

**Registered Charity no. 1114773**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30TH NOVEMBER 2023  
FOR THE  
THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**

**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

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**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered charity number**

1114773

**Principal address**

24 Bank Street  
Brierley Hill  
DY5 3DA

**Trustees**

John Cook (resigned May 2024)  
Adrian Lowe  
Christopher Swaithes  
Judith Forster  
Anna Fellows

**Independent examiner**

Sally-Ann Reeves FCCA

**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT  
TRUSTEES REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 November 2023.

**Organisational structure**

The Brierley Hill Project is constituted by a Deed of Trust and is a registered charity, No. 1114773.

**Governance and Management**

New trustees are appointed by existing trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis and are supported by a management team to whom the administration of the practical issues arising from the daily activities is delegated. The board of trustees aims to have a broad range of skills represented, in particular finance, business management, organisational development, training and education, social work and service to the community through other charity trusteeships.

**Objectives and activities**

- (I) TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE MENTAL, SPIRITUAL, MORAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A FRAMEWORK OF CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES SO AS TO DEVELOP THEIR FULL CAPACITIES AND ENABLE THEM TO BECOME RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY SO THAT THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE MAY BE IMPROVED.
- (II) TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF BRIERLEY HILL AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND THE BLACK COUNTRY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE FOR THE SAID INHABITANTS.
- (III) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN BRIERLEY HILL AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND THE BLACK COUNTRY BY PROVIDING ESSENTIAL ITEMS, RESOURCES AND SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OR TO OTHER CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY.

**Achievements and Performance**

The economic conditions in our area remain challenging as Brierley Hill and Pensnett continue to be in the top 10% most deprived areas of England. (2019 Indices of Deprivation Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)). This year has been another busy year with demand for our services not showing any signs of relenting. The team have continued to work really hard, and we are pleased to report some stats below;

- We gave out 1113 (967 in 2022) foodbank vouchers during our drop-in service to people in crisis
- We delivered 1007 (693 in 2022) adult one to one support sessions
- We delivered 175 (76 in 2022) one-to-one support sessions to young people
- We delivered 19 detached youth work sessions during which we had 41 conversations with young people about health & wellbeing, staying safe, economic issues, how to make a positive contribution and how they enjoy & achieve.
- We delivered 48 football sessions which were attended by 430 young people.



**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**Achievements and Performance (cont.)**

Our partnership relationships with Black Country Foodbank, Dudley MBC Welfare Rights and Dudley MBC Homeless Team; remain important to us as they enable us to continue to provide support to some of the most vulnerable across the Borough. We have also worked on new partnerships with kid's clothes project, Brierley Hill Baby Bank, Provision House (to name a few) and other statutory providers which allows us to deliver the services we can, while making sure our clients get the holistic support they need. We believe this has helped us continue to strengthen our reputation as we build strong working relationships with these services in our area to work with hardest to reach individuals with extremely complex needs.

This year we spent some time reviewing the staff structure and have moved to a model with more sessional workers rather than employed staff. This allows us to be agile while very strategic with our approach as the sessional workers are specialised in their areas. We will continue to monitor this.

This year has been a year of consolidation as we continue to review both sides of our organisation (Adult & Youth services), while also looking at the long-term financial strategy and the possibility of diversifying our income more.

Funding remains a challenge, but due to us keeping the project very lean we are confident we are robust and heading in the right direction.

We are proud of our flexibility of service and how we can be person centred rather than task focused, we respond to the needs of the individual and stay connected as long as possible to see real change and progress.

**Financial review**

The net outgoing unrestricted and designated resources before transfers for the year amounted to -£20,617 (2022: net outgoing £26,817), and net incoming restricted resources amounted to £11,963 (2022: net outgoing £6,463). See note 3 for transfers between funds.

At 30 November 2023 the unrestricted and restricted funds after transfers total £55,565 (2022: £64,219) of which £21,245 in designated funds (2022 £23,700) and £32,647 in general funds (2022 £40,358) Restricted fund balances after transfers total £1,673 (2022: £161).

**Reserves and reserves policy**

The policy agreed by the trustees is to aim to hold in unrestricted reserves not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the 'free' reserves) sufficient to cover the general overhead expenses and salary costs not specifically funded by external agencies, for a period of six months. At this level, the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. It would then be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed. The amount of 'free' reserves at 30 November 2023 amounts to £53,892 (2022 £64,058), and equates to approximately 10 months expenditure.

