Reform, among other aspects. The Social Housing Sector houses more vulnerable groups than other sectors, and Raise works proactively with the Housing Associations to support their tenants through a range of services tailored to each individual. This complements the support the Housing Associations provide for their tenants, helps to minimise financially related tenancy issues, and promotes successful tenancies.

The impact of our work

The impact on our clients is measured quantitatively through financial gains and the number of successful appeals. However, the impact is also life-changing for clients, positively affecting their standard of living, health (physical and mental), life choices, and life chances. We monitor and learn through tracking cases and keeping detailed statistics. Clients are encouraged to provide feedback in various formats, and responses are used to review and implement improvements.

Vision, Mission, and Values

Our Vision: To champion the fight against poverty and inequality, empowering people to take control of their lives.

Our Mission: Providing outstanding specialist services for individuals, incorporating benefit advice, representation, debt, and money management that are accessible at the point of need and empower people to achieve a better standard of living.

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Our Values Statement:

- **Respect:** We value people by adopting a non-judgmental approach, recognising the strengths of others, and being committed to working in partnership.
- **Accessible:** We deliver services that are adaptable and free to clients at their point of need while embracing equality, diversity, and basic human rights for all.
- **Independent:** Our interactions with others are authentic and true to who we are as an organisation.
- **Support:** We are client-focused and deliver services that demonstrate empathy with clients along their journey with Raise.
- **Excellence:** Everything Raise creates and delivers is of a standard that we feel proud of.
- **Confidentiality:** We respect every individual's personal information and circumstances and act professionally to protect this

Strategic Aims

- **Strategic Aim 1:** To ensure the organisation is well-governed, well-managed, and fit for purpose.
- **Strategic Aim 2:** To create sustainability and resilience that will enable Raise to continue delivering services.
- **Strategic Aim 3:** To create greater awareness of the organisation and its services.
- **Strategic Aim 4:** To continue to explore, design, and deliver services that are fit for purpose and meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Under these Strategic Aims sits an Operational Plan which details the short, medium, and long-term milestones. Each year, the Board of Trustees meets to agree on the milestones that will take priority for that year, and they become the organisation's annual objectives. The Operations Manager reports quarterly on the progress made towards these objectives. To support the organisation's annual objectives, we have several working groups that meet throughout the year.

Raise Services

Welfare Benefits Rights/Advice: We provide general and specialist advice/rights services that respond to the problems our clients face. Our work includes benefits checks, support with form filling (e.g., Personal Independence Payment – PIP), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), and Universal Credit (UC). Our work runs right through to specialist level, including benefit appeals for tax credits or housing benefit, and appealing decisions in the Upper Tribunal. We help individuals navigate the benefits system, which is now more complex than ever before.

When required, we challenge the welfare system to ensure access is achieved fairly and equitably. Our team of specialist workers managed over 1,000 Welfare Rights referrals last year. Over a third of these cases involved some level of decision challenging. Our success in having decisions overturned before an appeal hearing increases as we continuously improve the quality feedback of our early interventions. We also discuss our anonymised data sets and case studies with senior staff within the welfare system (notably the DWP) to highlight system injustices and encourage changes.

Money Advice: We provide a comprehensive Money Advice Service. Our expert Advisors explore clients' financial positions – income, spending, and debt. Advisors then guide clients through options, advising on aspects including payment plans, voluntary agreements, debt relief orders, and bankruptcy. We provide a Caseworker service so that clients feel supported in making the changes they need to ensure ongoing financial sustainability, with plans for immediate issues and moving forward.

Financial Capability: We work with clients to build their confidence and skills, encouraging them to feel engaged with and in better control of their finances. We support clients with basic budgeting, saving, and making the most of their money through informed choice. With so much confusing (and in some cases incorrect) information on various platforms, people can become overwhelmed. By supporting people to strengthen their financial capability, we help build confidence to navigate the world of money and finance.

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Added Value: The teams have extensive knowledge of national schemes and community links to provide additional support for clients, such as grant applications or gaining household or children's items, data connectivity, etc. Raise also works proactively with community partners and refers clients to a variety of support services.

Our teams also pick up on issues including safeguarding, domestic violence, gambling harms, and/or mental health concerns. We liaise with external partners and arrange joint visits as appropriate.

We have a team of Welfare Benefits specialists who are qualified to deliver welfare benefits rights training, and we work with Housing Association staff teams to ensure they are trained in welfare rights issues, notably those they have identified as a need or requirement. We meet regularly with Housing Association partners to ensure that our services, information, training, and support are responsive to current and emerging issues.

Effective use of technology to improve service delivery

Our cloud-based systems ensure that services can be effectively and securely delivered in a range of formats. This hybrid delivery model is proven to be responsive for the clients and allows our advisors to deliver services with full flexibility. From in-person appointments in our offices, and the use of email, text, phone calls, and video calls, to in-person in-community settings and even in the client's home, we can provide services in a format that works for the client.

The AdvicePro case management system for data management has proved a positive change. With over four years' data now held, we are better able to draw out trends and specific data to analyse and inform our service. With recent developments to AdvicePro, we can continue to review our needs and improve our case management and recording to improve quality and efficiency.

Working with partners

The Raise service delivery teams work effectively with community partners, achieving tailored interventions for clients at the grassroots level. Our organisation also works with City, City Region, regional, and national partners to influence change. Through our work in formal and informal groups, we aim to address the challenges and issues faced by individuals in the Liverpool communities.

Our Management Team members attend a variety of meetings and events. We work closely with LATAN (Liverpool Access to Advice Network). This membership network has influenced local decision-makers, including on the City Council budget decisions that directly affect the support available for city residents.

We work closely with our Local Authority Neighbourhood Manager, Councillors, and local MPs. These discussions ensure the collective knowledge in the sector is current and responsive. It also drives improvements in service delivery, systems, and processes and influences positive changes in welfare rights policy and legislation. We work proactively to encourage and drive collaborative working where we can to be a positive driving force in continuously improving existing services and developing new responsive services.

Moving forward into 2025/20256

We plan to enhance our delivery model further to ensure that our services are fully responsive to client needs. Requests for face-to-face service delivery in client homes are increasing, and we are also working closely with our community partners to deliver our services in additional community venues.

With existing face-to-face, telephone and digital services delivery, we can offer a fully flexible and responsive holistic service. Our "wrap-around" service, which offers financial and digital capability, is now established, and alongside welfare rights and debt advice, we aim to help our clients understand and engage with their finances, upskilling them to take control of their money. We will also continue to work proactively with Housing Associations and community partners to co-develop and co-deliver services and projects. Raise is also committed to ensuring that clients are encouraged to assist us in co-developing the services we deliver for them.

We will focus on engagement with community groups to reach the most vulnerable and maximise our reach across the city, helping clients maximise their income, make the most of their money, help them budget, and take better control of their finances.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and performance

In 2024-2025, we opened 2,312 cases and saw an increase in the average gain per case from £2,645 to £2,687, as we continue to seek opportunities to enhance the financial resilience of our clients. Our Advice and Casework yielded just over £6.2 million in total gains, including £4.1 million in welfare benefits.

The highest categories for extra benefits were:

- Personal Independence Payments: £1.5 million
- Universal Credit: £1.1 million
- Housing Costs: £309,000
- Pension Age benefits: £749,000 (an increase of 84% on 2023-2024)

Our clients came to us with £6.2 million of debt, and we helped clear £2 million. The amount of debt was distributed as follows:

- Less than £5,000: 365 clients
- £5,000 to £10,000: 117 clients
- £10,000 to £20,000: 88 clients
- £20,000 to £30,000: 32 clients
- Greater than £30,000: 37 clients

As we continue to source additional income for our clients, we again recorded a significant increase in charitable grants obtained, with clients receiving £113,000 in total (up from £74,000 in 2023/2024 and £38,000 in 2022/2023). We successfully applied for grants on behalf of clients and distributed 153 food bank vouchers and around 80 SIM cards with six months of free data.

Referrals and Visits

Between April 2024 and March 2025, we received 2,030 referrals and opened 2,312 new welfare or debt cases. We carried out 226 home visits and saw 376 clients at outreach venues.

Client Profile

For the year, our client demographic for ethnicity was made up of 85% White British, 3% Black or Black British, 2% Asian/Asian British, with other groups making up the remaining 10%. 62% of clients were female (no change from 2022-2023). 47% of clients were aged between 46 and 65, and 12% were aged 65 and over. 85% disclosed a disability or long-term health condition, 60% of clients were unemployed, and 46% of these were unfit for work. 5% were the main carer for a family member.

Funders

Our long-standing contracting arrangements with Housing Associations continued, and during this year, Raise held contracts with Plus Dane, Prima Group, One Vision Housing, Northwest Housing, and Family Housing Association. Additional contracts and funding came from:

- The Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS)
- Access to Justice Improving Outcomes Through Legal Support grant
- Independent Age
- Steve Morgan Foundation
- Social Brokers
- Energy Projects Plus
- Beacon Counselling Trust
- Liverpool Merchants Guild
- Edge Hill University funding for student social worker placements

RAISE LIMITED
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

- Liverpool City Council, Local Neighbourhood Fund
- Multiply Sefton
- Aintree Village Parish Council
- The Skelton Trust
- UKSPF (Resilience Fund)
- IMA

Raise would like to thank all new and existing funders for their support during the year. All our funders enable Raise to reach the most vulnerable, relieve the hardship of our clients, and help to make positive changes in people's lives.

Financial review

2024-25 has been a year of resilience and recovery with a £101k surplus for Raise revitalising a previous three-year net loss of -£52k, and a three-year net cash movement of -£112k, stabilising cashflow (cash movement 2024/25 +£163.6k, 2023/24 -£47.5k, 2022/23 -£29.2k, 2021-22 -£35.4k). A change of Raise's CEO in year made savings contributing £29.3k to the surplus and cash position, currently we have an acting Chief Officer to take Raise forward and we have designated funds to strengthen our organisational structure in 2025/26 to sustain and grow our organisation.

Income from benefit contracts decreased by -32%, -£66.6k (2023/24 -47%, -£182k) owing to the end of the Torus contract in December 2023 giving a significant decrease for a second year. Contracts with Plus Dane, Prima, and One Vision Housing have continued with agreed inflationary increases as have PAYG contracts with Family Housing Association and Liverpool Merchants Guild. Extra referrals from Prima, +49% generated an extra £11k with Raise's capacity being flexible to funder needs.

Grant income increased by 44%, +£151k (2023/24 +22%, +£61.9k) expanding the shift of core funding from contracts to grants; grants 77%, contracts 23%. The increase in grant income is with thanks to new funding from Independent Age, Beacon Counselling Trust, Steve Morgan Foundation, Energy Projects Plus, Social Brokers, Sefton Multiply, Aintree Village Council, Allen and Overy, Skelton Charity, LCVS UKSPF Resilience, and Local Neighbourhood Funding.

There was a welcomed increase to Student Placement Income of +60%, +£2k (2023-24 £3.3k, 2024/25 £5.3k) thanks to continued work with Edge Hill University and the University of Chester.

Expenditure saw savings of -£17.4k on the previous year, as we sought to make further efficiencies, with some large variances. Payroll expenditure decreased by -8%, -£36.6k (2024-25 £428.7k, 2023/24 £465.4k) due to two redundancies in year necessary to restructure and maintain the financial health of the charity. Non-salary expenditure increased by 22%, +£18.8k in 2024/25. Most notably Accountancy Fee's, £17.6k +100%, make up 17% of non-salary expenditure covering staff Maternity leave. IT costs, £18.3k, make up 18% of non-salary expenditure. Professional Fee's reduced by -53%, -£9.5k, and Redundancy costs for the year were £11.8k (2023/24 £0).

Looking forward Raise has plans to update IT infrastructure, and enhance its delivery model to adapt to client needs while diversifying income streams and routes to client engagement making Raise more relevant and financially resilient for the benefit of our clients for the years to come. Raise would like to thank existing funders as well as Good Things Foundation, IMA, LCVS CIF, and Liverpool City Council, for their support during the year. All our funders enable Raise to reach the most vulnerable and relieve the hardship of our clients.

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2025 the unrestricted designated reserves were £215,892 (2024; £144,430), restricted reserves were £18,949 (2024; £2,781) and unrestricted general reserves were £79,999 (2024; £67,525). This gives a reserve value of £314,840.

Unrestricted reserve

The Trustees believe that Raise should hold financial reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs plus statutory redundancy and notice for all employees with at least 2 years service, in order to ensure that the charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially financially damaging circumstances arising.

Designated reserves

The trustees consider that it would be prudent to set aside an amount for 'flexible reserves'. This could be used for:

- the purpose of restructuring the service
- meeting unforeseen expenditure
- maintaining the charity's asset base in good order through provision for upgrades and replacement
- for use in an emergency if Raise operated at a deficit
- moving cost if Raise were to relocate
- subject to Board approval, to fund a project that would enable Raise to assist people with financial needs not covered by current funders

The Trustees regularly review the current activity to ensure sufficient reserves are held for delivery, and business plans incorporate a review to ensure adequacy and modest growth.

Restricted reserves

The following funds; ASA; LCC CRG; GMMAP; Northwest Housing; LCVS CIF; Good Things Foundation Digital Inclusion, Access to Justice IOTLS, IMA DRO Fund, LCC Local Neighbourhood Fund, National Lottery Awards 4 All are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the bureau. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between Raise's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned.

Review

This reserves policy is monitored and reviewed by the trustees annually.

Risk policy

In accordance with the guidelines set down by the Charity Commission, the Board of Trustees have considered and identified the governance, operational, financial, external and compliance risks to which the charity is exposed and have taken measures to mitigate any risks identified. The Board will look to strengthen the organisations business continuity and disaster recovery policies but are pleased with how the organisation was able to adapt the service during the pandemic. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees have adopted the Charity Commission's heat map method of risk analysis, with scores 1-7 being green, 8-14 being amber and 15-30 being red, the policy states that amber risks will be regularly reviewed and that red risks will be dealt with immediately.

The biggest risk to Raise is the loss of Housing Association funding due to either financial pressures on the Housing Associations or a loss of contracts due to Housing Associations being privatised as a result of Government policy. Existing management of this risk includes promoting the value of the welfare rights and debt services to reduce rent arrears and increase levels of rent collection, participation in Housing Associations' Welfare Reform Group, diversifying funding streams by applying for appropriate funding opportunities and having a flexible approach to pricing our services.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees have implemented existing risk management with three monthly reviews to mitigate this risk. Raise will also continue to seek extra funding from Housing Associations, local and national government, and grant-giving bodies for its core work and complementary projects.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 7 October 1999 and registered as a charity on 25 January 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association.

According to the constitution overall control of the company resides with the Board of Directors. Every issue may be determined by the Board by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting but a written resolution signed by all the Trustees is as valid a resolution passed at a meeting.

All staff and volunteers are accountable to the Board of Directors. Within the policies determined by the Board the Chief Officer has the authority and responsibility to ensure the smooth and effective running of the Service.

Appointment of Trustees is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new Trustees to fill vacancies including through the death or resignation of an existing Trustee.

The Board maintains a list of the necessary range of skills and experience for Board members. The Chair conducts an annual audit of existing Trustees to identify any gaps in skills or experience and to decide on any necessary training or recruitment to fill those gaps. Trustees operate to a role description with newly recruited Trustees receiving induction and support from more experienced Trustees.

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

Mr C Hudson (Chair)	
Mr A Wilson (Vice Chair)	
Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)	
Ms D McAndrew	(Resigned 7 May 2024)
Ms R Stott	
Mr B Akinola	(Appointed 19 November 2025)
Ms W Roznowska	(Appointed 19 November 2025)
Mr S Thornton	(Appointed 19 November 2025)

Senior staff members 2025/26:

Penny Brown, Chief Officer (resigned June 2024)
Linda Daley, Operations Manager & acting Chief Officer

Small company provisions

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

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

Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Trustee

Dated: 19 November 2025

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors of Raise Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

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

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

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAISE LIMITED**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RAISE Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Tony Stanley ACA
Mitchell Charlesworth
Suites C,D,E, & F
14th Floor The Plaza
100 Old Hall Street
Liverpool
L3 9QJ

Dated: 18 December 2025

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes				
<u>Income from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	(348)	-	(348)	628
Charitable activities	4	144,740	490,420	635,160	551,491
Total income		144,392	490,420	634,812	552,119
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	5	47,950	486,758	534,708	545,471
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		96,442	3,662	100,104	6,648
Transfers between funds	15	(12,506)	12,506	-	-
Net movement in funds		83,936	16,168	100,104	6,648
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		211,955	2,781	214,736	208,088
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		295,891	18,949	314,840	214,736

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes			
<u>Income from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	3	628	-	628
Charitable activities	4	209,415	342,076	551,491
Total income		210,043	342,076	552,119
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Charitable activities	5	200,120	345,351	545,471
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		9,923	(3,275)	6,648
Transfers between funds	15	(6,056)	6,056	-
Net movement in funds		3,867	2,781	6,648
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		208,088	-	208,088
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		211,955	2,781	214,736

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		799		-
Current assets					
Debtors	11	53,612		72,310	
Cash at bank and in hand		309,133		193,058	
		362,745		265,368	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(48,704)		(50,632)	
Net current assets			314,041		214,736
Total assets less current liabilities			314,840		214,736
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	15		18,949		2,781
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	16	215,892		144,430	
General unrestricted funds		79,999		67,525	
Total unrestricted funds			295,891		211,955
Total charity funds			314,840		214,736

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

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

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

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 19 November 2025

Mr C Hudson (Chair)
Trustee

Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)
Trustee

Company Registration No. 03854479

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	21		117,273		(47,569)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,198)		-	
Net cash used in investing activities			(1,198)		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			116,075		(47,569)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			193,058		240,627
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			309,133		193,058

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

RAISE Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 107 Great Mersey Street, Liverpool, L5 2PL.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity, and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

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

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, and contract income is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the preconditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to preconditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in restricted funds when receivable.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Voluntary income includes discretionary grants for projects, goods and services where no service agreement or contract exists.

Income from donated services and facilities is included at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised when there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure reflects all amounts paid and accrued during the year. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis. Staff costs are apportioned between activities on the basis of an assessment of the time spent by individual employees on those activities.

