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# Greater London Volunteering (Branded as London Plus)

Report of the Trustees and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

Company no. 04070342 (England & Wales)  
Charity no. 1115303

**london plus**

# Greater London Volunteering

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# **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

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

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity Name:	Greater London Volunteering (GLV)
Charity Registration Number:	1115303
Company Registration Number:	04070342
Registered Office:	Norman House 8 Burnell Road Sutton SM1 4BW
Auditors:	Myrus Smith Chartered Accountants Norman House 8 Burnell Road Sutton Surrey SM1 4BW
Bankers:	The Co-operative Bank PLC PO Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

### **Trustees**

Dominic Pinkney	Chair (Appointed January 2022 - November 2022)
Cameron Fitzwilliam-Grey	Chair (Resigned January 2022)
Sarah Mulley	Chair (Appointed November 2022)
Beau Fadahunsi	Company Secretary
Truly Johnston	Treasurer (Resigned January 2022)
Jocelyn James	Treasurer (Appointed January 2022)
Jacob Przeklasa	
Stephanie Hann	
Edward Anderton	
Renae Michelle Mann	
Geraldine Blake	Special Advisor

### **Senior Management**

Martin Brookes	Chief Executive
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# **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 12th September 2000 and registered as a charity on 13th July 2006.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under those Articles. The company replaced the existing Memorandum and Articles of Association with a new Articles of Association on 6 February 2018. The legal name of the company remains Greater London Volunteering, a registered charity in England and Wales. During this period, the company continued to use the brand name London Plus.

#### Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The recruitment and appointment of trustees are set out in our Articles of Association. Trustees are elected annually at the AGM. At the third annual general meeting after a trustee's last appointment (whether by election or co-option) a trustee shall retire. They shall be eligible for re-appointment provided that no trustee may continue to serve after six years in office without a period of at least a year out of office and no trustee may serve for more than nine years in total.

For the purposes of this Article (31.1) a "year" shall mean a complete period of service between two annual general meetings.

The Board may, from time to time, appoint a member of staff as a member of the Board either to fill a casual vacancy or by way of an addition to the Board, subject to the provisions of the Articles of Association.

#### Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are provided with an induction on joining the Board and are encouraged to take up relevant training and development to fulfil their role and responsibilities to London Plus.

#### Risk Management

The trustees review the risks to which the charity is exposed and have set up a number of policies which the trustees, employed staff and volunteers must follow. They believe that there are in place adequate controls and systems to mitigate any external and internal risks that it may face.

## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

Structure, Governance and Management/cont'd...

#### Organisation

At the beginning of the year, we were waiting for news on our application to City Bridge Trust for continued funding. This application was for £500,000 over three years. It was submitted just prior to the previous year's end. Early this year we heard that the application had been successful. This support from City Bridge Trust allows London Plus to continue to develop its work supporting the voluntary and community sector across London.

The pandemic continued to shape working habits during the year. Staff remained working at home for the whole of 2021/22. Reflecting this, we did not renew the lease on our office in December 2021, opting to save costs. Staff began to meet up to collaborate and, also, use local working spaces. We have adapted some working conditions to support staff in this and will review our office arrangements in the new year.

The organisation remained short of staff for much of the year. Our data and research analyst left in the first quarter of the year and a replacement was not found until the fourth quarter. As a result, much of our work on data was on hold during 2021/22.

Short staffing adversely affects London Plus as it does many small charities. When a member of staff leaves, there is significant disruption and material costs of recruitment. The tightening labour market post-pandemic adds to these complications and pressures.

#### Management

Day-to-day management is delegated to a small staff team, led by a chief executive officer. Throughout this reporting period, the chief executive has been Martin Brookes.

#### Objectives and Activities

##### Objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and charitable sector organisations.
- To promote such other exclusively charitable purposes according to the law of England and Wales as the trustees in their absolute discretion from time to time determine.

# GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING

## Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and Activities/cont'd...

### *Vision*

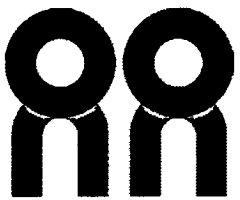
A city where all Londoners can thrive.

### *Mission*

We are taking a bold approach to turn data into insight, empowering civil society organisations through better connections and ensuring that our collective voice influences positive change.

### *Activities*

Our activities are organised around four building blocks.



Networks are the first building block. Networks make it easier for us to gather information from, provide support to, and connect charities and community groups across London. Some of our networks are for specific organisations, such as for local charity infrastructure groups in each London borough. Others address a particular topic – such as social prescribing or the response to the arrival of Ukrainian refugees in 2022.