**Risk policy and review**

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks that the charity faces and consider that they are adequately mitigated through insurance, strategic planning, policies, systems and procedures.

**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**Future developments**

We are looking at several priority areas for the future year –

- Increasing our mentoring programme for young people which could include more engagement with schools.
- Reviewing our detach work and the place of that longer term.
- Applying for some larger grants to enable long term sustainability.
- Working on the board of trustees to gain more people with different skills, while acknowledging some will be coming up to their review period.
- Continuing to sit on local strategic partnerships to be a voice into policy and local decision making.

**Trustees**

The trustees holding office during the whole year unless otherwise stated were as follows:

John Cook (resigned May 2024)

Adrian Lowe

Christopher Swaithes

Judith Forster

Anna Fellows

In accordance with the trust deed, trustees hold office for three years, and are eligible to be re-elected. No trustees are due for re-election during the forthcoming year.

**Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;  
make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;  
state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and  
prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

Approved by the trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and signed on their behalf by

**C Swaithes**  
**Chairman of the Board of Trustees**





**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 30th November 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report.**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's statement**

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

Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

The accounts do not accord with those records.

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 proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



S A Reeves FCCA  
Broadway  
Worcestershire

23rd April 2024

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**


	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Gifts	4a	2,934	1,000	-	3,934	1,095
Donations	4b	27,218	7,536	-	34,754	36,783
Gift Aid tax recovered	4c	3,921	1,425	-	5,346	6,567
Grants	4d	4,750	2,750	20,215	27,715	11,896
Receipts from charitable activities	4e	-	-	-	-	833
Interest and dividends	4f	728	-	-	728	104
Receipts from services recharged	4g	-	-	-	-	3,150
<hr/>						
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>39,551</b>	<b>12,711</b>	<b>20,215</b>	<b>72,477</b>	<b>60,428</b>
<hr/>						
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
Direct charitable activity	5a	47,426	14,847	18,252	80,525	90,480
Donations and gifts	5b	230	5	-	235	711
Costs of generating funds	5c	371	-	-	371	2,517
<hr/>						
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>48,027</b>	<b>14,852</b>	<b>18,252</b>	<b>81,131</b>	<b>93,708</b>
<hr/>						
<b>NET OF RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS</b>		<b>(8,476)</b>	<b>(2,141)</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>(8,654)</b>	<b>(33,280)</b>
<hr/>						
Transfers between funds		765	(314)	(451)	-	-
<hr/>						
CASH FUNDS AS AT 30/11/2022		40,358	23,700	161	64,219	97,499
<hr/>						
<b>CASH FUNDS AS AT 30/11/2023</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32,647</b>	<b>21,245</b>	<b>1,673</b>	<b>55,565</b>	<b>64,219</b>



**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**AS AT 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Cash funds</b>						
Current account		7,085	-	-	7,085	6,457
Deposit accounts		25,398	21,245	1,673	48,316	57,588
Petty cash		164	-	-	164	174
	<b>3</b>	<u>32,647</u>	- <u>21,245</u>	<u>1,673</u>	<u>55,565</u>	<u>64,219</u>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>						
Gift aid recoverable		<u>272</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>489</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024,  
and were signed on its behalf by:

  
C Swaithe  
Trustee

**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**1 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and related parties**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	28,342	44,821
Pension costs	581	668
	<u>28,923</u>	<u>45,489</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 2 (2022: 4)

During the year, trustee John Cook invoiced the charity £ 12,000 (2022 £500) for project management consultancy fees.

No other Trustees were paid any remuneration or received benefits during the year (2022 £Nil)

**3 Movement in funds**

The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance b/fwd 01/12/2022	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd 30/11/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>General (unrestricted)</b>	40,358	39,551	48,027	765	32,647
<b>Designated</b>					
Youth Fund	21,459	11,575	13,157	(96)	19,781
Asda Advertising	218	-	-	(218)	-
Homeless Fund	2,023	1,136	1,695	-	1,464
	<u>23,700</u>	<u>12,711</u>	<u>14,852</u>	<u>(314)</u>	<u>21,245</u>
<b>Restricted</b>					
Awards for all - general	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Make It Happen	161	-	80	(81)	-
PCC West Midlands	-	2,412	2,161	-	251
Dudley Community Forum	-	1,803	1,803	-	-
Dudley Poverty Fund	-	6,000	4,208	(370)	1,422
	<u>161</u>	<u>20,215</u>	<u>18,252</u>	<u>(451)</u>	<u>1,673</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>64,219</u>	<u>72,477</u>	<u>81,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,565</u>