Charitable expenditure

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

Governance costs

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

All assets costing more than £200 are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office and computer equipment	33% per annum on a straight line basis
-------------------------------	--

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

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

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

1.11 Retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts in the year in which they are paid.

1.12 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.13 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is also able to partially recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure that is not recoverable by the charity is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods. There are no critical accounting estimates or judgements in these accounts.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	(348)	628

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Charitable activities	Debt and welfare rights advice		Advice Skills Academy		Total welfare rights advice		Debt and Advice Skills Academy		Total	
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	139,365	-	-	-	139,365	206,055	-	-	206,055	
Performance related grants	488,488	1,932	1,932	11,903	490,420	330,173	11,903	11,903	342,076	
Other income	5,375	-	-	-	5,375	3,360	-	-	3,360	
	<u>633,228</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>635,160</u>	<u>539,588</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>551,491</u>	
Analysis by fund										
Unrestricted funds	144,740	-	-	-	144,740	209,415	-	-	209,415	
Restricted funds	488,488	1,932	1,932	11,903	490,420	330,173	11,903	11,903	342,076	
	<u>633,228</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>635,160</u>	<u>539,588</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>551,491</u>	

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Charitable activities

	Debt & welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Total welfare rights advice	Debt & Advice Skills Academy	Total
	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Staff costs	392,509	1,932	394,441	326,303	338,206
Office costs	12,744	-	12,744	6,161	6,161
Staff and volunteer costs	1,927	-	1,927	2,276	2,276
Other costs	3,878	-	3,878	1,188	1,188
	411,058	1,932	412,990	335,928	347,831
Share of support costs (see note 6)	95,522	-	95,522	179,478	179,478
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	26,196	-	26,196	18,162	18,162
	532,776	1,932	534,708	533,568	545,471
Analysis by fund					
Unrestricted funds	46,018	1,932	47,950	188,217	200,120
Restricted funds	486,758	-	486,758	345,351	345,351
	532,776	1,932	534,708	533,568	545,471

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2025	Support costs	Governance costs	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	44,154	-	44,154	127,347	-	127,347
Depreciation	399	-	399	685	-	685
Premises costs	21,751	-	21,751	23,800	-	23,800
Office costs	22,193	-	22,193	28,264	-	28,264
Staff and volunteer costs	5,051	-	5,051	(1,863)	-	(1,863)
Other costs	1,974	-	1,974	1,245	-	1,245
Independent examination	-	850	850	-	800	800
Accountancy	-	20,587	20,587	-	12,089	12,089
Legal and professional	-	4,759	4,759	-	5,273	5,273
	<u>95,522</u>	<u>26,196</u>	<u>121,718</u>	<u>179,478</u>	<u>18,162</u>	<u>197,640</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>95,522</u>	<u>26,196</u>	<u>121,718</u>	<u>179,478</u>	<u>18,162</u>	<u>197,640</u>

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2024: £nil). No trustees were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2024: £nil).

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Debt and welfare rights advisors	13	14
Administration	3	4
Total	16	18

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	391,770	416,350
Social security costs	27,086	27,138
Other pension costs	19,739	22,065
	438,595	465,553

Included in wages is redundancy payments of £11,886 (2024: £Nil).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 (2024: none).

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Office and computer equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	34,256
Additions	1,198
Disposals	(11,557)
At 31 March 2025	23,897
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	34,256
Depreciation charged in the year	399
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(11,557)
At 31 March 2025	23,098
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	799
At 31 March 2024	-

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10	Financial instruments		2025	2024
			£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets			
	Debt instruments measured at amortised cost		353,712	255,633
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities			
	Measured at amortised cost		35,368	31,502
11	Debtors		2025	2024
			£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:			
	Trade debtors		9,602	50,215
	Other debtors		34,977	12,360
	Prepayments		9,033	9,735
			53,612	72,310
12	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2025	2024
		Notes	£	£
	Other taxation and social security		13,336	17,625
	Deferred income	13	-	1,505
	Trade creditors		2,648	19,373
	Other creditors		6,227	2,061
	Accruals		26,493	10,068
			48,704	50,632
13	Deferred income		2025	2024
			£	£
	Other deferred income		-	1,505
	Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:			
			2025	2024
			£	£
	Total deferred income at 1 April 2024		1,505	20,399
	Amounts received in the year		-	1,505
	Amounts credited to statement of financial activities		(1,505)	(20,399)
	Total deferred income at 31 March 2025		-	1,505

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	19,739	22,065
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Movement in funds			Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2024	Movement in funds			Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	Income	Expenditure	£			Income	Expenditure	£		
Access To Justice	55,714	(55,714)	-	-	-	74,286	(74,425)	139	-	-
Liverpool City Council	9,000	(10,991)	1,991	-	-	4,500	(4,522)	22	-	-
GMMAP	223,546	(223,789)	243	-	-	224,811	(235,214)	10,403	-	-
Beacon Consulting Trust	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	(25,422)	422	-	-
Independent Age	-	-	-	-	-	56,845	(37,896)	-	18,949	-
North West Housing	12,726	(16,548)	3,822	-	-	13,930	(14,087)	157	-	-
Sefton Multiply	-	-	-	-	-	6,213	(6,213)	-	-	-
Social Brokers	-	-	-	-	-	12,000	(12,081)	81	-	-
Aintree Village Parish Church	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	(6,271)	271	-	-
Energy Projects Plus	-	-	-	-	-	17,646	(17,937)	291	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	27,327	(27,524)	197	-	-
National Lottery A4A	9,867	(9,867)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Neighbourhood Fund	3,000	(3,000)	-	-	-	3,000	(3,136)	136	-	-
IMA DRO Funding	2,781	-	-	2,781	-	2,325	(5,337)	231	-	-
Skelton Charity	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	(1,568)	68	-	-
Advice Skills Academy	11,903	(11,903)	-	-	-	1,932	(1,932)	-	-	-
Allen and Overy	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	(5,088)	88	-	-
LCVS SPFUK	-	-	-	-	-	4,200	(4,200)	-	-	-
Good Things Foundation, Digital Fund	10,447	(10,447)	-	-	-	2,553	(2,553)	-	-	-
LCVS CIF	3,092	(3,092)	-	-	-	1,352	(1,352)	-	-	-
	342,076	(345,351)	6,056	2,781	-	490,420	(486,758)	12,506	18,949	-

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

15 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Assess to Justice funding is to sustain and improve access to early social welfare advice, to resolve these problems at the earliest opportunity and avoid the need for court or tribunal proceedings where possible.

Liverpool City Council provide funding to enable home visits to Liverpool residents who, for one reason or another, are unable to access mainstream advice services. The grant of £4,500 from the Community Resources Grant (within Liverpool City Council) was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership (GMMAP), funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS), provides money advice which enable individuals to take back control of the finances through appropriate debt solutions. The Raise costs for staff are more than the grant will allow and therefore, the project cost reflect the actual cost of this project is always over budget. The board were in agreement to used unrestricted funds to offset the additional spending allocation.

Beacon funding is to screen clients for gambling harms and refer into BCT for support.

Independent Age funding is to provide welfare benefits advice and support to Liverpool residents aged +65.

North West Housing provide funding to support their cooperative tenants with their advice needs. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Sefton Multiply funding is to deliver numeracy skills sessions to Sefton residents.

Social Brokers funding is to provide an outreach for welfare benefits and debt advice and support to residents in L4, L5 and L6.

Aintree Village Parish Church, to provide a welfare outreach for Aintree residents.

Energy Projects Plus, - to provide welfare rights and debt advice and casework to clients referred to us by EPP.

Steve Morgan Foundation, - to deliver financial inclusion support to Raise clients.

National Lottery A4A, funding to increase accessibility of advice services by providing an advice worker at outreach locations.

Local Neighbourhood Fund, funding to increase access to advice across Kirkdale through community based drop in sessions.

IMA DRO funding provided by the Money and Pensions Service to maintain and/or increase access to Debt Relief Orders for vulnerable clients.

Skelton Charity Funding is to purchase new IT equipment and cover travel expenses for home visits.

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

15	Restricted funds	(Continued)
	Advice Skills Academy (2) (ASA), delivers an integrated curriculum of accredited and non-accredited training to people in the Liverpool City Region. It develops and upskills the workforce for specialist Advice Services in the Liverpool City Region, and provides a pathway for unemployed people to compete effectively for job opportunities within the Advice Sector. Advice Skills Academy (2) delivers a range of accredited Level 2 & 3 training and non-accredited courses. Allen & Overy funding is to support clients needing advice on UC migration. LCVS UKSPF Resilience, to commission consultancy services to improve the efficiency and effectiveness and support the generation of additional income. Good Things Foundation, Digital Fund - Funding a part time Advisor to expand our services into community settings to engage with local residents, who would find it challenging to access digital resources or alternative high street advice services. This project will empower beneficiaries to take control of their money by providing them with digital skills and resources and access to a blended financial advice service, combining specialist Money Advice, Benefits Advice, Financial and Digital Education. LCVS CIF - This project delivers holistic financial advice services by combining our existing Debt Advice outreach service with Benefits Advice and Financial Education at outreach locations. Any overspend on restricted funds has been funded from general unrestricted reserves and is shown as a transfer.	

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Reserve funds	144,430	-	-	71,462	215,892
General funds	67,525	144,392	(47,950)	(83,968)	79,999
	<u>211,955</u>	<u>144,392</u>	<u>(47,950)</u>	<u>(12,506)</u>	<u>295,891</u>
	<u><u>211,955</u></u>	<u><u>144,392</u></u>	<u><u>(47,950)</u></u>	<u><u>(12,506)</u></u>	<u><u>295,891</u></u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Reserve fund	144,430	-	-	-	144,430
General funds	63,658	210,043	(200,120)	(6,056)	67,525
	<u>208,088</u>	<u>210,043</u>	<u>(200,120)</u>	<u>(6,056)</u>	<u>211,955</u>
	<u><u>208,088</u></u>	<u><u>210,043</u></u>	<u><u>(200,120)</u></u>	<u><u>(6,056)</u></u>	<u><u>211,955</u></u>

The reserve fund is designated to provide for general contingencies, restructuring the services as well as possible employment termination costs, which includes redundancy liability, likely to be incurred should the charity cease to operate or have to reduce its activities. This is reviewed annually at the start of the year to ensure the charities liabilities are as informed as possible.

17 Capital commitments

Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	<u>12,000</u>	<u>-</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	799	-	799	-	-	-
Current assets/(liabilities)	295,092	18,949	314,041	211,955	2,781	214,736
	<u>295,891</u>	<u>18,949</u>	<u>314,840</u>	<u>211,955</u>	<u>2,781</u>	<u>214,736</u>

19 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	4,800	18,600
Between two and five years	-	600
	<u>4,800</u>	<u>19,200</u>

20 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate remuneration	<u>68,915</u>	<u>76,038</u>

The stepdaughter of Mr A Wilson, a Trustee, is employed by the charity, her annual remuneration is £13,161 (2024: £24,661), which is considered to be at a market rate.

There were no other related party transactions during the year (2024: none).

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21	Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	2025	2024
		£	£
	Surplus for the year	100,104	6,648
	Adjustments for:		
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	399	685
	Movements in working capital:		
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	18,698	(41,919)
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(423)	5,911
	(Decrease) in deferred income	(1,505)	(18,894)
	Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	117,273	(47,569)

22 **Company limited by guarantee**

RAISE is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

RAISE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1112830

Accounts

Charity registration number 1112830

Company registration number 03854479 (England and Wales)

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr C Hudson (Chair) Mr A Wilson (Vice Chair) Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer) Ms R Stott
Secretary	Ms L Daley
Charity number	1112830
Company number	03854479
Registered office	107 Great Mersey Street Liverpool L5 2PL
Independent examiner	Tony Stanley ACA Mitchell Charlesworth Tempest Suite 5.1 12 Tithebarn Street Liverpool L2 2DT
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc P O Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

About Raise

Raise is an independent anti-poverty charity, working in one of the five most deprived areas in country. We have delivered specialist Welfare Rights, and Debt (Money Advice), support for over 20 years across the Liverpool City Region. We work with local agencies, social landlords and community-hubs reaching the most difficult to engage clients and provide a responsive, person-centred casework service, delivered flexibly to meet the needs of vulnerable clients. We are FCA Registered and we hold Advice Quality Standards and Cyber Essentials Accreditations.

Raise provides free, confidential and impartial information, advice and advocacy, ensuring the most vulnerable have equal access to support and justice. A large proportion of our clients experience engagement barriers due to a variety of reasons including low self-confidence, digital exclusion, poor literacy skills, mental ill-health, physical disabilities, learning differences, alcohol and/or substance dependency, and/or chaotic lifestyles. A personable approach by our Caseworkers / Advisors teases the information from clients, assisting and supporting them at all stages.

Our flexible delivery approach allows our workers to engage with the clients in the most inclusive and effective ways; including face-to-face appointments at our offices or at local community hubs and drop-ins, by telephone, email, text or live video support. Uniquely, we also deliver the services in the client's home if this is appropriate and if this is the best option to support the client.

By working in partnership with other organisations, including directly in community-hubs and with such as food-banks and home-furnishings charities etc, building and developing on established community trust, we are able to reach clients that otherwise would struggle to access our services.

Working with Housing Associations

Raise has established strong long-term partnerships with Housing Associations. They continue to manage huge challenges due to the consequences of the cost-of-living crisis, the impact of the pandemic and the continued impact of Welfare Reform, among other aspects. The Social Housing Sector houses more vulnerable groups than other sectors and Raise works proactively with the Housing Associations to support their tenants, through a range of services tailored to each individual. This complements the support the Housing Associations provide for their tenants, and helps to minimise financial related tenancy issues and helps to promote successful tenancies.

The impact of our work

Quantitatively the impact for clients is measured through the financial gains achieved and the number of appeals won. But the impact is also life-changing for clients, positively affecting their standard-of-living, health (physical and mental) life choices and life chances. We monitor and learn through tracking cases and keeping detailed statistics. Clients are encouraged to provide feedback in various formats and responses are used to review and implement improvements.

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Vision, Mission and Values

- **Our Vision**

To champion the fight against poverty and inequality enabling people to take control of their lives.

- **Our Mission**

Providing outstanding specialist services for individuals incorporating benefit advice, representation, debt and money management that are accessible at the point of need and empower people to achieve a better standard of living.

Our Values statement

Respect we value people by adopting a non-judgmental approach alongside recognising the strengths of others and being committed to working in partnership.

Accessible we deliver services that are adaptable and free to clients at their point of need whilst embracing equality, diversity and basic human rights for all.

Independent how we interact with others is authentic and real to whom we are as an organisation.

Support we are client-focused and deliver services that demonstrate empathy with clients along their journey with Raise.

Excellence everything Raise creates and delivers is of a standard that we feel proud of.

Confidentiality we respect every individual's personal information and circumstance and act professionally to protect this.

Our Strategic Aims are:

Strategic Aim 1: To ensure the organisation is well governed, well managed and fit-for-purpose.

Strategic Aim 2: To create sustainability and resilience that will enable Raise to continue delivering services.

Strategic Aim 3: To create a greater awareness of the organisation and its services.

Strategic Aim 4: To continue to explore, design and deliver services that are fit-for-purpose and meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Under these Strategic Aims sits an Operational Plan which details the short, medium and long-term milestones. Each year the Board of Trustees meet to agree the milestones which will take priority for that year and they become the organisation's annual objectives. The Operations Manager reports quarterly on the progress made towards these objectives. In order to support the organisation's annual objectives we have several working groups that meet during the course of the year.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Raise Services

Welfare Benefits Rights / Advice

We provide general and specialist advice/rights services which responds to the problems our clients face. Our work includes benefits checks, support with form filling eg Personal Independence Payment – PIP), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), and Universal Credit (UC). Our work runs right through to specialist level, including benefit appeals for tax credits or housing benefit, and appealing decisions in the Upper Tribunal. We help individuals to navigate the benefits system that is now more complex than ever before.

When required we challenge the welfare system to ensure access is achieved fairly and equitably. Our Team of specialist workers managed 2000+ Welfare Rights referrals last year. Over a third of these cases involved some level of decision challenging. Our success in having decisions overturned before an appeal hearing increases, as we continuously improve the quality feedback of our early interventions. We also discuss our anonymised data-sets and case-studies with senior staff within the welfare system (notably the DWP) to highlight system injustices and encourage changes.

Money Advice

We provide a comprehensive Money Advice Service. Our expert Advisors explore client's financial position – income, spend and debt. Advisors then guide clients through options, advising on aspects including payment plans, voluntary agreements, debt relief orders and bankruptcy. We provide a Caseworker service so that clients feel they are being supported to make the changes they need to ensure on-going financial sustainability, with plans for the immediate issues and moving forward.

Financial Capability

We work with clients to build their confidence and skills encouraging them to feel engaged with and in better control of their finances. We support clients with basic budgeting, saving and making the most of their money through informed choice. With so much confusing (and in some cases incorrect) information on various platforms, people can become overwhelmed. By supporting people to strengthen their financial capability we help to build confidence to navigate the world of money and finance.

Added Value

The Team have an extensive knowledge of national schemes and community links to provide additional support for clients, eg grant applications or gaining household or children's items, data connectivity, etc. Raise also works proactively with community partners and refers clients to a variety of support services.

Our Teams also pick-up on issues including safeguarding, domestic violence, gambling harms and/or mental health concerns. We liaise with external partners and will arrange joint visits as appropriate.

We have a Team of Welfare Benefits specialists who are qualified to deliver welfare benefits rights training and we work with Housing Association staff teams to ensure they are trained in welfare rights issues, notably those that they have identified as a need or requirement. We meet regularly with Housing Association partners to ensure that our services, information, training and support is responsive to current and emerging issues.

Effective use of technology to improve service delivery

The organisation made significant changes to its delivery of services as a consequence of the pandemic lockdown from March 2020. Further investment in ITC, including cloud-based systems has ensured that services can be effectively and securely delivered in a range of formats. This hybrid delivery model proved to be responsive for the clients, and allows our Teams to deliver services with full flexibility. From in-person appointments in our offices, and the use of email, text, phone calls and video calls, to in-person in-community settings and even in the client's home, we can provide services in a format that works for the client.

The AdvicePro case management system for data management has proved a positive change. With over two year's data now held, we are better able to draw out trends and specific data to analyse and improve our service.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Working with partners

The Raise service delivery Teams work effectively with community partners, achieving tailored interventions for clients at “grass-roots”. But our organisation also works with City, City Region, regional and national partners to influence change. Through our work in formal and informal groups we aim to address the challenges and issues faced by individuals in the Liverpool communities.

Our Management Team members attend a variety of meetings and events. We work closely with LATAN, (Liverpool Access to Advice Network). This membership Network has influenced local decision makers, including on the City Council budget decisions that directly affect the support available for city residents. Our Operations Manager also sits on the Marmot Partnership, a City Council organised multi-agency strategic collective tackling specific issues affecting the health and wellbeing of City residents, including housing, income, employment, children’s issues and community resilience.

Our Management Team are also members of and contribute to various Partnerships, Forums and Groups, including the Welfare Reform Group, North West Housing Association Communication Meetings, various DWP Partnership Meetings, North West Mental Health & Welfare Rights Group, Liverpool Law Society Access to Justice Meetings, Liverpool City Council Consultation Group, Child Poverty Action Group and liaison with local Councillors and MPs, just to name a few. These discussions ensure the collective knowledge in the sector is current and responsive. It also drives improvements in service delivery, systems and processes and influences positive change of welfare rights policy and legislation. We work proactively, to encourage and drive collaborative working where we can to be a positive driving force in continuously improving existing services and developing new responsive services.

Moving forward into 2024/2025

We plan to enhance our delivery model further to ensure that our services are fully responsive to client needs. Requests for face-to-face service delivery in client homes is increasing and we are also working closely with our community partners to deliver our services in additional community venues.

With existing telephone and digital services delivery we can offer a fully flexible and responsive holistic service. We are also developing our “wrap-round” service which offers financial and digital capability, alongside welfare rights and debt advice to help our clients understand and engage with their finances, upskilling them to take control of their money. We will also continue to work proactively with Housing Associations and community partners to co-develop and co-deliver services and projects. Raise is also committed to ensure that clients are encouraged to assist us to co-develop the services we delivery for them.

We will seek to strengthen our policy influencing work with dedicated personnel. With additional time and focussed expertise we hope to increase our capacity to challenge incorrect welfare benefits decisions and influence policy reform, and as a consequence further reduce the unfairness and inequity of the system experienced by some clients. The ongoing cost of living crisis is hitting pensions particularly hard and there will be considerable focus this year on maximising their income. There is estimated to be over £70 million unclaimed Pension Credit across the Liverpool City Region (around 28,000 households) * <https://policyinpractice.co.uk/>
We will be focussing on engagement with community groups to reach the most vulnerable and maximise our reach across the city. We are also introducing a financial inclusion service from 1 April to help clients to make the most of their money, help them budget and take better control of their finances.