Communications, the second building block, are needed to support charities and community groups. The voluntary and community sector in London is large and disparate. Good information and communications need to flow to the sector. We are investing increasing time, energy, and resources into reaching the sector. This includes using social media, newsletters, our website, as well as our networks and other channels.



Connections are the third building block, which we use to support the sector across London. We have good links with policy makers in the GLA and London Councils, as well as funders. We have added further to these as we contribute to the agenda for London's recovery from the pandemic. Our networks give credibility to our voice and influence when we talk to policy makers and funders across London. Strong connections and credibility help us build understanding, partnerships, and develop solutions.



Data is the final building block of our work. Our networks help provide us with both hard as well as soft 'data'. There is less analysis and scrutiny of, and limited data about, the voluntary and community sector. We help plug this gap by gathering data from our networks and beyond. With this, we can better understand and serve the needs of the sector.

# **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

### Objectives and Activities/cont'd...

#### Public Benefit

In forming and reviewing the charity's objectives, the trustees have given due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission as required by section 17 of The Charities Act 2011.

#### Achievements and Performance

During the year we started to describe London Plus as follows:

*London Plus supports and champions charities and community groups in London. It does this through networks, data, communications, as well as connections across the capital.*

This is an adaptation from the previous description which emphasised the three pillars of networks, data, and voice and influence. It is a small reframing only, not a marked departure. It reflects our broader work across the sector as well as a focus on communications to reach the wider voluntary and community sector in London. The shift can also be seen in our work during 2021/22.

The first half of the year continued to be shaped by the pandemic. At the start of the year, significant restrictions on activities remained in place in order to curb the spread of the pandemic. The London Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) continued to operate and guide the capital's response. As part of the official Covid structures, the Community, Faith, Voluntary Sector and Funders SCG sub-group (CFVSF) met regularly. London Plus was a member of this sub-group and continued to provide input from our networks as well as channel information about restrictions, public health messages, and funding to the wider sector.

Most remaining restrictions on economic and social activity were lifted in July. In the run-up to this and subsequently, we began to reflect on the lessons from the pandemic, including the SCG sub-groups (latterly CFVSF which followed the original Funder, Community and Voluntary Sector, FCVS sub-group). These had forged strong links between parts of the sector, policymakers and funders, improving mutual understanding and joint working, including by helping the flow of information between and across sectors. There was a desire to build on these lessons. Events in the second half of the year increased interest in how the sector can work together efficiently and effectively.

## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

#### Achievements and Performance/cont'd...

A key event triggering this interest was the airlifting of thousands of refugees from Afghanistan as part of the British withdrawal (alongside that of other nations). Refugees arrived in the UK, with the largest number (around 5,000) landing in London. The Afghans were housed in 15 hotels across 8 boroughs. Many of them had significant needs, having fled Afghanistan with few possessions. Local authorities were not necessarily prepared for this nor, in some cases, even initially aware of the presence of the refugees in hotels.

London Plus worked closely with the VCS Emergencies Partnership on a response. The two organisations had previously worked together, with London Plus playing a role during the pandemic as one of the local leads for the Emergencies Partnership. The situation with the Afghan refugees fostered a much closer working relationship and partnership.

This including building a network of organisations at short notice to address the needs of the Afghans and provide what was needed. Organisations including the British Red Cross; RE:ACT, which mobilises mostly ex-military volunteers; the local volunteer centre in Havering; a clothes donation depot in Lewisham; and others, played crucial roles helping Afghans.

Fire trucks and Transport for London vans and drivers, charity donation depots, volunteer centres' shop spaces, children's clothes charities, ex-military volunteers, Red Cross coordinators, Afghan charity translators - all these and more were mobilised. Information was pooled and tasks shared, with organisations passing on responsibilities to one another according to local need, expertise, and resources. With everyone working together, the wider voluntary and community sector mounted an effective response. London Plus and the VCS Emergencies Partnership coordinated and managed the whole project.

This was a significant departure for London Plus; it was the first time we became involved coordinating actual delivery of front-line work in London. Up to this point, we had collected, shared and collated information only. The episode prompted reflections with VCS Emergencies Partnership about the need for a stronger emergency response structure in London. That thinking continued, and was woven into discussions with City Bridge Trust, the Corporation of London, the GLA, London Funders, and others, about the lessons to take from the pandemic. Many of these organisations had played a role developing the original idea for London Plus as a support for the sector and a way that policymakers might connect with it effectively. Given this, as well as experiences during the pandemic, it was natural that we should be seen as part of future arrangements.



## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

#### Achievements and Performance/cont'd...

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February added to this thinking. Within a day of the invasion, we launched an online and crowd-sourced document collecting organisations who could help with arriving refugees and directing people who wanted to help. This document grew and developed in the days and weeks after the invasion. It was widely used in the sector and by statutory bodies. In this way, as well as through contributing to and convening meetings of organisations, London Plus helped to coordinate the response of the wider voluntary and community sector in London, by collecting, collating and sharing information.

By the close of the year, London Plus and VCS Emergencies Partnership had a strong working relationship and mutual understanding. We also had a good sense of what London needed for future emergencies. In the latter part of the year, the two organisations developed a plan for a new structure – the London Communities Emergencies Partnership. The design of this draws on, and tries to incorporate, the lessons of the pandemic. Discussions about this were continuing into the new year.

#### Infrastructure Networks

Throughout this period, we continued to support our two original networks – for directors of local infrastructure organisations (Councils of Voluntary Service) and heads of Volunteer Centres. These organisations are often the bedrock of the local voluntary and community sector, playing vital roles supporting, connecting, coordinating and representing the sector locally.

Running and helping networks, both formal and informal, is vital to our work. Our dedicated Networks Manager ensures they are supported and, in turn, helps them provide input to our work across London.

Four meetings of our CVS Directors Network were held during the year. The meetings provide valuable opportunities for directors to share local experiences, knowledge, and insights. As the pandemic continued to put organisations under strain and subsequent emergencies added to pressures, the networks provide opportunities to take stock and learn. Communications shared weekly with the networks add to their usefulness.

Topics covered at CVS network meetings this year included updates and presentations on London's recovery missions and the work of the London Recovery Board; the development of a new index of civic strength in London; the introduction of Integrated Care Systems in the NHS; national sector priorities and the work of the National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO); the work of the Money and Pensions Service; training for the sector from Information Superhighways.

## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

Achievements and Performance/cont'd...

Infrastructure Networks/cont'd...

There were changes in the governance of the network during the year. At the start of the year there were Co-Chairs. This changed in November and there was a single Chair for the remainder of the year, with two other CVS directors playing supporting roles. Also, at the start of the financial year several relatively new members of the network joined, and brought valuable new perspectives and priorities.

The network was also changed during the year to address fluctuating attendance. Smaller meetings have often resulted in more fruitful discussions, with everyone having time and space to actively participate, but we continue to try to support organisations from across the whole of London. CVS Directors are extremely limited in capacity and resource, and this has been an issue for the network. We will continue to think of ways to make the network even more effective and valuable.

Limited capacity within the sector makes it more important to consider ways to highlight the work and value of CVSs and similar organisations that provide infrastructure. To this end, we started to develop a collective impact report showing the London-wide reach and impact of the CVS network and the value of its members. Ongoing and regular emergencies continue to place demands on the sector and limit the time available for research projects like this.

These demands continued through the end of the year with Russia's invasion of Ukraine. A growing focus on the cost of living pressures began to emerge towards the end of the year and is likely to shape the work of the network in the foreseeable future.

The Volunteer Centre Network was similarly busy throughout the year, meeting four times. Each meeting includes organisations from different boroughs sharing their local experiences, knowledge, and insights. Ongoing pressures during the pandemic and through subsequent emergencies, including the never-ending challenges of funding, were regular fixtures during the year.

As well as standing items and providing opportunities for networking, special topics discussed at VC Networks during the year included the VCQA quality assurance mark for organisations supporting local volunteering; supporting local mutual aid groups; the provision of volunteers to support Covid vaccination sites; the civic strength index for London; the profile of local volunteer centres; the response to the Ukraine crisis; and the London Volunteering Strategy Group (LVSG).

## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

Achievements and Performance/cont'd...

Infrastructure Networks/cont'd...

Early in the year, London Plus, the GLA, and others including national volunteering organisations developed the London Volunteering Strategy Group. Its aim is to promote and support all types of volunteering across the capital, joining up organisations working in different areas. London Plus is a key partner in the group and during the year helped develop plans for a campaign aimed at appealing to all Londoners. By the end of the year requests had been made for media partners. This campaign developed further and was successfully launched subsequently.

The end of this year saw the start of new chairing arrangements for the VC Network. It was felt this would be beneficial in terms of structure and focus, giving the network a greater sense of ownership and collaboration. New Co-Chairs were introduced and started at the beginning of 2022. Early signs are that this is working well.