**Movement in funds for the year ended 30th November 2022**

	Balance b/fwd 01/12/2021	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd 30/11/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>General (unrestricted)</b>	71,723	42,561	73,597	(329)	40,358
<b>Designated</b>					
Youth Fund	17,774	9,385	4,898	(802)	21,459
Asda Advertising	-	1,000	782	-	218
Homeless Fund	2,509	1,086	1,572	-	2,023
	<u>20,283</u>	<u>11,471</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>(802)</u>	<u>23,700</u>
<b>Restricted</b>					
Lottery - Bank Street	5,493	-	5,502	9	-
Make It Happen	-	1,074	913	-	161
Cadbury Trust	-	650	600	(50)	-
Dudley MBC Poverty Fund	-	-	370	370	-
Active Knife Crime	-	4,672	5,474	802	-
	<u>5,493</u>	<u>6,396</u>	<u>12,859</u>	<u>1,131</u>	<u>161</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>97,499</u>	<u>60,428</u>	<u>93,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,219</u>

**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**4 Further analysis of Receipts**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts					
a) <b>Gifts</b>					
One off gifts	2,934	1,000	-	3,934	1,095
b) <b>Donations</b>					
Regular donations	27,218	7,536	-	34,754	36,783
c) <b>Gift Aid</b>					
Gift Aid tax recovered	3,921	1,425	-	5,346	6,567
d) <b>Grants</b>					
Grants from institutions	4,750	2,750	20,215	27,715	11,896
e) <b>Receipts from charitable activities</b>					
Mentors fees	-	-	-	-	833
f) <b>Interest and dividends</b>					
Deposit account interest	728	-	-	728	104
g) <b>Receipts from services recharged</b>					
Services recharged to Little Acorns	-	-	-	-	2,650
Services recharged to Integrated Plus	-	-	-	-	500
	-	-	-	-	3,150
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>39,551</b>	<b>12,711</b>	<b>20,215</b>	<b>72,477</b>	<b>60,428</b>



**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**  
**NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**5 Further analysis of Payments**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Payments					
a) <b>Direct charitable activity</b>					
Salaries and NI	18,342	-	10,000	28,342	44,821
Pension costs	581	-	-	581	668
Departmental expenses	551	31	-	582	485
Client support gifts	192	1,712	2,815	4,719	1,427
Property insurance	1,042	-	-	1,042	1,011
Repairs & renewals	-	-	-	-	504
Refurbishment of Bank Street*	-	-	-	-	11,462
Maintenance contracts	387	-	-	387	668
Heat, light and water	2,342	-	-	2,342	2,660
Cleaning	629	-	-	629	456
Sessional workers pay	490	8,026	157	8,673	8,142
Session work football	-	555	1,140	1,695	-
Session work mentoring	-	1,380	-	1,380	-
Telephone & Broadband	635	-	-	635	826
Stationery, printing and postage	96	35	-	131	434
Subscriptions	95	16	-	79	558
Advertising	-	-	-	-	761
DBS checks	225	-	-	225	381
Travelling & subsistence	-	-	-	-	3
Hire of equipment (3D pitch)	-	1,932	1,883	3,815	3,698
Equipment for activities	-	138	-	138	210
Equipment for general use	196	-	1,238	1,434	929
Refreshments	-	-	-	-	14
Training and worker development	-	-	155	155	722
Rent and room hire	4,800	-	-	4,800	2,800
Consumables	351	46	-	397	439
Sports Coaching	-	1,008	864	1,872	2,136
Management consultancy	12,000	-	-	12,000	500
Bank charges	71	-	-	71	70
IT support and software	1,322	-	-	1,322	555
Independent examination	450	-	-	450	450
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	550
Accountancy	2,629	-	-	2,629	2,140
	<u>47,426</u>	<u>14,847</u>	<u>18,252</u>	<u>80,525</u>	<u>90,480</u>
b) <b>Donations and gifts</b>					
Other gifts	<u>230</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>235</u>	<u>711</u>
c) <b>Costs of generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-	21
Website	<u>371</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>2,496</u>
	<u>371</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>2,517</u>
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<u>48,027</u>	<u>14,852</u>	<u>18,252</u>	<u>81,131</u>	<u>93,708</u>

\*Year ended 30th November 2022 includes shutters totalling £5,502. Funding was received from Lottery (Awards for All) towards the cost of additional security, covering the cost of the shutters.