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Achievements and performance

Despite managing fewer cases than in 2022-2023, due to the contract with one of our major funding contract ending- reducing our expected referrals by around 1600 for the year) we saw the average gains increase from £2,023 per client to £2,645, as effects of the Cost of Living crisis escalated.

Our Advice and Casework yielded just over £6.5m gains in total, including £4.8m in welfare benefits.

The highest categories for extra benefits were:

- Personal Independence Payments £2.5m
- Universal Credit £805k
- Housing Costs £423k
- Pension Age benefits £407k.

Our clients came to us with £6.2m of debt, and we helped clear £1.7m.

Amount of debt

Less Than £5000	488	(423 in 2022-23)
£5,000 to £10,000	158	(187)
£10,000 to £20,000	122	(146)
£20,000 to £30,000	48	(38)
Greater than £30,000	25	(37)

We almost doubled the charitable grants (£74k from £37.9k) we successfully applied for on behalf of clients, and handed out 153 food bank vouchers and around 80 Sim cards with 6 months free data.

Referrals and Visits

During 2023-2024 Raise received 2086 referrals for Welfare Benefits and Money Advice.

Between April 2023 and March 2024 we opened 2,495 new welfare or debt cases.

Client Profile

For the year, our client demographic for ethnicity was made up of 85% white British, 3% black or black British, 2% Asian/Asian British with our other groups making up the remaining 10%.

62% of clients were female, (no change from 2022-23). 47% of clients were aged between 46 and 65. 12% aged 65 and over. 85% disclosed a disability, or long term health condition, 60% of clients were unemployed, 46% of these being unfit for work. 5% were the main carer for a family member.

Funders

Our long standing contracting arrangements with Housing Associations continued, and during this year Raise held contracts with; Plus Dane, Prima Group, One Vision Housing, Northwest Housing, Onward Housing and Family Housing Association. Our contract with Torus Foundation (previously Liverpool Mutual Homes) sadly ended 30 June 2023 after 15 years of supporting their tenants.

Additional contracts and funding came from:

- The Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS)
- Access to Justice Improving Outcomes Through Legal Support grant
- Liverpool City Council's Community Resource Grant for our vulnerable @Home advice service
- LJMU and Edge Hill funding for student social worker placements
- HMCTS through the Good Things Foundation for digital appeals support to clients.
- Good Things Foundation – Digital Inclusion Capability Grant
- National Lottery Awards for All
- LCVS – Community Impact Fund
- Liverpool City Council, Local neighbourhood Fund
- Advice Skills Academy by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)

Raise would like to thank existing funders as well as the Good Things Foundation, LCVS and Liverpool City Council for their support during the year. All our funders enable Raise to reach the most vulnerable, relieve the hardship of our clients and help to make positive changes to people's lives.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Financial review

2023-24 has been another year of financial resilience for Raise which has seen the balance of core funding shift with grant income exceeding contracted income by £136k; grants 62% and contracts 37% of total income. A major factor in this shift is the loss of a longstanding and significant contract with Torus during the year. Despite this challenge Raise ended the year on a surplus of £6,648 thanks to further income generation, in particular the Access to Justice IOTLS grant funding awarded of £130k over two years.

The continued work to generate income and cut costs is showing results with income reductions of -14%, -£92.4k on last year offset against expenditure reductions of -21%, -£141.9k, we are now seeing Raise shift to a smaller and more concise structure that continues to reach those in need of our services with improved accessibility through outreach locations.

Income from benefit contracts decreased by -47%, -£182k in 2023-24 attributable to the closing down of the Torus contract with all outstanding work completed by December 2023. Raise has welcomed inflationary increases to existing contracts. Income from grants has increased by 22%, £61.9k thanks to four new funders; Access to Justice IOTLS, National Lottery Awards 4 All, Liverpool Council Local Neighbourhood Fund, and the IMA DRO fund. We also saw the end of the last remaining ESF funded project in December 2023, Advice Skills Academy. There was a slight reduction in Student Placement income with three placements during the year, compared to four placements in 2022-23.

Expenditure has seen further savings in 2023-24 with a reduction of -24%, -£168k on the previous year. Payroll expenditure decreased by -23%, -£414k on last year being the impact of staff team reductions in 2022-23 with one further redundancy made in 2023-24. Non-salary expenditure has stayed the same, 2023-24 £83.9K, 2022-23 £84.4K, -0.6%, with savings on some accounts, most notably Communications, -£2.3k, and IT, -£2.3k offset by overspend on Professional Fees; up 131%, +£10.3k on last year being Finance costs for the outsourcing of payroll and management accounts totaling £9.7k due to maternity leave.

Looking forward to 2024-25 income generation and financial planning will be key to maintain the current size and financial health of the charity. Raise would like to thank existing funders as well as LFC Access to Advice, Liverpool Merchants Guild, Access to Justice IOTLS, IMA DRO Fund, Liverpool Council Local Neighbourhood Fund, and National Lottery Awards 4 All for their support during the year. All our funders enable Raise to reach the most vulnerable and relieve the hardship of our clients.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2024 the unrestricted designated reserves were £144,430 (2023: £144,430, restricted reserves were £2,781 (2023: £nil) and unrestricted free reserves of £67,525 (2023: £63,658). This gives a reserve value of £214,736.

Unrestricted reserve

The Trustees believe that Raise should hold financial reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs plus statutory redundancy and notice for all employees with at least 2 years service, in order to ensure that the charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially financially damaging circumstances arising.

Designated reserves

The trustees consider that it would be prudent to set aside an amount for 'flexible reserves'. This could be used for:

- the purpose of restructuring the service
- meeting unforeseen expenditure
- maintaining the charity's asset base in good order through provision for upgrades and replacement
- for use in an emergency if Raise operated at a deficit
- moving cost if Raise were to relocate
- subject to Board approval, to fund a project that would enable Raise to assist people with financial needs not covered by current funders

The Trustees regularly review the current activity to ensure sufficient reserves are held for delivery, and business plans incorporate a review to ensure adequacy and modest growth.

Restricted reserves

The following funds; ASA; LCC CRG; GMMAP; Northwest Housing; LCVS CIF; Good Things Foundation Digital Inclusion, Access to Justice IOTLS, IMA DRO Fund, LCC Local Neighbourhood Fund, National Lottery Awards 4 All are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the bureau. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between Raise's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned.

Review

This reserves policy is monitored and reviewed by the trustees annually.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Risk policy

In accordance with the guidelines set down by the Charity Commission, the Board of Trustees have considered and identified the governance, operational, financial, external and compliance risks to which the charity is exposed and have taken measures to mitigate any risks identified. The Board will look to strengthen the organisations business continuity and disaster recovery policies but are pleased with how the organisation was able to adapt the service during the pandemic. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees have adopted the Charity Commission's heat map method of risk analysis, with scores 1-7 being green, 8-14 being amber and 15-30 being red, the policy states that amber risks will be regularly reviewed and that red risks will be dealt with immediately.

The biggest risk to Raise is the loss of Housing Association funding due to either financial pressures on the Housing Associations or a loss of contracts due to Housing Associations being privatised as a result of Government policy. Existing management of this risk includes promoting the value of the welfare rights and debt services to reduce rent arrears and increase levels of rent collection, participation in Housing Associations' Welfare Reform Group, diversifying funding streams by applying for appropriate funding opportunities and having a flexible approach to pricing our services. The Trustees have implemented existing risk management with three monthly reviews to mitigate this risk. Raise will also continue to seek extra funding from Housing Associations, local and national government, and grant-giving bodies for its core work and complementary projects.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 7 October 1999 and registered as a charity on 25 January 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association.

According to the constitution overall control of the company resides with the Board of Directors. Every issue may be determined by the Board by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting but a written resolution signed by all the Trustees is as valid a resolution passed at a meeting.

All staff and volunteers are accountable to the Board of Directors. Within the policies determined by the Board the Chief Officer has the authority and responsibility to ensure the smooth and effective running of the Service.

Appointment of Trustees is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new Trustees to fill vacancies including through the death or resignation of an existing Trustee.

The Board maintains a list of the necessary range of skills and experience for Board members. The Chair conducts an annual audit of existing Trustees to identify any gaps in skills or experience and to decide on any necessary training or recruitment to fill those gaps. Trustees operate to a role description with newly recruited Trustees receiving induction and support from more experienced Trustees.

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

Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Mr A Wilson (Vice Chair)

Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)

Ms D McAndrew

(Resigned 7 May 2024)

Ms R Stott

Senior staff members 2022/23:

Penny Brown, Chief Officer

Linda Daley, Operations Manager

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Small company provisions

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

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Hudson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Trustee

Dated:

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors of Raise Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAISE LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RAISE Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Tony Stanley ACA
Mitchell Charlesworth
Tempest
Suite 5.1
12 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool
L2 2DT

Dated:

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes				
<u>Income from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	628	-	628	80
Charitable activities	4	209,415	342,076	551,491	673,194
Total income		210,043	342,076	552,119	673,274
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	5	200,120	345,351	545,471	713,726
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		9,923	(3,275)	6,648	(40,452)
Gross transfers between funds	14	(6,056)	6,056	-	-
Net movement in funds		3,867	2,781	6,648	(40,452)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		208,088	-	208,088	248,540
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		211,955	2,781	214,736	208,088

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes			
<u>Income from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	3	80	-	80
Charitable activities	4	393,070	280,124	673,194
Total income		393,150	280,124	673,274
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Charitable activities	5	388,931	324,795	713,726
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		4,219	(44,671)	(40,452)
Gross transfers between funds	14	(43,909)	43,909	-
Net movement in funds		(39,690)	(762)	(40,452)
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		247,778	762	248,540
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		208,088	-	208,088

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		-		685
Current assets					
Debtors	11	72,310		30,391	
Cash at bank and in hand		193,058		240,627	
		<u>265,368</u>		<u>271,018</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(50,632)</u>		<u>(63,615)</u>	
Net current assets			214,736		207,403
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>214,736</u>		<u>208,088</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	14		2,781		-
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	15	144,430		144,430	
General unrestricted funds		<u>67,525</u>		<u>63,658</u>	
			211,955		208,088
			<u>214,736</u>		<u>208,088</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

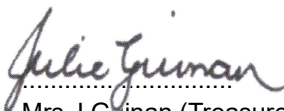
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on



Mr C Hudson (Chair)
Trustee



Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)
Trustee

Company registration number 03854479

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	19		(47,569)		23,645
Net cash used in investing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(47,569)		23,645
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			240,627		216,982
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>193,058</u>		<u>240,627</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

RAISE Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 107 Great Mersey Street, Liverpool, L5 2PL.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity, and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

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

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, and contract income is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the preconditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to preconditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in restricted funds when receivable.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Voluntary income includes discretionary grants for projects, goods and services where no service agreement or contract exists.

Income from donated services and facilities is included at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised when there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure reflects all amounts paid and accrued during the year. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis. Staff costs are apportioned between activities on the basis of an assessment of the time spent by individual employees on those activities.

Charitable expenditure

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

Governance costs

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

All assets costing more than £200 are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office and computer equipment	33% per annum on a straight line basis
-------------------------------	--

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

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

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

1.11 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

1.12 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is also able to partially recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure that is not recoverable by the charity is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts in the year in which they are paid.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods. There are no critical accounting estimates or judgements in these accounts.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	628	80
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Charitable activities

	Debt and welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Total	Debt and welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	206,055	-	206,055	388,230	-	388,230
Performance related grants	330,173	11,903	342,076	266,851	13,273	280,124
Other income	3,360	-	3,360	4,840	-	4,840
	<u>539,588</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>551,491</u>	<u>659,921</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>673,194</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	209,415	-	209,415	393,070	-	393,070
Restricted funds	330,173	11,903	342,076	266,851	13,273	280,124
	<u>539,588</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>551,491</u>	<u>659,921</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>673,194</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Charitable activities

	Debt & welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Total 2024	Debt & welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Enterprise Hub Scheme	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizon	Total 2023
	2024	2024		2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	326,303	11,903	338,206	415,435	13,273	-	-	(255)	428,453
Office costs	6,161	-	6,161	6,310	-	-	72	73	6,455
Staff and volunteer costs	2,276	-	2,276	(1,859)	-	-	-	95	(1,764)
Other costs	1,188	-	1,188	1,354	443	(2,162)	12,206	18,418	30,259
	<u>335,928</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>347,831</u>	<u>421,240</u>	<u>13,716</u>	<u>(2,162)</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>18,331</u>	<u>463,403</u>
Share of support costs (see note 6)	179,478	-	179,478	242,478	-	-	-	-	242,478
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	18,162	-	18,162	7,845	-	-	-	-	7,845
	<u>533,568</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>545,471</u>	<u>671,563</u>	<u>13,716</u>	<u>(2,162)</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>18,331</u>	<u>713,726</u>
Analysis by fund									
Unrestricted funds	188,217	11,903	200,120	388,786	-	-	72	73	388,931
Restricted funds	345,351	-	345,351	282,777	13,716	(2,162)	12,206	18,258	324,795
	<u>533,568</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>545,471</u>	<u>671,563</u>	<u>13,716</u>	<u>(2,162)</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>18,331</u>	<u>713,726</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2024	Support costs	Governance costs	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	127,347	-	127,347	177,879	-	177,879
Depreciation	685	-	685	2,050	-	2,050
Premises costs	23,800	-	23,800	23,767	-	23,767
Office costs	28,264	-	28,264	33,084	-	33,084
Staff and volunteer costs	(1,863)	-	(1,863)	3,088	-	3,088
Other costs	1,245	-	1,245	2,610	-	2,610
Independent examination	-	800	800	-	750	750
Accountancy	-	12,089	12,089	-	2,250	2,250
Legal and professional	-	5,273	5,273	-	4,845	4,845
	<u>179,478</u>	<u>18,162</u>	<u>197,640</u>	<u>242,478</u>	<u>7,845</u>	<u>250,323</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>179,478</u>	<u>18,162</u>	<u>197,640</u>	<u>242,478</u>	<u>7,845</u>	<u>250,323</u>

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2023: £nil). No trustees were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2023: £nil).

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Debt and welfare rights advisors	14	19
Administration	4	6
New Horizons	-	2
Total	18	27

Employment costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	416,350	541,173
Social security costs	27,138	40,523
Other pension costs	22,065	24,636
	465,553	606,332

Included in wages is redundancy payments of £nil (2023: £3,413).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 (2023: none).

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Office and computer equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	34,256
At 31 March 2024	34,256
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2023	33,571
Depreciation charged in the year	685
At 31 March 2024	34,256
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	-
At 31 March 2023	685

10 Financial instruments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	255,633	260,816

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		(Continued)	
10	Financial instruments	2024	2023
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
	Measured at amortised cost	31,502	23,661
11	Debtors	2024	2023
	Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
	Trade debtors	50,215	6,609
	Other debtors	12,360	13,580
	Prepayments	9,735	10,202
		72,310	30,391
12	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
		£	£
	Other taxation and social security	17,625	19,555
	Deferred income	1,505	20,399
	Trade creditors	19,373	6,855
	Other creditors	2,061	2,263
	Accruals	10,068	14,543
		50,632	63,615
13	Deferred income	2024	2023
		£	£
	Other deferred income	1,505	20,399
Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:			
		2024	2023
		£	£
	Total deferred income at 1 April 2023	20,399	41,572
	Amounts received in the year	12,259	20,399
	Amounts credited to statement of financial activities	(20,399)	(41,572)
	Total deferred income at 31 March 2024	1,505	20,399

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Restricted funds

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

	Movement in funds					Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Access To Justice	-	-	-	-	-	55,714	(55,714)	-	-
Liverpool City Council	-	9,000	(9,440)	440	-	9,000	(10,991)	1,991	-
GMMAP	-	237,235	(242,677)	5,442	-	223,546	(223,789)	243	-
Building Better Opportunities	-	-	(12,206)	12,206	-	-	-	-	-
North West Housing	-	12,184	(21,308)	9,124	-	12,726	(16,548)	3,822	-
Clothworkers	762	-	(762)	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Horizon	-	-	(18,259)	18,259	-	-	-	-	-
National Lottery A4A	-	-	-	-	-	9,867	(9,867)	-	-
Local Neighbourhood Fund	-	-	-	-	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
IMA DRO Funding	-	-	-	-	-	2,781	-	-	2,781
Advice Skills Academy	-	13,273	(13,716)	443	-	11,903	(11,903)	-	-
Enterprise Hub Scheme	-	-	2,162	(2,162)	-	-	-	-	-
Kickstart Scheme	-	5,172	(5,172)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Good Things Foundation, Digital Fund	-	2,000	(2,096)	96	-	10,447	(10,447)	-	-
LCVS CIF	-	1,260	(1,320)	60	-	3,092	(3,092)	-	-
	762	280,124	(324,794)	43,908	-	342,076	(345,351)	6,056	2,781

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Assess to Justice funding is to sustain and improve access to early social welfare advice, to resolve these problems at the earliest opportunity and avoid the need for court or tribunal proceedings where possible. funding runs from July 2023 to March 2025.

Liverpool City Council provide funding to enable home visits to Liverpool residents who, for one reason or another, are unable to access mainstream advice services. The grant of £9,000 from the Community Resources Grant (within Liverpool City Council) was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership (GMMAP), funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS), provides money advice which enable individuals to take back control of the finances through appropriate debt solutions. The Raise costs for staff are more than the grant will allow and therefore, the project cost reflect the actual cost of this project is always over budget. The board were in agreement to used unrestricted funds to offset the additional spending allocation.

Building Better Opportunities: Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund aimed at improving financial capability and progression into training, education and employment. The funds received were for the purposes for which they were intended.

North West Housing provide funding to support their cooperative tenants with their advice needs. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Clothworkers Foundation provide funding to support the organisations capital cost for IT during the pandemic. The grant of £5,100 was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

New Horizons provide funding to support the vulnerable individuals within the LCR to gain skills and experience which enable them to search for work, undertake training or find meaningful employment. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

National Lottery A4A, funding to increase accessibility of advice services by providing an advice worker at outreach locations.

Local Neighbourhood Fund, funding to increase access to advice across Kirkdale through community based drop in sessions.

IMA DRO funding provided by the Money and Pensions Service to maintain and/or increase access to Debt Relief Orders for vulnerable clients.

Advice Skills Academy (2) (ASA), delivers an integrated curriculum of accredited and non-accredited training to people in the Liverpool City Region. It develops and upskills the workforce for specialist Advice Services in the Liverpool City Region, and provides a pathway for unemployed people to compete effectively for job opportunities within the Advice Sector. Advice Skills Academy (2) delivers a range of accredited Level 2 & 3 training and non-accredited courses.

Enterprise Hub Skills (EHS), offers high-quality learning and development opportunities to build the enterprise skills and economic pathways for individuals in the Liverpool City Region. Through tailored engagement, the Enable Team work with local residents, no matter what their background and circumstances, to facilitate access to support that will build an individual's learning plan and promotes enterprise development.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Restricted funds

(Continued)

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new jobs for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment.

Good Things Foundation, Digital Fund - Funding a part time Advisor to expand our services into community settings to engage with local residents, who would find it challenging to access digital resources or alternative high street advice services. This project will empower beneficiaries to take control of their money by providing them with digital skills and resources and access to a blended financial advice service, combining specialist Money Advice, Benefits Advice, Financial and Digital Education.

LCVS CIF - This project delivers holistic financial advice services by combining our existing Debt Advice outreach service with Benefits Advice and Financial Education at outreach locations.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Transfers £	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Reserve fund	176,990	(32,560)	144,430	144,430
	<u>176,990</u>	<u>(32,560)</u>	<u>144,430</u>	<u>144,430</u>

The reserve fund is designated to provide for general contingencies, restructuring the services as well as possible employment termination costs, which includes redundancy liability, likely to be incurred should the charity cease to operate or have to reduce its activities. This is reviewed annually at the start of the year to ensure the charities liabilities are as informed as possible.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	-	-	-	685	-	685
Current assets/(liabilities)	211,955	2,781	214,736	207,403	-	207,403
	<u>211,955</u>	<u>2,781</u>	<u>214,736</u>	<u>208,088</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>208,088</u>

17 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	<u>18,600</u>	<u>19,110</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Aggregate remuneration	76,038	80,603

The stepdaughter of Mr A Wilson, a Trustee, is employed by the charity, her annual remuneration is £24,661 (2023: £26,763), which is considered to be at a market rate.

Mr A Wilson also works for The Big Help which works with Onward Homes, one of RAISE'S contractors. During the year RAISE received £nil (2023: £16,398) from Onward Homes.

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

19 Cash generated from operations

	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	6,648	(40,452)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	685	2,050
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(41,919)	91,807
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	5,911	(8,587)
(Decrease) in deferred income	(18,894)	(21,173)
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(47,569)	23,645

20 Company limited by guarantee

RAISE is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

RAISE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1112830

Accounts

Charity registration number 1112830

Company registration number 03854479 (England and Wales)

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr C Hudson (Chair) Mr A Wilson (Vice Chair) Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer) Ms D McAndrew Ms R Stott	(Appointed 11 May 2022)
Secretary	Ms P Brown	
Charity number	1112830	
Company number	03854479	
Registered office	286 Scotland Road Liverpool L5 5AE	
Independent examiner	Tony Stanley ACA BWM Tempest Suite 5.1 12 Tithebarn Street Liverpool L2 2DT	
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc P O Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT Santander UK PLC Bridle Road Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB Aldermore Business Savings Aldermore Bank Western House Lynch Wood Peterborough PE2 6FZ	

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

About Raise

Raise is an independent anti-poverty charity, working in 1 of the 5 most deprived areas in country. We have delivered specialist Welfare Rights, and Debt (Money Advice), support for over 20 years across the Liverpool City Region. We work with local agencies, social landlords and community-hubs reaching the most difficult to engage clients and provide a responsive, person-centred casework service, delivered flexibly to meet the needs of vulnerable clients. We are FCA Registered and we hold Advice Quality Standards and Cyber Essentials Accreditations.

Raise provides free, confidential and impartial information, advice and advocacy, ensuring the most vulnerable have equal access to support and justice. A large proportion of our clients experience engagement barriers due to a variety of reasons including low self-confidence, digital exclusion, poor literacy skills, mental ill-health, physical disabilities, learning differences, alcohol and/or substance dependency, and/or chaotic lifestyles. A personable approach by our Caseworkers / Advisors teases the information from clients, assisting and supporting them at all stages.

Our flexible delivery approach allows our workers to engage with the clients in the most inclusive and effective ways; face-to-face appointments at our offices or at local community hubs and drop-ins, by telephone, email, text or live video support. Uniquely, we also deliver the services in the client's home if this is appropriate and if this is the best option to support the client.

By working in partnership with other organisations, including directly in community-hubs and with such as food-banks and home-furnishings charities etc, building and developing on established community trust, we are able to reach clients that otherwise would struggle to access our services.

Working with Housing Associations

Raise has established strong long-term partnerships with Housing Associations. They continue to manage huge challenges due to the consequences of the cost-of-living crisis, the impact of the pandemic and the continued impact of Welfare Reform, among other aspects. The Social Housing Sector houses more vulnerable groups than other sectors and Raise works proactively with the Housing Associations to support their tenants, through a range of services tailored to each individual. This complements the support the Housing Associations provide for their tenants, and helps to minimise financial related tenancy issues, and helps to promote successful tenancies.

The impact of our work

Quantitatively the impact for clients is measured through the financial gains achieved and the number of appeals won. But the impact is also life-changing for the clients, positively affecting clients' standard-of-living, their health (physical and mental) life choices and life chances. We monitor and learn through tracking cases and keeping detailed statistics. Clients are encouraged to provide feedback in various formats and responses are used to review and implement improvements.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Vision, Mission and Values

- **Our Vision**

To champion the fight against poverty and inequality enabling people to take control of their lives.

- **Our Mission**

Providing outstanding specialist services for individuals incorporating benefit advice, representation, debt and money management that are accessible at the point of need and empower people to achieve a better standard of living.

Our Values statement

Respect we value people by adopting a non-judgmental approach alongside recognising the strengths of others and being committed to working in partnership.

Accessible we deliver services that are adaptable and free to clients at their point of need whilst embracing equality, diversity and basic human rights for all.

Independent how we interact with others is authentic and real to whom we are as an organisation.

Support we are client-focused and deliver services that demonstrate empathy with clients along their journey with Raise.

Excellence everything Raise creates and delivers is of a standard that we feel proud of.

Confidentiality we respect every individual's personal information and circumstance and act professionally to protect this.

Our Strategic Aims are:

Strategic Aim 1: To ensure the organisation is well governed, well managed and fit-for-purpose.

Strategic Aim 2: To create sustainability and resilience that will enable Raise to continue delivering services.

Strategic Aim 3: To create a greater awareness of the organisation and its services.

Strategic Aim 4: To continue to explore, design and deliver services that are fit-for-purpose and meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Under these Strategic Aims sits an Operational Plan which details the short, medium and long-term milestones. Each year the Board of Trustees meet to agree the milestones which will take priority for that year and they become the organisation's annual objectives. The Chief Officer reports quarterly on the progress made towards these objectives. In order to support the organisation's annual objectives we have several working groups that meet during the course of the year.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Raise Services

Welfare Benefits Rights / Advice

We provide general and specialist advice/rights services which responds to the problems our clients face. Our work includes benefits checks, support with form filling eg Personal Independence Payment – PIP), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), and Universal Credit (UC). Our work runs right through to specialist level, including benefit appeals for tax credits or housing benefit, and appealing decisions in the Upper Tribunal. We help individuals to navigate the benefits system that is now more complex than ever before.

When required we challenge the welfare system to ensure access is achieved fairly and equitably. Our Team of specialist workers managed 2000+ Welfare Rights referrals last year. Over a third of these cases involved some level of decision challenging. Our success in having decisions overturned before an appeal hearing increases, as we continuously improve the quality feedback of our early interventions. We also discuss our anonymised data-sets and case-studies with senior staff within the welfare system (notably the DWP) to highlight system injustices and encourage changes.

Money Advice

We provide a comprehensive Money Advice Service. Our expert Advisors explore client's financial position – income, spend and debt. Advisors then guide clients through options, advising on aspects including payment plans, voluntary agreements, debt relief orders and bankruptcy. We provide a Caseworker service so that clients feel they are being supported to make the changes they need to ensure on-going financial sustainability, with plans for the immediate issues and moving forward.

Financial Capability

We work with clients to build their confidence and skills encouraging them to feel engaged with and in better control of their finances. We support clients with basic budgeting, saving and making the most of their money through informed choice. With so much confusing (and in some cases incorrect) information on various platforms, people can become overwhelmed. By supporting people to strengthen their financial capability we help to build confidence to navigate the world of money and finance.

Added Value

The Team have an extensive knowledge of national schemes and community links to provide additional support for clients, eg grant applications or gaining household or children's items, data connectivity, etc. Raise also works proactively with community partners and refers clients to a variety of support services.

Our Teams also pick-up on issues including safeguarding, domestic violence, gambling harms and/or mental health concerns. We liaise with external partners and will arrange joint visits as appropriate.

Information, Training and Support

Our monthly Welfare Benefits *Bulletin*, emailed directly to a large list of contacts, helps to keep our partner Housing Association staff teams and other community partners up-to-date. This informs partners of welfare benefit changes, how that will affect some clients and what steps can be taken to challenge or manage those changes.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We have a Team of Welfare Benefits specialists who are qualified to deliver welfare benefits rights training and we work with Housing Association staff teams to ensure they are trained in welfare rights issues, notably those that they have identified as a need or requirement. We meet regularly with Housing Association partners to ensure that our services, information, training and support is responsive to current and emerging issues.

ENABLE Team (Employment related support)

Until the end of the project work during the year, we supported clients to overcome barriers to finding employment, and individually assessed their needs to provide bespoke 1:1 support. The Team included experienced welfare trained Caseworkers who provided support to help clients get their benefits on-track, Better-Off advice and money management skills and tips. Our experienced Employment and Skills Advisor worked individually with clients to identify their learning and skills needs, agree a plan of action and then support them to access free skills training, provide personalised coaching, job search activities, CV advice and interview skills practice.

Through delivering bespoke soft-skills and technical skills training we also supported clients to gain the most from volunteering opportunities. This personalised support broadened client's knowledge and capabilities and improved their work-related confidence. Several beneficiaries volunteered with Raise during the year, all of whom went on to undertake training, volunteering and/or employment opportunities.

Effective use of technology to improve service delivery

The organisation made significant changes to its delivery of services as a consequence of the pandemic lockdown from March 2020. Further investment in ITC, including cloud-based systems has ensured that services can be effectively and securely delivered in a range of formats. This hybrid delivery model proved to be responsive for the clients, and allows our Teams to deliver services with full flexibility. From in-person appointments in our offices, and the use of email, text, phone calls and video calls, to in-person in community settings and even in the client's home, we can provide services in a format that works for the client.

The case management system AdvicePro for data management has proved a positive change. With over a full year's data now held, we are better able to draw out trends and specific data to analyse and improve our service.

Working with partners

The Raise service delivery Teams work effectively with community partners, achieving tailored interventions for clients at "grass-roots". But our organisation also works with City, City Region, regional and national partners to influence change. Through our work in formal and informal groups we aim to address the challenges and issues faced by individuals in the Liverpool communities.

Our Management Team members attend a variety of meetings and events. Our Chief Officer is on the Committee of LATAN, (Liverpool Access to Advice Network). This membership Network has influenced local decision makers, including on the City Council budget decisions that directly affect the support available for city residents. Our Chief Officer also sits on the Marmot Partnership, a City Council organised multi-agency strategic collective tackling specific issues affecting the health and wellbeing of City residents, including housing, income, employment, children's issues and community resilience.

Our Management Team are also members of and contribute to various Partnerships, Forums and Groups, including the Welfare Reform Group, North West Housing Association Communication Meetings, various DWP Partnership Meetings, North West Mental Health & Welfare Rights Group, Liverpool Law Society Access to Justice Meetings, Liverpool City Council Consultation Group, Child Poverty Action Group and liaison with local Councillors and MPs, just to name a few. These discussions ensure the collective knowledge in the sector is current and responsive. It also drives improvements in service delivery, systems and processes and influences positive change of welfare rights policy and legislation. We work proactively, to encourage and drive collaborative working where we can be a positive driving force in continuously improving existing services and developing new responsive services.

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Moving forward into 2023/2024

We plan to enhance our delivery model further to ensure that our services are fully responsive to client needs. Requests for face-to-face service delivery in client homes is increasing and we are also working closely with our community partners to deliver our services in additional community venues.

With existing telephone and digital services delivery we can offer a fully flexible and responsive holistic service. We are also developing our "wrap-round" service which offers financial and digital capability, alongside welfare rights and debt advice to help our clients understand and engage with their finances, upskilling them to take control of their money. We will also continue to work proactively with Housing Associations and community partners to co-develop and co-deliver services and projects. Raise is also committed to ensure that clients are encouraged to assist us to co-develop the services we delivery for them.

We will seek to strengthen our policy influencing work with dedicated personnel. With additional time and focussed expertise we hope to increase our capacity to challenge incorrect welfare benefits decisions and influence policy reform, and as a consequence further reduce the unfairness and inequity of the system experienced by some clients. Benefits overpayments in Liverpool during the year were approximately £4.6m, (ONS). The subsequent recovery of the overpayments can result in great hardship, and our proactive work with the benefit system authorities to improve a variety of aspects will reduce the consequent issues for claimants. This work, combined with raising public awareness of, and reducing the stigma of claiming benefits, will hopefully assist in addressing the high level of underclaiming of benefits in Liverpool, (approximately £9.2m in 2022/3). This is not only good for the claimant, often lifting them out of poverty and improving their life choices and aspirations. But it is good for the City, bringing additional money into the economy.

Achievements and performance

2022-2023 saw gains increase by 125% from 2021-2022, as effects of the Covid pandemic and onset of the Cost of Living crisis became evident. Our Advice and Casework yielded just over £7.1m gains in total, including £5.6m in welfare benefits.

The highest categories for extra benefits were:

- Personal Independence Payments £2.7m
- Universal Credit £968k
- Housing Costs £508k
- Pension Age benefits £385k.

Our clients came to us with £7m of debt, a 67% increase on 2021-2022 and we helped clear £1.5m (up from £373k).

Amount of debt

Less Than £5000	423
£5,000 to £10,000	187
£10,000 to £20,000	146
£20,000 to £30,000	38
Greater than £30,000	37

We almost doubled the charitable grants (£74k from £37.9k) we successfully applied for on behalf of clients, and handed out 141 food bank vouchers and around 70 Vodafone Sim cards with 6 months free data.

Referrals and Visits

During 2022-2023 Raise received 3509 referrals, an increase of 27% on 2021-2022 for Welfare Benefits and Money Advice.

Between April 2022 and March 2023 we opened 2506 new welfare or debt cases.

Client Profile

For the year, our client demographic for ethnicity was made up of 92% white British, 3% black or black British, 2% Asian/Asian British with our other BAME groups making up the remaining 3%.

62% of clients were female, (down from 62%). 62% of clients were aged between 46 and 65. 84% disclosed a disability, up from 76%. 46% of clients were unemployed, 18% either self-employed or working, whilst 12% were retired and 7% were carers.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Funders

Our long standing contracting arrangements with Housing Associations continued, and during this year Raise held contracts with; Torus Foundation, Plus Dane, Prima Group, One Vision Housing, Northwest Housing, Onward Housing and Family Housing Association.

Additional contracts and funding came from:

- The Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership funded through the Money and pensions Service (MaPS)
- New Horizons funded by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund(with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Advice Skills Academy by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Enterprise Hub Skills by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Liverpool City Council's Community Resource Unit for our vulnerable @Home advice service
- LJMU and Edge Hill funding for student social worker placements
- HMCTS through the Good Things Foundation for digital appeals support to clients.
- Good Things Foundation – Digital Inclusion Capability Grant
- National Lottery Awards for All
- LCVS – Community Impact Fund

Raise would like to thank existing funders as well as the Good Things Foundation, LCVS and Liverpool City Council for their support during the year. All our funders enable Raise to reach the most vulnerable, relieve the hardship of our clients and help to make positive changes to people's lives.

Financial review

2022-23 has been a year of change and adaptation with Raise showing financial resilience against unfortunate occurrences during the year, indicated by the bad debts written off in this year's accounts amounting to -£28.7k. Raise has worked hard throughout the year to both generate income and cut costs to shape a more financially balanced service which we continue to work on into 2023-24.

Income from benefit contracts increased by +10%, £36k, in 2022-23 attributable to the continuation of our contract with Torus; +11%, +£27k, and a six-month contract with Onward Homes; +34%, +£4k on last year. Raise has welcomed inflationary increases to existing contracts. There has been a significant decrease in grant income in 2022-23; -34%, -£145k, with 3 of 4 ESF projects ending; Building Better Opportunities, Enterprise Hub Scheme and New Horizons, totalling -£155k compared to the previous year. Raise saw new grant income from LCVS Community Impact Fund and the Good Things foundation Digital Inclusion and saw the end to the Kickstart Scheme in year. There was a slight reduction to University Student Placement income with four student placements during the year, compared to six the previous year, -£1,800.

Further savings on expenditure were seen in 2022-23; -13% on last year, -£104k. Most of this saving was achieved through payroll savings; -13%, -£92k, with staff on the New Horizons Project disbanding in October, and as a result of reducing income unfortunately one staff redundancy was made within the year. Non-salary expenditure decreased by -12%, -£12k (PY £96k, TY £84k) with savings on IT -£3k, Professional Fees -£6.6k, and other small savings across most accounts. Raise continues to offer hybrid working to its employees which has proven to be effective operationally for the charity.

Looking forward, 2023-24 will see the organisation seek broader income strands to support identified areas of project delivery. Raise will also take the opportunity to review its cost structure and move forward from the challenges faced in 2022-23.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2023 the unrestricted designated reserves were £144,430 (2022: £176,990), restricted reserves were £nil (2022: £762) and unrestricted free reserves of £63,658 (2022: £70788). This gives a reserve value of £208,088.

Unrestricted reserve

The Trustees believe that Raise should hold financial reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs plus statutory redundancy and notice for all employees with at least 2 years service, in order to ensure that the charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially financially damaging circumstances arising.

Designated reserves

The trustees consider that it would be prudent to set aside an amount for 'flexible reserves'. This could be used for:

- the purpose of restructuring the service
- meeting unforeseen expenditure
- maintaining the charity's asset base in good order through provision for upgrades and replacement
- for use in an emergency if Raise operated at a deficit
- moving cost if Raise were to relocate
- subject to Board approval, to fund a project that would enable Raise to assist people with financial needs not covered by current funders

The Trustees regularly review the current activity to ensure sufficient reserves are held for delivery, and business plans incorporate a review to ensure adequacy and modest growth.

Restricted reserves

The following funds; ASA; LCC CRG; GMMAP; Northwest Housing; Kickstart; LCVS CIF; Good Things Foundation Digital Inclusion are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the bureau. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between Raise's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned.

Review

This reserves policy is monitored and reviewed by the trustees annually

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Risk policy

In accordance with the guidelines set down by the Charity Commission, the Board of Trustees have considered and identified the governance, operational, financial, external and compliance risks to which the charity is exposed and have taken measures to mitigate any risks identified. The Board will look to strengthen the organisations business continuity and disaster recovery policies but are pleased with how the organisation was able to adapt the service during the pandemic. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees have adopted the Charity Commission's heat map method of risk analysis, with scores 1-7 being green, 8-14 being amber and 15-30 being red, the policy states that amber risks will be regularly reviewed and that red risks will be dealt with immediately.

The biggest risk to Raise is the loss of Housing Association funding due to either financial pressures on the Housing Associations or a loss of contracts due to Housing Associations being privatised as a result of Government policy. Existing management of this risk includes promoting the value of the welfare rights and debt services to reduce rent arrears and increase levels of rent collection, participation in Housing Associations' Welfare Reform Group, diversifying funding streams by applying for appropriate funding opportunities and having a flexible approach to pricing our services. The Trustees have implemented existing risk management with three monthly reviews to mitigate this risk. Raise will also continue to seek extra funding from Housing Associations, local and national government, and grant-giving bodies for its core work and complementary projects.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 7 October 1999 and registered as a charity on 25 January 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association.

According to the constitution overall control of the company resides with the Board of Directors. Every issue may be determined by the Board by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting but a written resolution signed by all the Trustees is as valid a resolution passed at a meeting.

All staff and volunteers are accountable to the Board of Directors. Within the policies determined by the Board the Chief Officer has the authority and responsibility to ensure the smooth and effective running of the Service.

Appointment of Trustees is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new Trustees to fill vacancies including through the death or resignation of an existing Trustee.

The Board maintains a list of the necessary range of skills and experience for Board members. The Chair conducts an annual audit of existing Trustees to identify any gaps in skills or experience and to decide on any necessary training or recruitment to fill those gaps. Trustees operate to a role description with newly recruited Trustees receiving induction and support from more experienced Trustees.

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

Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Mr A Wilson (Vice Chair)

Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)

Ms D McAndrew

Ms R Stott

(Appointed 11 May 2022)

Senior staff members 2022/23:

Penny Brown, Chief Officer

Linda Daley, Operations Manager

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Small company provisions

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

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

Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Trustee

Dated: 4 December 2023

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors of Raise Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

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

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

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAISE LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RAISE Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Tony Stanley ACA

BWM
Tempest
Suite 5.1
12 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool
L2 2DT

Dated: 11 December 2023

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes				
<u>Income from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	80	-	80	2,296
Charitable activities	4	393,070	280,124	673,194	784,078
Investments	5	-	-	-	198
Total income		393,150	280,124	673,274	786,572
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	6	388,931	324,795	713,726	804,858
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		4,219	(44,671)	(40,452)	(18,286)
Gross transfers between funds	15	(43,909)	43,909	-	-
Net movement in funds		(39,690)	(762)	(40,452)	(18,286)
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		247,778	762	248,540	266,826
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		208,088	-	208,088	248,540

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes			
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	3	761	1,535	2,296
Charitable activities	4	358,710	425,368	784,078
Investments	5	198	-	198
Total income		359,669	426,903	786,572
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	348,726	456,132	804,858
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		10,943	(29,229)	(18,286)
Gross transfers between funds	15	(28,465)	28,465	-
Net movement in funds		(17,522)	(764)	(18,286)
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		265,300	1,526	266,826
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		247,778	762	248,540

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		685		2,735
Current assets					
Debtors	12	30,391		122,198	
Cash at bank and in hand		240,627		216,982	
		<u>271,018</u>		<u>339,180</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(63,615)</u>		<u>(93,375)</u>	
Net current assets			207,403		245,805
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>208,088</u>		<u>248,540</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	15		-		762
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	16	144,430		176,990	
General unrestricted funds		<u>63,658</u>		<u>70,788</u>	
			208,088		247,778
			<u>208,088</u>		<u>248,540</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 4 December 2023

Mr C Hudson (Chair)
Trustee

Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)
Trustee

Company registration number 03854479

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	20		23,645		(33,683)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(2,057)	
Investment income received		-		198	
Net cash used in investing activities			-		(1,859)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			23,645		(35,542)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			216,982		252,524
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>240,627</u>		<u>216,982</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

RAISE Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 286 Scotland Road, Liverpool, L5 5AE.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity, and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

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

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, and contract income is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the preconditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to preconditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in restricted funds when receivable.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Voluntary income includes discretionary grants for projects, goods and services where no service agreement or contract exists.

Income from donated services and facilities is included at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised when there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure reflects all amounts paid and accrued during the year. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis. Staff costs are apportioned between activities on the basis of an assessment of the time spent by individual employees on those activities.

Charitable expenditure

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

Governance costs

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

All assets costing more than £200 are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office and computer equipment	33% per annum on a straight line basis
-------------------------------	--

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

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

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

1.11 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

1.12 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is also able to partially recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure that is not recoverable by the charity is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts in the year in which they are paid.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	80	-	80	761
Grants receivable	-	-	-	1,535
	<u>80</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>2,296</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2022	<u>761</u>	<u>1,535</u>		<u>2,296</u>
Donations and gifts				
Other	80	-	80	761
	<u>80</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>761</u>
Grants receivable for core activities				
Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	1,535
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,535</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4 Charitable activities

	Debt and welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Total	Debt and welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Enterprise Hub Scheme	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizons	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	388,230	-	388,230	351,820	-	-	-	-	351,820
Performance related grants	266,851	13,273	280,124	236,341	34,341	43,358	35,922	75,406	425,368
Other income	4,840	-	4,840	6,890	-	-	-	-	6,890
	<u>659,921</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>673,194</u>	<u>595,051</u>	<u>34,341</u>	<u>43,358</u>	<u>35,922</u>	<u>75,406</u>	<u>784,078</u>
Analysis by fund									
Unrestricted funds	393,070	-	393,070	358,710	-	-	-	-	358,710
Restricted funds	266,851	13,273	280,124	236,341	34,341	43,358	35,922	75,406	425,368
	<u>659,921</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>673,194</u>	<u>595,051</u>	<u>34,341</u>	<u>43,358</u>	<u>35,922</u>	<u>75,406</u>	<u>784,078</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	-	198
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Charitable activities

	Debt & welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Enterprise Hub Scheme	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizon	Total 2023	Total 2022
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	£	£
Staff costs	415,435	13,273	-	-	(255)	428,453	556,064
Office costs	6,310	-	-	72	73	6,455	1,838
Staff and volunteer costs	(1,859)	-	-	-	95	(1,764)	2,049
Other costs	1,354	443	(2,162)	12,206	18,418	30,259	3,381
	<u>421,240</u>	<u>13,716</u>	<u>(2,162)</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>18,331</u>	<u>463,403</u>	<u>563,332</u>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	242,478	-	-	-	-	242,478	208,606
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	7,845	-	-	-	-	7,845	32,920
	<u>671,563</u>	<u>13,716</u>	<u>(2,162)</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>18,331</u>	<u>713,726</u>	<u>804,858</u>
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	388,786	-	-	72	73	388,931	348,726
Restricted funds	282,777	13,716	(2,162)	12,206	18,258	324,795	456,132
	<u>671,563</u>	<u>13,716</u>	<u>(2,162)</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>18,331</u>	<u>713,726</u>	<u>804,858</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Charitable activities

(Continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Debt & welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Enterprise Hub Scheme	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizon	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	376,051	38,916	40,454	32,385	68,258	556,064
Office costs	1,558	-	-	126	154	1,838
Staff and volunteer costs	1,734	-	-	-	315	2,049
Other costs	3,381	-	-	-	-	3,381
	<u>382,724</u>	<u>38,916</u>	<u>40,454</u>	<u>32,511</u>	<u>68,727</u>	<u>563,332</u>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	196,713	-	2,679	3,052	6,162	208,606
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	31,042	-	423	482	973	32,920
	<u>610,479</u>	<u>38,916</u>	<u>43,556</u>	<u>36,045</u>	<u>75,862</u>	<u>804,858</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	343,974	4,575	-	23	154	348,726
Restricted funds	266,505	34,341	43,556	36,022	75,708	456,132
	<u>610,479</u>	<u>38,916</u>	<u>43,556</u>	<u>36,045</u>	<u>75,862</u>	<u>804,858</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023 Support costs	Governance costs	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	177,879	-	177,879	139,439	139,439
Depreciation	2,050	-	2,050	4,190	4,190
Premises costs	23,767	-	23,767	21,625	21,625
Office costs	33,084	-	33,084	43,823	43,823
Staff and volunteer costs	3,088	-	3,088	(2,152)	(2,152)
Other costs	2,610	-	2,610	1,681	1,681
Independent examination	-	750	750	-	650
Accountancy	-	2,250	2,250	-	2,735
Legal and professional	-	4,845	4,845	-	29,535
	<u>242,478</u>	<u>7,845</u>	<u>250,323</u>	<u>208,606</u>	<u>241,526</u>
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	<u>242,478</u>	<u>7,845</u>	<u>250,323</u>	<u>208,606</u>	<u>241,526</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the Independent Examiner for independent examination fees of £750 (2022: £650) and payments of £2,250 for accountancy fees (2022: £2,735).

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2022: £nil). No trustees were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2022: £nil).

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Debt and welfare rights advisors	19	21
Administration	6	6
Building Better Opportunities	-	1
New Horizons	2	-
	<u>25</u>	<u>28</u>

Employment costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	541,173	620,246
Social security costs	40,523	47,948
Other pension costs	24,636	27,309
	<u>606,332</u>	<u>695,503</u>

Included in wages is redundancy payments of £3,413 (2022: £nil).

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

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Office and computer equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	35,554
Disposals	(1,298)
	<u>34,256</u>
At 31 March 2023	
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2022	32,819
Depreciation charged in the year	2,050
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(1,298)
	<u>33,571</u>
At 31 March 2023	
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2023	<u>685</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,735</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11	Financial instruments		2023	2022
			£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets			
	Debt instruments measured at amortised cost		260,816	329,953
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities			
	Measured at amortised cost		23,661	34,919
12	Debtors		2023	2022
			£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:			
	Trade debtors		6,609	8,228
	Other debtors		13,580	104,743
	Prepayments		10,202	9,227
			30,391	122,198
13	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2023	2022
		Notes	£	£
	Other taxation and social security		19,555	16,884
	Deferred income	14	20,399	41,572
	Trade creditors		6,855	13,501
	Other creditors		2,263	1,656
	Accruals		14,543	19,762
			63,615	93,375
14	Deferred income		2023	2022
			£	£
	Other deferred income		20,399	41,572
	Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:			
			2023	2022
			£	£
	Total deferred income at 1 April 2022		41,572	29,317
	Amounts received in the year		20,399	41,572
	Amounts credited to statement of financial activities		(41,572)	(29,317)
	Total deferred income at 31 March 2023		20,399	41,572

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Restricted funds

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

	Movement in funds					Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Liverpool City Council	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	-	9,000	(9,440)	440	-	
GMMAP	-	194,976	(223,441)	28,465	-	237,235	(242,677)	5,442	-	
Building Better Opportunities	-	35,922	(35,922)	-	-	-	(12,206)	12,206	-	
North West Housing	-	11,829	(11,829)	-	-	12,184	(21,308)	9,124	-	
Clothworkers	1,526	-	(764)	-	762	-	(762)	-	-	
JRS Grant	-	1,535	(1,535)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
New Horizon	-	75,406	(75,406)	-	-	-	(18,259)	18,259	-	
HM Courts and Tribunal Service	-	875	(875)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PH Holt	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Skelton Charity	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Advice Skills Academy	-	34,341	(34,341)	-	-	13,273	(13,716)	443	-	
Enterprise Hub Scheme	-	43,358	(43,358)	-	-	-	2,162	(2,162)	-	
Kickstart Scheme	-	13,661	(13,661)	-	-	5,172	(5,172)	-	-	
Good Things Foundation, Digital Fund	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	(2,096)	96	-	
LCVS CIF	-	-	-	-	-	1,260	(1,320)	60	-	
	1,526	426,903	(456,132)	28,465	762	280,124	(324,794)	43,908	-	

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Liverpool City Council provide funding to enable home visits to Liverpool residents who, for one reason or another, are unable to access mainstream advice services. The grant of £9,000 from the Community Resources Grant (within Liverpool City Council) was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership (GMMAP), funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS), provides money advice which enable individuals to take back control of the finances through appropriate debt solutions. The Raise costs for staff are more than the grant will allow and therefore, the project cost reflect the actual cost of this project is always over budget. The board were in agreement to used unrestricted funds to offset the additional spending allocation.

Building Better Opportunities: Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund aimed at improving financial capability and progression into training, education and employment. The funds received were for the purposes for which they were intended.

North West Housing provide funding to support their cooperative tenants with their advice needs. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Clothworkers Foundation provide funding to support the organisations capital cost for IT during the pandemic. The grant of £5,100 was used for the purpose for which it was awarded

The HMRC JRS Grant is the UK government's flagship support measure for organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic. It offers grants to cover a proportion of the salaries of furloughed staff.

New Horizons provide funding to support the vulnerable individuals within the LCR to gain skills and experience which enable them to search for work, undertake training or find meaningful employment. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

HM Courts & Tribunal Service. Unit fee per person, at £75 per client, to help people to submit a digital appeal against a benefit decision.

P H Holt, a single grant of £5000 towards the salary cost of a Welfare Claims Advisor.

Skelton Charity, one off grant to pay for expenses for volunteers including headsets, and AdvicePro licencing.

Advice Skills Academy (2) (ASA), delivers an integrated curriculum of accredited and non-accredited training to people in the Liverpool City Region. It develops and upskills the workforce for specialist Advice Services in the Liverpool City Region, and provides a pathway for unemployed people to compete effectively for job opportunities within the Advice Sector. Advice Skills Academy (2) delivers a range of accredited Level 2 & 3 training and non-accredited courses.

Enterprise Hub Skills (EHS), offers high-quality learning and development opportunities to build the enterprise skills and economic pathways for individuals in the Liverpool City Region. Through tailored engagement, the Enable Team work with local residents, no matter what their background and circumstances, to facilitate access to support that will build an individual's learning plan and promotes enterprise development.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Restricted funds

(Continued)

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new jobs for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment.

Good Things Foundation, Digital Fund - Funding a part time Advisor to expand our services into community settings to engage with local residents, who would find it challenging to access digital resources or alternative high street advice services. This project will empower beneficiaries to take control of their money by providing them with digital skills and resources and access to a blended financial advice service, combining specialist Money Advice, Benefits Advice, Financial and Digital Education.

LCVS CIF - This project delivers holistic financial advice services by combining our existing Debt Advice outreach service with Benefits Advice and Financial Education at outreach locations.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Balance at 31 March 2023 £
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Transfers £	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Transfers £	
Reserve fund	176,990	-	176,990	(32,560)	144,430
	<u>176,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,990</u>	<u>(32,560)</u>	<u>144,430</u>

The reserve fund is designated to provide for general contingencies, restructuring the services as well as possible employment termination costs, which includes redundancy liability, likely to be incurred should the charity cease to operate or have to reduce its activities. This is reviewed annually at the start of the year to ensure the charities liabilities are as informed as possible.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	685	-	685	2,735	-	2,735
Current assets/(liabilities)	<u>207,403</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207,403</u>	<u>245,043</u>	<u>762</u>	<u>245,805</u>
	<u>208,088</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>208,088</u>	<u>247,778</u>	<u>762</u>	<u>248,540</u>

18 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	<u>19,110</u>	<u>19,110</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Aggregate remuneration	80,603	85,386

The stepdaughter of Mr A Wilson, a Trustee, is employed by the charity, her annual remuneration is £26,763, which is considered to be at a market rate.

Mr A Wilson also works for The Big Help which works with Onward Homes, one of RAISE'S contractors. During the year RAISE received £16,398 (2022: £15,716) from Onward Homes.

There were no other related party transactions during the year (2022: none).

20 Cash generated from operations

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deficit for the year	(40,452)	(18,286)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	-	(198)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	2,050	4,190
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	91,807	(38,846)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(8,587)	7,202
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(21,173)	12,255
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	23,645	(33,683)

21 Company limited by guarantee

RAISE is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

RAISE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1112830

Accounts

Charity registration number 1112830

Company registration number 03854479 (England and Wales)

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr A Wilson	
	Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)	
	Mr C Hudson (Chair)	
	Ms D McAndrew	(Appointed 20 October 2021)
	Ms R Stott	(Appointed 11 May 2022)
Secretary	Ms P Brown	
Charity number	1112830	
Company number	03854479	
Registered office	286 Scotland Road Liverpool L5 5AE	
Independent examiner	Tony Stanley ACA BWM Tempest Suite 5.1 12 Tithebarn Street Liverpool L2 2DT	
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc P O Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	
	Santander UK PLC Bridle Road Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB	
	Aldermore Business Savings Aldermore Bank Western House Lynch Wood Peterborough PE2 6FZ	

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

About Raise – Background and History

An independent charity founded in 1999, Raise gives much-needed advice on welfare benefits, debt and money management to the people of the Liverpool City Region (LCR) and its hinterlands, including Housing Association tenants.

The Team work from offices in Everton and provide in-person and telephone services. But many of our clients are unable to access mainstream Advice Services because of disability, age, caring responsibilities, mental health issues, or isolation. So Raise also works with clients in their own homes, when appropriate. This responsiveness and the flexibility of our service deliver is the key to our success.

Over more than 2 decades Raise has transformed itself from a small 'Benefits Advice Team' to a substantial multi-disciplinary organisation with 31 staff members and over 10 regular volunteers (including 4 Board members, at the end of this financial period).

Utilising our Triage Team, we ensure that more than 90% of referrals are converted into cases. We prioritise emergencies and focus on those clients who are vulnerable and most in need, especially those who are not able to access mainstream advice services.

Raise has established strong long-term partnerships with Housing Associations. The Social Sector houses more vulnerable groups than other sectors ([English Housing Survey 2020/2021](#)). Whilst the quality of the housing accommodation is generally better than privately owned or private rented accommodation, (eg energy efficiency), tenants in social sector housing require additional support. The English Housing Survey noted that tenants in social housing were hit with higher job loss or job reduction rates than people from other tenures as a consequence of the pandemic. Also, social housing tenants are less likely to have access to amenities such as the internet, a private outside space, and have lower wellbeing scores than people from other tenures. By supporting Housing Association tenants with debt, welfare and money management advice and guidance, Raise is helping to redress the social and economic inequality.

Our Advice and Casework has delivered millions of pounds in extra benefits payments and reduced debts for tenants. Housing Associations are facing huge challenges due to the consequences of the pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis and the continued impact of Welfare Reform. Raise is committed to work with Housing Associations to support their tenants through a range of services tailored to each individual. This complements the support the Housing Associations provide for their tenants, helps to minimise financial related tenancy issues, and helps to promote successful tenancies.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

About Raise - vision, mission and values

Our vision

To champion the fight against poverty and inequality enabling people to take control of their lives.

Our mission

Providing outstanding specialist services for individuals incorporating benefit advice, representation, debt and money management that are accessible at the point of need and empower people to achieve a better standard of living.

Our values statement

Respect – We value people by adopting a non-judgmental approach alongside recognising the strengths of others and being committed to working in partnership.

Accessible – We deliver services that are adaptable and free to clients at their point of need whilst embracing equality, diversity and basic human rights for all.

Independent – How we interact with others is authentic and real to whom we are as an organisation.

Support – We are client focused and deliver services that demonstrate empathy with clients along their journey with Raise.

Excellence – Everything Raise creates and delivers is of a standard that we feel proud of.

Confidentiality – We respect every individual's personal information and circumstance and act professionally to protect this.

Our Strategic Aims are:

Strategic Aim 1: To ensure the organisation is well governed, well managed and fit for purpose.

Strategic Aim 2: To create sustainability and resilience that will enable Raise to continue delivering services.

Strategic Aim 3: To create a greater awareness of the organisation and its services.

Strategic Aim 4: To continue to explore, design and deliver services that are fit for purpose and meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Under these Aims sits an Operation Plan which details the short, medium and long term milestones. Each year the Board of Trustees meet to agree the milestones which will take priority for that year and they become the organisation's annual objectives. The Chief Officer reports quarterly on the progress made towards these objectives. In order to support the organisation's annual objectives we have several working groups that meet during the course of the year.

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Raise Advice Services

Benefits advice

We provide the advice people need for the problems they face within the field of Welfare Benefits at a generalist advice level, for example, benefit checks and benefit form filling (personal independence payment (PIP) and employment and support allowance (ESA), universal credit right through to specialist advice which could start at benefit appeals for tax credits, housing benefit through to appealing a bedroom tax decision in the Upper Tribunal. We help individuals to navigate the complex system, that is now more complicated than ever before due to the changes that Welfare Reform has brought about since 2011.

Money advice

We provide a comprehensive money advice service that is licensed by the Financial Conduct Authority. We support people to maximise their income and reduce their debt by advising on their options such as monthly payment plans, debt relief orders and bankruptcy. We provide a caseworker service so that clients feel they are being supported to make the changes they need to ensure ongoing financial sustainability.

Financial Capability

We support people to become financially capable and able to confidently navigate the world of money and finance. We help people with basic budgeting, saving and making the most of their money. With so many offers and comparison sites on the market, people do get overwhelmed with different products and services. We can support them to ensure they know the basics and can make shrewd decisions on switching providers and saving. This ultimately leads to greater financial confidence that enables people to make more informed decisions about their financial future.

ENABLE team

We support clients to overcome barriers to finding employment, and individually assess their needs to provide bespoke 1:1 support. The Team includes experienced welfare trained caseworkers who can provide free help in getting their benefits on-track, providing Better-Off advice and money management skills and tips. Our experienced Employment and Skills Advisor works individually with clients to identify their learning and skills needs, agree a plan of action and then support them to access free skills training, provide personalised coaching, job search activities, CV advice and interview skills practice. Our experienced Volunteer and Training Co-ordinator supports those who will benefit from volunteering opportunities by delivering bespoke soft-skills and technical skills training to enrich client's knowledge and capabilities and improve their work related confidence.

Information, Training and Support

Our Partner Housing Association staff teams, and other community partners are kept up-to-date by Raise with our monthly Welfare Benefits *Bulletin* which is emailed directly to a large list of contacts. This informs Partners of welfare benefit changes, how that will affect some clients and what steps can be taken to challenge or manage those changes. We have a Team of Welfare Benefits Specialists who are qualified to deliver welfare benefits training and we work with Housing Association staff teams to ensure they are trained in welfare rights issues, especially those that they have identified as a need or requirement. We meet regularly with Housing Association Partners to ensure that our services, information, training and support is responsive.

Hybrid Service Delivery

The organisation made significant changes to its delivery of services as a consequence of the pandemic lockdown from March 2020. Further investment in ITC, including cloud-based systems has ensured that services can be effectively and securely delivered in a range of formats. As the effects of and the management arrangements for the pandemic progressed, this hybrid delivery model proved to be responsive for the clients, but also allowed for Raise to continue to provide services even if Team members were self-isolating.

The case management system AdvicePro became more embedded into the organisation. At the end of March the old system was ready to be fully replaced by AdvicePro, although there needed to be a transition period to ensure any live client cases were transferred to the new system. Advice Pro allows for secure case management, and is also a more sophisticated data analysis tool. This allows Raise to draw-out trends and client analysis.

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Moving forward into 2022/23

We plan to develop our hybrid delivery model further to ensure that our services are fully responsive to clients' needs. Face-to-face service delivery in client's homes will return to its full potential in the year. We will also provide regular services in community venues, working closely with our community partners. These together with our telephone and digital services delivery will allow for a fully flexible and responsive suite of service delivery options. We will also work proactively with Housing Associations and community partners to co-develop and co-deliver services and projects. Raise is also committed to ensure that clients are encouraged to assist us to co-develop the services we delivery for them.

The value of specialist Advice

The Liverpool Access to Advice Network, of which Raise is a member, highlights that *"the Covid-19 pandemic and the unprecedented cost of living crisis have underlined the importance of the access to, and the value of, advice in people's everyday lives. Advice limits the impact of negative life events to the short term, rather than worsening over the longer term and leading to multiplying problems. In extreme cases, advice at the right time can save lives"*.

Achievements and performance

During 2021/22 our Advice and Casework yielded just over £3m in extra benefits and managed £4m of debts, with almost £400k of debt being written-off. The highest categories for extra benefits were:

- Disability Benefits £1,366,852,
- Universal Credit £558,829,
- Housing Costs £276,513
- Pension Age benefits £348,078.

2021/22 saw a pause in the Welfare Reform agenda due to Covid-19 and our disability gains had taken a dramatic £2m hit with a 41% reduction. We envisage that 2022/2023 will now move at a pace to see many long-term sick and disabled people facing reassessments of their benefits under tougher tests, stricter sanctions and conditionality for jobseekers. We will see the knock-on effects of halting court action for rent arrears and the move from legacy benefits to Universal Credit (UC) will continue.

Referrals and Visits

During 2021-2022 Raise received 2755 referrals, an increase of 4% on 2020-2021 for Welfare Benefits and Money Advice.

Between April 2021 and March 2022 we opened 2054 new welfare or debt cases.

Client Profile

For the year, our client demographic for ethnicity was made up of 67% white British, 2% white (other) 26% not declared, 3% black or black British African with our other BAME groups making up the remaining 2%.

66% of clients were female, (up from 64%). 50% of clients were aged between 46 and 65. 76% disclosed a disability, a sharp increase from the previous year's 47%. 60% of clients were unemployed and 17% either self-employed or working, whilst 11% were retired and 6% were carers.

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Funders

Our long standing contracting arrangements with Housing Associations continued, and during this year Raise held contracts with; Torus Foundation, Plus Dane, Prima Group, One Vision Housing, Northwest Housing, Onward Housing and Family Housing Association.

Additional contracts and funding came from:

- The Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership funded through the Money and pensions Service (MaPS)
- New Horizons funded by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund(with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Advice Skills Academy by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Enterprise Hub Skills by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Skelton Charity
- PH Holt Foundation
- Liverpool City Council's Community Resource Unit for our vulnerable @Home advice service
- Mencap Liverpool and Sefton
- LJMU and Edge Hill funding for student social worker placements
- HMCTS through the Good things Foundation for digital appeals support to clients.
- Kickstart Scheme (with The Women's Organisation and Torus Foundation as Lead Body)
- HMRC JRS Grant

We would like to thank all our contractors and funders as their contributions mean that we can make positive changes to people's lives.

Financial review

2021/22 has been a year of change, and adaptation with lingering pandemic restrictions presenting challenges for project delivery. Fully remote working measures from 2020/21 have transformed successfully into hybrid working delivering seamless continuity of service to Raise clients.

Income from benefit contracts increased by 26%, +£73.5k in 2021-22, mainly with thanks to an extension of our Torus contract, +87% increase on 2020-21 +£64k, Onward Housing also re-contracted with Raise on a Pay-as-you-go basis from December 2021 bringing in £12k over the last quarter. Raise has welcomed inflationary increases to existing contracts.

2021-22 was a good year for income generation with most of the delayed project start dates and postponed income from the previous year coming to fruition. Raise succeeded in replacing short-term emergency grants which helped Raise through the difficult lockdown period, with longer term funding.

Emergency Covid-19 grants from the previous year, approx. £131k in 2020-21, were replaced in part by ESF funding streams with both ASA (Advice Skills Academy) and EHS (Enterprise Hub Skills) contributing to a total income increase of £100.5k from ESF funding. Other grant income also increased by £25.5k; contributed to by the GMMAP Increased Capacity Grant, Kickstart Scheme placements and Grants from The Skelton Charity, and PH Holt Foundation. Income generation in 2021-22 enabled grant income to be maintained at a comparable level to the previous year.

Income from the University of Liverpool and Edge Hill University also increased by £3.7k with Raise taking on more Social Work placements in 2021-22, bouncing back from reductions seen in the previous year.

Savings on expenditure experienced in 2020-21 due to the pandemic are on their way to establishing new norms with hybrid working and adaptive measures altering expenditure trends of pre-Covid-19 periods. Non-salary revenue expenditure has increased by 20%, +£17.8k, impacted by increased IT costs including the client management system; £11.3k of the increase. Payroll has increased in line with recruitment from the latter half of 2020-21 servicing the four ESF Projects.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Raise also said farewell to Chief Officer Emma Cook and welcomed Penny Brown to Raise as the new CEO.

So far 2022-23 looks like another transitional year for Raise, adapting to changes in income, a busy year for income generation that Raise will overcome to find a stronger and sustainable structure following the challenges of the last two years. Raise would like to thank existing funders as well as HMCTS, PH Holt Foundation, and The Skelton Charity for their support during the year. All our funders enable Raise to reach the most vulnerable and relieve the hardship of our clients.

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2022 the unrestricted designated reserves were £176,990 (2021: £176,990), restricted reserves were £762 (2021: £1,526) and unrestricted free reserves of £70,788 (2021: £88,310). This gives a reserve value of £248,540 at 31 March 2022.

Unrestricted reserve

The trustees believe that Raise should hold financial reserves in order to ensure that the charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially financially damaging circumstances arising. This would also include the cost of our redundancy liability should the charity cease to operate or reduce its activities.

Designated reserves

The trustees consider that it would be prudent to set aside an amount for 'flexible reserves'. This could be used for:

- the purpose of restructuring the service
- meeting unforeseen expenditure
- maintaining the charity's asset base in good order through provision for upgrades and replacement
- for use in an emergency if Raise operated at a deficit
- moving cost if Raise were to relocate
- subject to Board approval, to fund a project that would enable Raise to assist people with financial needs not covered by current funders

The Trustees regularly review the current activity to ensure sufficient reserves are held for delivery, and business plans incorporate a review to ensure adequacy and modest growth.

Restricted reserves

The following funds; BBO; New Horizons; ASA; EHS; CRG (also known as LCC); GMMAP; The Clothworkers' Foundation; North West Housing; JRS Grant; HMCTS; Kickstart; PH Holt Foundation; Skelton Charity are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the bureau. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between Raise's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned.

Review

This reserves policy is monitored and reviewed by the trustees annually

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Risk policy

In accordance with the guidelines set down by the Charity Commission, the Board of Trustees have considered and identified the governance, operational, financial, external and compliance risks to which the charity is exposed and have taken measures to mitigate any risks identified. The Board will look to strengthen the organisations business continuity and disaster recovery policies but are pleased with how the organisation was able to adapt the service during the pandemic. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees have adopted the Charity Commission's heat map method of risk analysis, with scores 1-7 being green, 8-14 being amber and 15-30 being red, the policy states that amber risks will be regularly reviewed and that red risks will be dealt with immediately.

The biggest risk to Raise is the loss of housing association funding due to housing associations taking services in-house. Existing management of this risk includes promoting the value of the welfare rights and debt services to rent collection, participation in housing associations' Welfare Reform group, diversifying funding streams by applying for appropriate funding opportunities and having a flexible approach to pricing our services. The trustees have implemented existing risk management with further three monthly reviews to mitigate this risk.

Raise will also continue to seek extra funding from housing associations, local and national government, and grant-giving bodies for its core work of home visits offering welfare, debt, and financial capability as well our employability service.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 7 October 1999 and registered as a charity on 25 January 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association.

According to the constitution overall control of the company resides with the Board of Directors. Every issue may be determined by the Board by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting but a written resolution signed by all the Trustees is as valid a resolution passed at a meeting

All staff paid or unpaid are accountable to the Board of Directors. Within the policies determined by the Board the Chief Officer has the authority and responsibility to ensure the smooth and effective running of the Service.

Appointment of trustees is governed by the memorandum and articles of association. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new trustees to fill vacancies through the death or resignation of an existing trustee.

The Board maintains a list of the necessary range of skills and experience for Board members. The Chair conducts an annual audit of existing Trustees to identify any gaps in skills or experience and to decide on any necessary training or recruitment to fill those gaps. Trustees operate to a role description with newly recruited trustees receiving induction and support from more experienced trustees.

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

Mr A Wilson

Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)

Mr S Hughes

(Resigned 7 January 2022)

Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Ms D McAndrew

(Appointed 20 October 2021)

Ms R Stott

(Appointed 11 May 2022)

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

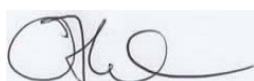
Senior staff members 2021/22

Emma Cook, Chief Officer to January 2022
Penny Brown, Chief Officer from January 2022
Linda Daley, Deputy Manager
Jude Deakin, Project Manager

Small company provisions

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

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



Mr C Hudson (Chair)

Trustee

Dated: 15th December 2022

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors of Raise Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

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

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

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAISE LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RAISE Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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



Tony Stanley ACA

BWM
Tempest
Suite 5.1
12 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool
L2 2DT

Dated: 16/12/2022.....

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
	Notes				
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	761	1,535	2,296	604
Charitable activities	4	358,710	425,368	784,078	709,623
Investments	5	198	-	198	818
Other income	6	-	-	-	853
Total income		<u>359,669</u>	<u>426,903</u>	<u>786,572</u>	<u>711,898</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	7	<u>348,726</u>	<u>456,132</u>	<u>804,858</u>	<u>690,565</u>
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		10,943	(29,229)	(18,286)	21,333
Gross transfers between funds	16	<u>(28,465)</u>	<u>28,465</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(17,522)	(764)	(18,286)	21,333
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		<u>265,300</u>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>266,826</u>	<u>245,493</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		<u><u>247,778</u></u>	<u><u>762</u></u>	<u><u>248,540</u></u>	<u><u>266,826</u></u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above complies with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
	Notes			
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	3	604	-	604
Charitable activities	4	295,075	414,548	709,623
Investments	5	818	-	818
Other income	6	853	-	853
Total income		297,350	414,548	711,898
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Charitable activities	7	251,887	438,678	690,565
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		45,463	(24,130)	21,333
Gross transfers between funds	16	(25,656)	25,656	-
Net movement in funds		19,807	1,526	21,333
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		245,493	-	245,493
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		265,300	1,526	266,826

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		2,735		4,868
Current assets					
Debtors	13	122,198		83,352	
Cash at bank and in hand		216,982		252,524	
		<u>339,180</u>		<u>335,876</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(93,375)</u>		<u>(73,918)</u>	
Net current assets			245,805		261,958
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>248,540</u>		<u>266,826</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	16		762		1,526
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	17	176,990		176,990	
General unrestricted funds		<u>70,788</u>		<u>88,310</u>	
			247,778		265,300
			<u>248,540</u>		<u>266,826</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12th December 2022



Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)
Trustee



Mr C Hudson (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 03854479

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	21		(33,683)		59,596
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,057)		(4,092)	
Investment income received		198		816	
Net cash used in investing activities			(1,859)		(3,276)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(35,542)		56,320
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			252,524		196,204
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			216,982		252,524

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

RAISE Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 286 Scotland Road, Liverpool, L5 5AE.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity, and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

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

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, and contract income is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the preconditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to preconditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in restricted funds when receivable.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Voluntary income includes discretionary grants for projects, goods and services where no service agreement or contract exists.

Income from donated services and facilities is included at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised when there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure reflects all amounts paid and accrued during the year. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis. Staff costs are apportioned between activities on the basis of an assessment of the time spent by individual employees on those activities.

Charitable expenditure

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

Governance costs

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

All assets costing more than £200 are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office and computer equipment	33% per annum on a straight line basis
-------------------------------	--

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

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

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

1.11 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

1.12 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is also able to partially recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure that is not recoverable by the charity is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts in the year in which they are paid.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
Donations and gifts	761	-	761	604
Grants receivable	-	1,535	1,535	-
	<u>761</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>2,296</u>	<u>604</u>
Grants receivable for core activities				
Job Retention Scheme	-	1,535	1,535	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>-</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4 Charitable activities

	Debt and welfare rights advice 2022 £	Advice Skills Academy 2022 £	Enterprise Hub Scheme 2022 £	Building Better Opportunities 2022 £	New Horizons 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Services provided under contract	351,820	-	-	-	-	351,820	278,269
Performance related grants	236,341	34,341	43,358	35,922	75,406	425,368	427,934
Other income	6,890	-	-	-	-	6,890	3,420
	<u>595,051</u>	<u>34,341</u>	<u>43,358</u>	<u>35,922</u>	<u>75,406</u>	<u>784,078</u>	<u>709,623</u>
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	358,710	-	-	-	-	358,710	295,075
Restricted funds	236,341	34,341	43,358	35,922	75,406	425,368	414,548
	<u>595,051</u>	<u>34,341</u>	<u>43,358</u>	<u>35,922</u>	<u>75,406</u>	<u>784,078</u>	<u>709,623</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4 Charitable activities

(Continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Debt and welfare rights £	Building Better Opportunities £	New Horizons £	Total 2021 £
Services provided under contract	278,269	-	-	278,269
Performance related grants	340,935	42,517	44,482	427,934
Other income	3,420	-	-	3,420
	<u>622,624</u>	<u>42,517</u>	<u>44,482</u>	<u>709,623</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	295,075	-	-	295,075
Restricted funds	327,549	42,517	44,482	414,548
	<u>622,624</u>	<u>42,517</u>	<u>44,482</u>	<u>709,623</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	198	818
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Other income	-	853
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Other income consists of LCC ILM income for intermediate labour market employees.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

7 Charitable activities

	Debt & welfare rights advice	Advice Skills Academy	Enterprise Hub Scheme	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizon	Total 2022	Total 2021
	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	£	£
Staff costs	376,051	38,916	40,454	32,385	68,258	556,064	431,962
Office costs	1,558	-	-	126	154	1,838	6,293
Staff and volunteer costs	1,734	-	-	-	315	2,049	486
Other costs	3,381	-	-	-	-	3,381	4,799
Partner payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	236
	<u>382,724</u>	<u>38,916</u>	<u>40,454</u>	<u>32,511</u>	<u>68,727</u>	<u>563,332</u>	<u>443,776</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	196,713	-	2,679	3,052	6,162	208,606	226,036
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	31,042	-	423	482	973	32,920	20,753
	<u>610,479</u>	<u>38,916</u>	<u>43,556</u>	<u>36,045</u>	<u>75,862</u>	<u>804,858</u>	<u>690,565</u>
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	343,974	4,575	-	23	154	348,726	251,887
Restricted funds	266,505	34,341	43,556	36,022	75,708	456,132	438,678
	<u>610,479</u>	<u>38,916</u>	<u>43,556</u>	<u>36,045</u>	<u>75,862</u>	<u>804,858</u>	<u>690,565</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

7 Charitable activities

(Continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Debt & welfare rights advice £	Building Better Opportunities £	New Horizon £	Total 2021 £
Staff costs	340,364	52,918	38,680	431,962
Office costs	5,449	844	-	6,293
Staff and volunteer costs	125	361	-	486
Other costs	4,799	-	-	4,799
Partner payments	236	-	-	236
	<u>350,973</u>	<u>54,123</u>	<u>38,680</u>	<u>443,776</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	211,526	8,315	6,195	226,036
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	20,212	310	231	20,753
	<u>582,711</u>	<u>62,748</u>	<u>45,106</u>	<u>690,565</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	251,887	-	-	251,887
Restricted funds	330,824	62,748	45,106	438,678
	<u>582,711</u>	<u>62,748</u>	<u>45,106</u>	<u>690,565</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022 Support costs	Governance costs	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	139,439	-	139,439	171,889	171,889
Depreciation	4,190	-	4,190	5,569	5,569
Premises costs	21,625	-	21,625	19,638	19,638
Office costs	43,823	-	43,823	26,829	26,829
Staff and volunteer costs	(2,152)	-	(2,152)	1,245	1,245
Other costs	1,681	-	1,681	866	866
Independent examination	-	650	650	-	550
Accountancy	-	2,735	2,735	-	1,950
Legal and professional	-	29,535	29,535	-	18,253
	<u>208,606</u>	<u>32,920</u>	<u>241,526</u>	<u>226,036</u>	<u>246,789</u>
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	<u>208,606</u>	<u>32,920</u>	<u>241,526</u>	<u>226,036</u>	<u>246,789</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the Independent Examiner for independent examination fees of £650 (2021: £550) and payments of £2,735 for accountancy fees (2021: £1,950).

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2021: £nil). No trustees were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2021: £nil).

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Debt and welfare rights advisors	21	18
Administration	6	6
Building Better Opportunities	1	1
	<u>28</u>	<u>25</u>

Employment costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	620,246	538,267
Social security costs	47,948	41,340
Other pension costs	27,309	24,244
	<u>695,503</u>	<u>603,851</u>

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Office and computer equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2021	37,136
Additions	2,057
Disposals	(3,639)
At 31 March 2022	<u>35,554</u>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2021	32,268
Depreciation charged in the year	4,190
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(3,639)
At 31 March 2022	<u>32,819</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,735</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>4,868</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

12	Financial instruments		2022	2021
			£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets			
	Debt instruments measured at amortised cost		329,953	327,880
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities			
	Measured at amortised cost		34,919	31,848
13	Debtors		2022	2021
			£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:			
	Trade debtors		8,228	2,100
	Other debtors		104,743	73,257
	Prepayments		9,227	7,995
			122,198	83,352
14	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2022	2021
		Notes	£	£
	Other taxation and social security		16,884	12,753
	Deferred income	15	41,572	29,317
	Trade creditors		13,501	294
	Other creditors		1,656	319
	Accruals		19,762	31,235
			93,375	73,918
15	Deferred income		2022	2021
			£	£
	Other deferred income		41,572	29,317
	Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:			
			2022	2021
			£	£
	Total deferred income at 1 April 2021		29,317	1,791
	Amounts received in the year		41,572	29,317
	Amounts credited to statement of financial activities		(29,317)	(1,791)
	Total deferred income at 31 March 2022		41,572	29,317

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16 Restricted funds

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

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds			
	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Liverpool City Council	9,000	(9,000)	-	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	-
GMMAP	185,946	(190,750)	4,804	-	194,976	(223,441)	28,465	-
Building Better Opportunities	42,517	(62,748)	20,231	-	35,922	(35,922)	-	-
John Moores Foundation	4,302	(4,302)	-	-	-	-	-	-
North West Housing	11,597	(11,597)	-	-	11,829	(11,829)	-	-
Clothworkers	5,100	(3,574)	-	1,526	-	(764)	-	762
JRS Grant	15,376	(15,376)	-	-	1,535	(1,535)	-	-
New Horizon	44,482	(45,103)	621	-	75,406	(75,406)	-	-
LCR Cares	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	11,154	(11,154)	-	-	-	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	80,074	(80,074)	-	-	-	-	-	-
HM Courts and Tribunal Service	-	-	-	-	875	(875)	-	-
PH Holt	-	-	-	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Skelton Charity	-	-	-	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Advice Skills Academy	-	-	-	-	34,341	(34,341)	-	-
Enterprise Hub Scheme	-	-	-	-	43,358	(43,358)	-	-
Kickstart Scheme	-	-	-	-	13,661	(13,661)	-	-
	<u>414,548</u>	<u>(438,678)</u>	<u>25,656</u>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>426,903</u>	<u>(456,132)</u>	<u>28,465</u>	<u>762</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Liverpool City Council provide funding to enable home visits to Liverpool residents who, for one reason or another, are unable to access mainstream advice services. The grant of £9,000 from the Community Resources Grant (within Liverpool City Council) was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership (GMMAP), funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS), provides money advice which enable individuals to take back control of the finances through appropriate debt solutions. The Raise costs for staff are more than the grant will allow and therefore, the project cost reflect the actual cost of this project is always over budget. The board were in agreement to used unrestricted funds to offset the additional spending allocation.

Building Better Opportunities: Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund aimed at improving financial capability and progression into training, education and employment. The funds received were for the purposes for which they were intended.

John Moores Foundation provide funding to support the most vulnerable residents in Liverpool during the pandemic. The grant of £4,302 in 2021 was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

North West Housing provide funding to support their cooperative tenants with their advice needs. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Clothworkers Foundation provide funding to support the organisations capital cost for IT during the pandemic. The grant of £5,100 was used for the purpose for which it was awarded

The HMRC JRS Grant is the UK government's flagship support measure for organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic. It offers grants to cover a proportion of the salaries of furloughed staff.

New Horizons provide funding to support the vulnerable individuals within the LCR to gain skills and experience which enable them to search for work, undertake training or find meaningful employment. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

LCR Cares - COVID 19 Community Support Fund provide funding to support the most vulnerable residents in Liverpool during the pandemic. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Steve Morgan Foundation provide funding to support the most vulnerable residents in Liverpool during the pandemic. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

The National Lottery Community Fund provide funding to support the organisations core costs during the pandemic. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

HM Courts & Tribunal Service. Unit fee per person, at £75 per client, to help people to submit a digital appeal against a benefit decision.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16 Restricted funds

(Continued)

P H Holt, a single grant of £5000 towards the salary cost of a Welfare Claims Advisor.

Skelton Charity, one off grant to pay for expenses for volunteers including headsets, and AdvicePro licencing.

Advice Skills Academy (2) (ASA), delivers an integrated curriculum of accredited and non-accredited training to people in the Liverpool City Region. It develops and upskills the workforce for specialist Advice Services in the Liverpool City Region, and provides a pathway for unemployed people to compete effectively for job opportunities within the Advice Sector. Advice Skills Academy (2) delivers a range of accredited Level 2 & 3 training and non-accredited courses.

Enterprise Hub Skills (EHS), offers high-quality learning and development opportunities to build the enterprise skills and economic pathways for individuals in the Liverpool City Region. Through tailored engagement, the Enable Team work with local residents, no matter what their background and circumstances, to facilitate access to support that will build an individual's learning plan and promotes enterprise development.

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new jobs for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

17 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2020	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2021	Transfers
	£	£	£	£
Reserve fund	176,990	-	176,990	-
	<u>176,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,990</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>176,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,990</u>	<u>-</u>

The reserve fund is designated to provide for general contingencies, restructuring the services as well as possible employment termination costs, which includes redundancy liability, likely to be incurred should the charity cease to operate or have to reduce its activities. This is reviewed annually at the start of the year to ensure the charities liabilities are as informed as possible.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Total 2022	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	2,735	-	2,735	4,868	-	4,868
Current assets/(liabilities)	245,043	762	245,805	260,432	1,526	261,958
	<u>247,778</u>	<u>762</u>	<u>248,540</u>	<u>265,300</u>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>266,826</u>

19 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Within one year	<u>19,110</u>	<u>18,034</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

20 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Aggregate remuneration	85,386	69,723

There are no other related party transactions.

21 Cash generated from operations

	2022	2021
	£	£
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(18,286)	21,333
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(198)	(818)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	4,190	5,569
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(38,846)	(6,697)
Increase in creditors	7,202	12,683
Increase in deferred income	12,255	27,526
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(33,683)	59,596

22 Company limited by guarantee

RAISE is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

Document Activity Report

Document Sent

Fri, 16 Dec 2022 10:31:55 GMT

Document Activity History

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RAISE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1112830

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1112830

Company Registration No. 03854479 (England and Wales)

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr A Wilson (Chair) Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer) Mr S Hughes C Hudson (Appointed 15 July 2020)
Secretary	Ms E Cook
Charity number	1112830
Company number	03854479
Principal address	286 Scotland Road Liverpool L5 5AE
Registered office	286 Scotland Road Liverpool L5 5AE
Independent examiner	Peter Taaffe FCA CTA DChA BWM Suite 5.1 12 Tithebarn Street Liverpool L2 2DT
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc P O Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT Santander UK PLC Bridle Road Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB Aldermore Business Savings Aldermore Bank Western House Lynch Wood Peterborough PE2 6FZ

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

About Raise – Background and History

An independent charity founded in 1999, Raise gives much-needed advice on welfare benefits, debt and money management to housing association tenants and other residents within the Liverpool City Region (LCR).

Many of our clients are unable to access mainstream advice services because of disability, age, caring responsibilities, mental health, or simply isolation. We bring our advice into people's living rooms; this is the key to our success.

Over the last twenty years Raise has transformed itself from a small 'Benefits Advice Team' to a substantial multi-disciplinary organisation with 28 staff members and 10 volunteers (including 4 Board members). We have continued to deliver our service (all-be-it via digital methods) throughout the pandemic

Utilising our triage ensures more than 90% of referrals are converted into cases. We prioritise emergencies and focus on those residents who are vulnerable and most in need as they may not be able to access mainstream advice services. We are proud of our track record of flexibility and responsiveness which make us able to respond quickly to changing circumstances and new demands.

Raise is proud of its long-term partnerships with housing associations that has delivered millions of pounds in extra benefits and reduced debts for tenants. We will continue to promote this service as essential, not only for the tenants, but also for the housing associations themselves. Housing associations are facing huge challenges due to the pandemic, austerity and the continued impact of welfare reform, and Raise is committed to responding flexibly and creatively to help meet these challenges.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

About Raise - vision, mission and values

Our vision

To champion the fight against poverty and inequality enabling people to take control of their lives.

Our mission

Providing outstanding specialist services for individuals incorporating benefit advice, representation, debt and money management that are accessible at the point of need and empower people to achieve a better standard of living.

Our values statement

Respect – Meaning that we value people by adopting a non-judgmental approach alongside recognising the strengths of others and being committed to working in partnership.

Accessible – Meaning we deliver services that are adaptable and free to clients at their point of need whilst embracing equality, diversity and basic human rights for all.

Independent – Meaning that how we interact with others is authentic and real to whom we are as an organisation.

Support – Meaning we are client focused and deliver services that demonstrate empathy with clients along their journey with Raise.

Excellence – Meaning everything Raise creates and delivers is of a standard that we feel proud of.

Confidentiality – Meaning we respect every individual's personal information and circumstance and act professionally to protect this.

Our Strategic Aims are:

Strategic Aim 1: To ensure the organisation is well governed, well managed and fit for purpose.

Strategic Aim 2: To create sustainability and resilience that will enable Raise to continue delivering services.

Strategic Aim 3: To create a greater awareness of the organisation and its services.

Strategic Aim 4: To continue to explore, design and deliver services that are fit for purpose and meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Under these Aims sits an Operation Plan which details the short, medium and long term milestones. Each year the Board of Trustees meet to agree the milestones which will take priority for that year and they become the organisation's annual objectives. The Chief Officer reports quarterly on the progress made towards these objectives. In order to support the organisation's annual objectives we have several working groups that meet during the course of the year.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Raise Advice Services

Benefits advice

We provide the advice people need for the problems they face within the field of Welfare Benefits at a generalist advice level, for example, benefit checks and benefit form filling (personal independence payment (PIP) and employment and support allowance (ESA), universal credit right through to specialist advice which could start at benefit appeals for tax credits, housing benefit through to appealing a bedroom tax decision in the Upper Tribunal. We help individuals to navigate the complex system, that is now more complicated than ever before due to the changes that Welfare Reform has brought about since 2011.

Money advice

We provide a comprehensive money advice service that is licensed by the Financial Conduct Authority. We support people to maximise their income and reduce their debt by advising on their options such as monthly payment plans, debt relief orders and bankruptcy. We provide a caseworker service so that clients feel they are being supported to make the changes they need to ensure ongoing financial sustainability.

Financial Capability

We support people to become financially capable and able to confidently navigate the world of money and finance. We help people with basic budgeting, saving and making the most of their money. With so many offers and comparison sites on the market, people do get overwhelmed with different products and services. We can support them to ensure they know the basics and can make shrewd decisions on switching providers and saving. This ultimately leads to greater financial confidence that enables people to make more informed decisions about their financial future.

ENABLE team

We support clients to overcome barriers to finding employment, and individually assess their needs to provide bespoke 1:1 support. The team includes experienced welfare trained caseworkers who can provide free help in getting their benefits on track, providing better off advice and money management skills and tips. Our experienced Employment and skills advisor works individually with clients to identify their learning and skills needs, agree a plan of action and then support them to access free skills training,, provide personalised coaching, job search activities, CV advice and interview skills practice. Our experienced Volunteer and training coordinator supports those who will benefit from volunteering opportunities by delivering bespoke soft skills and technical skills training to enrich client's knowledge and capabilities and improve their work capabilities.

External Training and support

Our housing association staff teams are kept up-to-date by Raise with monthly welfare benefits bulletins as well as day to day welfare benefit changes. We have a team of Welfare Benefits specialists who are qualified to deliver training within welfare benefits and we ensure housing associations staff are trained in welfare rights issues that they have identified as a need or requirement. We work proactively to address these needs year on year.

Raise has recently started to expand its training services offering bespoke training on welfare benefits to non funded housing associations. The feedback we have seen has been very positive and we will continue to expand the training offer over the next few years.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Health pandemic – Coronavirus (Covid19)

In February/March 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic was beginning to have an impact on Raise's Advice Services, our staff, our clients and our partners. Our Business Continuity Plan was serviced as guidance for the Board of Trustees and the Management Team throughout March 2020, where we were able to move staff out of the office to work safely from their homes. By 19 March, 95% of staff were mobilised and working from home and all home visits had been rearranged to telephone appointments. When the Government announced the first lockdown Raise Advice Services were still fully operational and were on hand to support our clients and funder in what has been one of the most difficult and testing years of our 20 years of service.

We have worked tirelessly to ensure that our advice services are fully operational during the transition and are now business as usual. With funding, we have invested in our ITC and a new cloud telephone system which provides us with greater control over our phone systems and flexibility for our Hybrid working. Our services have had to significantly change in terms of the delivery model for advice and our external training

We are concerned that the impact on our clients, staff and the long term changes to our delivery model are yet to be understood. We know that our clients have been adversely affected by the pandemic due to their circumstances. The unequal impact of the coronavirus in our communities can be felt due to having poorer health, worklessness, language and literacy issues as well as disabilities for example. In terms of our clients, they tell us they feel more isolated, more digitally excluded, financially worse off and scared. In addition, we relied heavily on our face to face service within someone's home to pick up on non-verbal cues as well as observations of need. We are missing these small details which help to form the bigger picture and help further.

Concerning our staff and our new volunteers, the pandemic has had a real and negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the Raise family. Staff and volunteers are still feeling isolated from their colleagues and are having to balance caring responsibilities and work. We are trying to manage this as best we can and are looking at a hybrid approach to working in September 2021. The benefits are that the teams' digital skills have vastly improved but the culture of the organisation is somewhat diluted. Our concerns are for new staff as well as our long-serving staff. In addition, we have taken the year to develop and transition to a new case management system (AdvicePro) and have started the new financial year training staff to use the new system. We hope the new reporting tool will enable a more intuitive reporting on advice trends and client profiles to our funders.

Our delivery model has changed in that we no longer offer our clients their much-needed home visit. All our appointments are digital, be it over the phone, conference calling with the DWP or facetime. We do, where necessary undertake some door stop appointments where only face to face will suffice. In a recent digital survey to ascertain our clients need during the pandemic. 37% of our clients tell us that they have struggled with access to advice. With 60% advising us they need help to use digital tools and platforms. 35% say they are not able to use email. With this in mind caseworkers will take time to help and support clients with learning and acquiring more digital skills but our staff are experts in welfare rights or money advice and their personal digital journey is still ongoing. We are in the process of looking for some digital capacity/funding within the team and hope to bring in these skills to enable our clients to access digital support at the right time. In addition, the pandemic has had a significant effect on our face to face external training. We have moved some training online but this has also been a steep learning curve. The nature of our business and organisation means that our advice service is in high demand and this will likely continue on throughout 2021/22 as we have already seen a 30% increase in our referrals during quarter one (615 referral (Q1 2019/20) against 800 referrals (Q1 2021/22)). We are still able to deliver on all contracts but are now looking to adapt to the demands of an increase in welfare right and money advice with haste.

Moving forward into 2021/22

This year we are looking at developing our new normal with hybrid working and analysing the effects of the past 18 months on our service and our teams. We will be looking to develop our digital technology to engage our clients as well as bringing in funding to support them. We are also moving our ITC systems to the cloud for a more user friendly delivery. We will develop our work with AdvicePro and commission a new website. We intend to drive forward with our external training and make improvements to our welfare rights quality processes. All this will be a back drop for our work on service improvements across the board.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Achievements and performance

Referrals and Visits

During 2020/21 Raise received 2656 referrals down 11% from 2019/20 for welfare benefits and money advice.

Although our referrals have reduced our conversion rate from referral to case has increased by 6% to 96%. This is a huge achievement for our clients and funders alike which shows the tenacity of our Triage team and their desire to support as many clients as possible. This also reflects the difficult year that clients have had. Due to the changing delivery model (no home visits) we have had this year, it is unsurprising to see that 100% of our clients were supported through digital means. This doesn't take into account door step visits where clients handed over forms, paperwork collections or signed forms – with full government guidance adhered to.

Between April 2020 and March 2021 we started 1979 new welfare or debt cases and worked on 3441 case files.

Client Profile

Compared with 2019/20 performance our indicators show an increase or maintained state in outputs for 2020/21. Our client demographic is made up of 73% White British, 14% Unknown, 2% Black or Black British African with our other BAME groups, making this up to 9%.

Our demographic has been maintained at 20% for BAME, 64% women, 47% disabled clients (down from 57%), 57% are single and 23% are lone parents. 52% of clients were unemployed and looking for work and 23% were either self-employed or working. 9% (up by 1%) of the clients we supported, English was their second language and 7%(up by 1%) of the clients we helped had literacy problems.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Casework and benefits gained

Our caseworkers are finding it increasingly more difficult to maximise the income of some of the most vulnerable clients in Liverpool and the surrounding areas. Things have become increasingly backlogged with the effects of the pandemic. However, our advice services have been more in demand throughout the pandemic and this demands continues into 2021/22.

During the pandemic we experienced the following issues, concerns and delays:

- Limited capability for work assessments were suspended
- Personal Independent Payment (PIP) reviews were suspended
- PIP new claim assessments were suspended
- Universal Credit (UC) V Legacy benefit and individuals and families being worse off on UC
- Appeals – oral hearings postponed and then replaced with telephone hearings
- Increase in UC claims
- Debt recovery and housing possession suspended.

In reality this means a backlog of reviews, possession hearings, assessments, reconsiderations and appeals being pushed through to 2021/22 and subsequent years. This is evident in our disability statistics (gains) for 2020/21. In 2019/20 we had gains of over £5,500,000 and this year we have seen gains drop by 40% (£2,378 million) to £3,341.00. The rest of our gain statistics remain steady. In quarter one of 2021/22 we are already seeing an increase in the request for disability form filling. The numbers (which we believe are set to continue to increase) means we have to rethink the way our service is structured and delivered. However, even with the partial suspension of the social security system for this year we have still seen our advice and casework service yield just under £7 million (£6,868,596) in additional benefits (£6,117,246) and debts (£751,350) written off during 2020/21.

Funders

Our main funders continue to be Housing Associations and during this year Raise had contracts with Torus Foundation, Plus Dane, Prima Group, One Vision Housing, Northwest Housing, and Family Housing Association.

Additional funding comes from

- The Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership funded through the Money and pensions Service (MaPS)
- New Horizons funded by the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund (with The Women's Organisation as Lead Body)
- Steve Morgan Foundation for Covid-19 emergency advice service
- LCC Discretionary Business Grant
- Liverpool City Council's Community Resource Unit for our vulnerable @Home advice service
- Intermediate Labour Market funding – Through LCC
- LCR cares for Covid-19 emergency advice service
- Clothworkers Foundation for capital cost for ITC for Covid-19 emergency advice service
- The Community Fund for Covid-19 emergency advice service
- John Moore's Foundation for Covid-19 emergency advice service
- Mencap Liverpool and Sefton
- LJMU and Edge Hill funding for student social worker placements
- HMCTS through the Good things Foundation for digital appeals support to clients

We would like to thank all our funders as their contributions mean that we can make changes to peoples lives.

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial review

2020/21 has been a challenging year of continuing adaption to the ongoing Covid-19 situation and has proven Raise's ability to adapt to full remote service delivery delivering excellent customer service and quality of advice.

Benefit contract income has seen a reduction in 2020/21. The Onward Homes contract finished in 2019/20 and One Vision Housing reduced the 2020/21 contract by 32%. Torus Foundation contracted income remained in line with 2019/20 but, due to the impact of Covid-19, 271 unused referrals were moved to 2021/22 with the associated income, resulting in a 14% reduction in recognised income in 2020/21. Raise has welcomed inflationary increases to existing contracts with Torus Foundation, Plus Dane, OVH and Prima Group, as well as ad-hoc referrals from Mencap and Family Housing Association.

The overall reduction in benefit contract income has been countered by new grant funding. RAISE welcomed funding for a year long increased capacity project with GMMAP for 2 trainee debt advisors as well as the start of a 3 year ESF funded New Horizons project. Whilst some elements of BBO finished in 2019/20, the main BBO project has been extended for another year and provided a full year of funding in 2020/21. Small Covid-19 grants have also been welcomed from; Steve Morgan Foundation; LCR Cares and John Moores as well as a large Covid-19 grant from the Community Lottery and has increased grant income by 43% in 2020/21.

Raise's training programme continued to provide ad-hoc courses throughout the year, unfortunately the timing and impact of Covid-19 has limited its potential for 2020/21. Student placement income has also reduced due to the impact of Covid-19, however this has picked up from the latter half of 2020/21 and into 2021/22.

Raise has continued to recruit during the year with new trainee debt advisors, new roles recruited to the Enable team to deliver ESF funded projects such as New Horizons, which includes a dedicated volunteer coordinator, and Advice Assistant roles maintained through Covid-19 grant funding. A project manager was also brought in to manage the new projects and some elements of the CEO roles whilst she was on maternity leave.

Raise saw a reduction in travel, communication, training and admin costs due to the impact of Covid-19. However, there has also been investment in a new Case Management System in the latter half of 2020/21 as well as new IT purchases for staff equipment with funding from The Clothworkers' Foundation. These changes have brought about a more effective delivery for a sustainable future.

So far 2021/22 looks promising with continuing relationships with all core contract funders and 2 new grants from The Women's Organisation through ESF funding. Raise would like to thank existing funders as well as the community Lottery Fund, The Clothworkers' Foundation, The Good Things Foundation, John Moores Foundation, LCC, LCR Cares and Steve Morgan Foundation for their Covid-19 support and relieving the hardship of clients that we have been able to continue to serve throughout this pandemic.

Future plans

The Board has approved a strategy to guide the organisation over the next few years to enable us to realise our ambition. The strategy includes strengthening the triage team, expanding the external welfare rights training, supporting and investing in our workforce, moving to new premises, securing new funding, developing digital skills and finding new ways to engaging with our clients.

Investment policy

Any reserves available for investment are held in interest bearing cash deposit accounts chosen in line with the charity's ethical stance. These reserves are spread across more than one institution to take advantage of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, in the event of bank failure.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2021 the unrestricted designated reserves were £176,990 (2020: £176,990), restricted reserves were £1,528 (2020: £nil) and unrestricted free reserves of £88,310 (2020: £68,504). This gives a reserve value of £266,826.

Unrestricted reserve

The trustees believe that Raise should hold financial reserves in order to ensure that the charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially financially damaging circumstances arising. This would also include the cost of our redundancy liability should the charity cease to operate or reduce its activities.

Designated reserves

The trustees consider that it would be prudent to set aside an amount for 'flexible reserves'. This could be used for:

- the purpose of restructuring the service
- meeting unforeseen expenditure
- maintaining the charity's asset base in good order through provision for upgrades and replacement
- for use in an emergency if Raise operated at a deficit
- moving cost if Raise were to relocate
- subject to Board approval, to fund a project that would enable Raise to assist people with financial needs not covered by current funders

The Trustees regularly review the current activity to ensure sufficient reserves are held for delivery, and business plans incorporate a review to ensure adequacy and modest growth.

Restricted reserves

The following funds; BBO; New Horizons; CRG (also known as LCC); GMMAP; The Clothworkers' Foundation; North West Housing; JRS Grant; LCR Cares; National Lottery Community Fund; Steve Morgan Foundation and John Moores Foundation are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the bureau. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between Raise's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned.

Review

This reserves policy is monitored and reviewed by the trustees annually

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Risk policy

In accordance with the guidelines set down by the Charity Commission, the Board of Trustees have considered and identified the governance, operational, financial, external and compliance risks to which the charity is exposed and have taken measures to mitigate any risks identified. The Board will look to strengthen the organisations business continuity and disaster recovery policies but are pleased with how the organisation was able to adapt the service during the pandemic. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees have adopted the Charity Commission's heat map method of risk analysis, with scores 1-7 being green, 8-14 being amber and 15-30 being red, the policy states that amber risks will be regularly reviewed and that red risks will be dealt with immediately.

The biggest risk to Raise is the loss of housing association funding due to housing associations taking services in-house. Existing management of this risk includes promoting the value of the welfare rights and debt services to rent collection, participation in housing associations' Welfare Reform group, diversifying funding streams by applying for appropriate funding opportunities and having a flexible approach to pricing our services. The trustees have implemented existing risk management with further three monthly reviews to mitigate this risk.

Raise will also continue to seek extra funding from housing associations, local and national government, and grant-giving bodies for its core work of home visits offering welfare, debt, and financial capability as well our employability service.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 7 October 1999 and registered as a charity on 25 January 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association.

According to the constitution overall control of the company resides with the Board of Directors. Every issue may be determined by the Board by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting but a written resolution signed by all the Trustees is as valid a resolution passed at a meeting

All staff paid or unpaid are accountable to the Board of Directors. Within the policies determined by the Board the Chief Officer has the authority and responsibility to ensure the smooth and effective running of the Service.

Appointment of trustees is governed by the memorandum and articles of association. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new trustees to fill vacancies through the death or resignation of an existing trustee.

The Board maintains a list of the necessary range of skills and experience for Board members. The Chair conducts an annual audit of existing Trustees to identify any gaps in skills or experience and to decide on any necessary training or recruitment to fill those gaps. Trustees operate to a role description with newly recruited trustees receiving induction and support from more experienced trustees.

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

Mr P Noel (Vice Chair)	(Resigned 6 May 2020)
Ms H Green (Deceased)	(Resigned 31 January 2021)
Mr A Wilson (Chair)	
Mrs J Guinan (Treasurer)	
Mr S Hughes	
C Hudson	(Appointed 15 July 2020)

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Recruitment and training of trustees

Appointment of trustees is governed by the memorandum and articles of association. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new trustees to fill vacancies through the death or resignation of an existing trustee.

The Board maintains a list of the necessary range of skills and experience for Board members. The Chair conducts an annual audit of existing Trustees to identify any gaps in skills or experience and to decide on any necessary training or recruitment to fill those gaps.

Senior staff members 2019/20

Emma Cook, Chief Officer (Maternity leave July 2020 to Feb 2021)

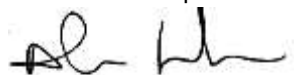
Linda Daley, Deputy Manager

Jude Deakin, Project Manager (November 2020 - March 2022)

Small company provisions

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

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



.....
Mr A Wilson (Chair)

Trustee

Dated: 1st December 2021

**RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors of Raise Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

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

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

RAISE LIMITED COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAISE LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RAISE Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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



Peter Taaffe FCA CTA DChA
BWM

Suite 5.1
12 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool
L2 2DT

Dated: 9/12/2021.....

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	Notes				
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	604	-	604	113
Charitable activities	4	295,075	414,548	709,623	625,782
Investments	5	818	-	818	1,469
Other income	6	853	-	853	2,467
Total income		<u>297,350</u>	<u>414,548</u>	<u>711,898</u>	<u>629,831</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	7	<u>251,887</u>	<u>438,678</u>	<u>690,565</u>	<u>674,494</u>
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		45,463	(24,130)	21,333	(44,663)
Gross transfers between funds	16	<u>(25,656)</u>	<u>25,656</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		19,807	1,526	21,333	(44,663)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		<u>245,493</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245,493</u>	<u>290,157</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		<u><u>265,300</u></u>	<u><u>1,526</u></u>	<u><u>266,826</u></u>	<u><u>245,494</u></u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
	Notes			
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	3	113	-	113
Charitable activities	4	369,521	256,261	625,782
Investments	5	1,469	-	1,469
Other income	6	2,467	-	2,467
Total income		373,570	256,261	629,831
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Charitable activities	7	403,283	271,211	674,494
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year		(29,713)	(14,950)	(44,663)
Gross transfers between funds	16	(14,950)	14,950	-
Net movement in funds		(44,663)	-	(44,663)
Fund balances at 1 April 2019		290,157	-	290,157
Fund balances at 31 March 2020		245,494	-	245,494

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

The movement in funds detailed above compiles with the requirements for a statement of changes in equity under FRS102.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		4,868		6,344
Current assets					
Debtors	13	83,352		76,655	
Cash at bank and in hand		252,524		196,204	
		335,876		272,859	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(73,918)		(33,709)	
Net current assets			261,958		239,150
Total assets less current liabilities			266,826		245,494
Income funds					
Restricted funds	16		1,526		-
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	17	176,990		176,990	
General unrestricted funds		88,310		68,504	
			265,300		245,494
			266,826		245,494

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 1st December 2021



Mr A Wilson (Chair)
Trustee



Miss J Guinan (Treasurer)
Trustee

Company Registration No. 03854479

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	21		59,595		(70,887)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,092)		(6,882)	
Interest received		818		1,469	
Net cash used in investing activities			(3,275)		(5,413)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			56,320		(76,300)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			196,204		272,504
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			252,524		196,204

RAISE LIMITED

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

RAISE Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 286 Scotland Road, Liverpool, L5 5AE.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

Covid-19 has had a profound effect on Raise and the community it serves. The safety and wellbeing of our staff, and the individuals who access our services is of paramount importance, and as a consequence of that and the quarantine rules, Raise offices have been closed to the public. As a result, two of our employees have been furloughed from 1 April and are applying for the Coronavirus Job Retention fund.

It has been vital to maintain a level of support to our community though, and to give Raise the ability to do so 91% of staff are working from home with all home visits cancelled. They have invested in a new cloud telephony system which provides greater control over our phone systems

Income has not been negatively impacted, with the majority of targets still being met.

At the time of approving the accounts and as detailed in the Trustees' report the Trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the charity and the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity, and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, and contract income is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the preconditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to preconditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in restricted funds when receivable.

Voluntary income includes discretionary grants for projects, goods and services where no service agreement or contract exists.

Income from donated services and facilities is included at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised when there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure reflects all amounts paid and accrued during the year. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis. Staff costs are apportioned between activities on the basis of an assessment of the time spent by individual employees on those activities.

Charitable expenditure

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

Governance costs

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

All assets costing more than £200 are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office and computer equipment	33% per annum on a straight line basis
-------------------------------	--

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

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

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

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

1.11 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

1.12 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is also able to partially recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure that is not recoverable by the charity is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts in the year in which they are paid.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations and gifts	604	113

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4 Charitable activities

	Debt and welfare rights advice	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizons	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	278,269	-	44,482	322,751
Performance related grants	340,935	42,517	-	383,452
Other income	3,420	-	-	3,420
	<u>622,624</u>	<u>42,517</u>	<u>44,482</u>	<u>709,623</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	295,075	-	-	295,075
Restricted funds	327,549	42,517	44,482	414,548
	<u>622,624</u>	<u>42,517</u>	<u>44,482</u>	<u>709,623</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest receivable	818	1,469

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Other income	853	2,467

Other income consists of LCC ILM income for intermediate labour market employees.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7 Charitable activities

	Debt & welfare rights	Building Better Opportunities	New Horizon	Total 2021	Debt & welfare rights	Building Better Opportunities	Total 2020
	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	£	2020 £	2020 £	£
Staff costs	340,364	52,918	38,680	431,962	339,954	64,780	404,734
Office costs	5,449	844	-	6,293	3,824	185	4,009
Staff and volunteer costs	125	361	-	486	2,265	101	2,366
Other costs	4,799	-	-	4,799	5,740	-	5,740
Partner payments	236	-	-	236	226	-	226
	<u>350,973</u>	<u>54,123</u>	<u>38,680</u>	<u>443,776</u>	<u>352,009</u>	<u>65,066</u>	<u>417,075</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	211,526	8,315	6,195	226,036	235,207	9,981	245,188
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	20,212	310	231	20,753	11,733	498	12,231
	<u>582,711</u>	<u>62,748</u>	<u>45,106</u>	<u>690,565</u>	<u>598,949</u>	<u>75,545</u>	<u>674,494</u>
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	251,887	-	-	251,887	403,283	-	403,283
Restricted funds	330,824	62,748	45,106	438,678	195,666	75,545	271,211
	<u>582,711</u>	<u>62,748</u>	<u>45,106</u>	<u>690,565</u>	<u>598,949</u>	<u>75,545</u>	<u>674,494</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021 Support costs	Governance costs	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	171,889	-	171,889	187,136	187,136
Depreciation	5,569	-	5,569	4,980	4,980
Premises costs	19,638	-	19,638	19,058	19,058
Office costs	26,829	-	26,829	25,665	25,665
Staff and volunteer costs	1,245	-	1,245	5,771	5,771
Other costs	866	-	866	2,578	2,578
Independent examination	-	550	550	-	500
Accountancy	-	1,950	1,950	-	1,900
Legal and professional	-	18,253	18,253	-	9,831
	<u>226,036</u>	<u>20,753</u>	<u>246,789</u>	<u>245,188</u>	<u>257,419</u>
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	<u>226,036</u>	<u>20,753</u>	<u>246,789</u>	<u>245,188</u>	<u>257,419</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the Independent Examiner for independent examination fees of £550 (2020: £500 audit) and payments of £1,950 for accountancy fees (2020: £1,900).

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2020: £nil). No trustees were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2020: £nil).

Details of other related party transactions are set out in note 20.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Debt and welfare rights advisors	18	15
Administration	6	7
Building Better Opportunities	1	2
	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>

Employment costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	538,267	529,568
Social security costs	41,340	39,545
Other pension costs	24,244	22,757
	<u>603,851</u>	<u>591,870</u>

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

Included within wages are redundancy costs of £nil (2020 - £45,600) which were paid to 4 members of staff during the previous year.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Office and computer equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	33,044
Additions	4,092
	<u>37,136</u>
At 31 March 2021	
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2020	26,699
Depreciation charged in the year	5,569
	<u>32,268</u>
At 31 March 2021	
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2021	4,868
	<u>6,344</u>
At 31 March 2020	
	<u>6,344</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12	Financial instruments		2021	2020
			£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets			
	Debt instruments measured at amortised cost		327,880	269,503
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities			
	Measured at amortised cost		31,848	16,700
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
13	Debtors		2021	2020
			£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:			
	Trade debtors		2,100	41,858
	Other debtors		73,257	31,441
	Prepayments		7,995	3,356
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
			83,352	76,655
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
14	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2021	2020
		Notes	£	£
	Other taxation and social security		12,753	15,218
	Deferred income	15	29,317	1,791
	Trade creditors		294	6,588
	Other creditors		319	90
	Accruals		31,235	10,022
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
			73,918	33,709
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other deferred income	29,317	1,791
	<u>29,317</u>	<u>1,791</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Total deferred income at 1 April 2020	1,791	5,000
Amounts received in the year	29,317	6,459
Amounts credited to statement of financial activities	<u>(1,791)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
Total deferred income at 31 March 2021	<u>29,317</u>	<u>1,791</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Restricted funds

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

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds			
	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Liverpool City Council	9,000	(9,000)	-	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	-
GMMAP	154,600	(169,386)	14,786	-	185,946	(190,750)	4,804	-
Building Better Opportunities	75,381	(75,546)	165	-	42,517	(62,748)	20,231	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	4,302	(4,302)	-	-
North West Housing	12,280	(12,280)	-	-	11,597	(11,597)	-	-
Clothworkers	-	-	-	-	5,100	(3,574)	-	1,526
JRS Grant	-	-	-	-	15,376	(15,376)	-	-
New Horizon	-	-	-	-	44,482	(45,103)	621	-
LCR Cares	-	-	-	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	-	-	-	11,154	(11,154)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	80,074	(80,074)	-	-
	<u>256,261</u>	<u>(271,212)</u>	<u>14,951</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>414,548</u>	<u>(438,678)</u>	<u>25,656</u>	<u>1,526</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Restricted funds

Liverpool City Council provide funding to enable home visits to Liverpool residents who, for one reason or another, are unable to access mainstream advice services. The grant of £9,000 from the Community Resources Grant (within Liverpool City Council) was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Greater Merseyside Money Advice Partnership (GMMAP), funded through the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS), provides money advice which enable individuals to take back control of the finances through appropriate debt solutions. The Raise costs for staff are more than the grant will allow and therefore, the project cost reflect the actual cost of this project is always over budget. The board were in agreement to used unrestricted funds to offset the additional spending allocation.

Building Better Opportunities: Better off Finance funded by The Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund aimed at improving financial capability and progression into training, education and employment. The funds received were for the purposes for which they were intended.

John Moores Foundation provide funding to support the most vulnerable residents in Liverpool during the pandemic. The grant of £4,302 was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

North West Housing provide funding to support their cooperative tenants with their advice needs. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Clothworkers Foundation provide funding to support the organisations capital cost for IT during the pandemic. The grant of £5,100 was used for the purpose for which it was awarded

JRS Grant provide funding to support staff on furlough due to the health pandemic (Covid-19). The money was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

New Horizons provide funding to support the vulnerable individuals within the LCR to gain skills and experience which enable them to search for work, undertake training or find meaningful employment. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

LCR Cares - COVID 19 Community Support Fund provide funding to support the most vulnerable residents in Liverpool during the pandemic. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Steve Morgan Foundation provide funding to support the most vulnerable residents in Liverpool during the pandemic. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

The National Lottery Community Fund provide funding to support the organisations core costs during the pandemic. The grant was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Restricted funds

Liverpool City Council provide funding to enable home visits to Liverpool residents who, for one reason or another, are unable to access mainstream advice services. The grant of £9,000 from the Community Resources Grant (within Liverpool City Council) was used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Salaries	9,000	9,000
	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

17 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Expenditure £	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Reserve fund	222,250	(45,260)	176,990	-	176,990
	<u>222,250</u>	<u>(45,260)</u>	<u>176,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,990</u>

The reserve fund is designated to provide for general contingencies, restructuring the services as well as possible employment termination costs, which includes redundancy liability, likely to be incurred should the charity cease to operate or have to reduce its activities. This is reviewed annually at the start of the year to ensure the charities liabilities are as informed as possible.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	4,868	-	4,868	6,344	-	6,344
Current assets/(liabilities)	<u>260,432</u>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>261,958</u>	<u>239,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>239,150</u>
	<u>265,300</u>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>266,826</u>	<u>245,494</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245,494</u>

19 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	<u>18,034</u>	<u>17,051</u>

RAISE LIMITED
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

20 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Aggregate remuneration	69,723	68,639

There are no other related party transactions.

21 Cash generated from operations

	2021	2020
	£	£
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	21,333	(44,663)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(818)	(1,469)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	5,569	4,980
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(6,698)	(23,946)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	12,683	(1,121)
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	27,526	(4,668)
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	59,595	(70,887)

22 Company limited by guarantee

RAISE is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

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