London's Recovery Missions

We worked throughout the year to support the nine recovery "missions" for London post-pandemic. These were introduced in the second half of 2020/21 and shaped much of the focus of our partners and funders in the GLA, London Councils, London Funders, and elsewhere.

Our chief executive sat on the London Recovery Taskforce throughout the year, helping monitor and assess work on the five social missions, informing the London Recovery Board's role overseeing the recovery programme. He also sat on the core team supporting the work of the Building Strong Communities mission, which fits most closely with the ambition of London Plus to support and champion the voluntary and community sector. This mission aims to ensure that "By 2025, all Londoners will have access to a community hub ensuring they can volunteer, get support and build strong community networks."

This recovery programme developed through this period and there was both more funding for the voluntary and community sector as well as important initiatives such as the introduction of the civic strength index.

The precise formulation of the building strong communities ambition into a quantifiable mission with a focus on community hubs presented some challenges during the year. Nonetheless, the mission provided a valuable focus for efforts aimed at building communities and, also, developed further already strong links between individuals and organisations in London.

## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

#### Achievements and Performance/cont'd...

##### Social Prescribing

We continued to build, develop and support the London Social Prescribing Network during the year. This network is funded by the GLA and aims to help organisations and individuals in the voluntary and community sector who are involved with the growing field of social prescribing. The network is run by our Social Prescribing Network Manager.

The network is now two years old and has established itself within the sector in London. Membership of the network grew throughout this year; it was up around 60% and was close to 300 by year-end (it has continued to grow since). A monthly newsletter was produced for members throughout the year, a number of articles were published, and events held. Evidence shows these outputs are well-received and used.

As well as directly supporting network members, we need to influence the wider field of practice of social prescribing. To this end, London Plus is a member of a Social Prescribing Partnership together with the GLA and Healthy London Partnership. The partnership aims to improve social prescribing in London in part by championing the important role the voluntary and community sector plays in the "chain" from a patient presenting symptoms to a GP through to enjoying health improvements because of an activity such as walking, gardening, dancing, social groups, etc.

One challenge for the voluntary and community sector is that such activities are often not funded by the NHS, and prescribing GPs or link workers assume they are freely available. As a result, the voluntary and community sector faces strains because of growing demand without increased funding. Advocating for the voluntary and community sector is an important part of the work of London Plus through its network and via discussions with parts of the NHS.

A crucial first step on this path is consistently showing up and talking about the sector and social prescribing to commissioners in the NHS and elsewhere. Our Social Prescribing Network Manager regularly attended cross-sector meetings with the NHS and other parts of the system this year in order to give the network a strategic influencing role.

Alongside the London Social Prescribing Network, in this year we continued to run the London arm of the Thriving Communities programme for the National Academy for Social Prescribing. This programme involves helping organisations across London, supporting them to build their practices and networks. To help this programme reach the whole of London, we work with five local CVSs, one in each of the five NHS regions in the capital.

# **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

### **Financial Review**

We made an application to City Bridge Trust for renewed funding just prior to the start of the financial year. The hope was that City Bridge Trust would continue to fund the charity as we took steps to diversify our funding. Progress on diversification had been delayed by the pandemic; the pressures of work supporting the sector and contributing to London's emergency response and recovery structures. City Bridge Trust were understanding about this and approved an application for £500,000 over three years.

Whilst waiting for a decision on this funding, the charity took prudent steps to reduce our exposure and activities in case the funding application was not successful.

Renewed funding from City Bridge Trust provides a stable platform for the charity to continue its work, including taking more steps to diversify its income. In the past year, funding from City Bridge Trust represented its smallest proportion of spending (46% of total, down from 61% in 2020/21). Diversification of income is underway, and more progress is planned.

As part of this, the GLA provided funding to reflect our work supporting the Building Strong Communities mission. This funding is set to continue in 2022/23. Work on social prescribing has brought in funding from the GLA and the National Academy for Social Prescribing, contributing to the smaller proportion coming from City Bridge Trust.

Our unrestricted reserves have fallen slightly, to £46,348 (2021 : £48,605), but remain adequate. The nature of London Plus's work and our funding makes it difficult to build further unrestricted reserves. If we receive funding and deliver work that allows us to extend the money we receive in grant from City Bridge Trust, this remains restricted under the terms of the City Bridge Trust grant. Future plans for the London Communities Emergencies Partnership, to the extent they support our core roles, will have the same effect. Funding from the GLA or National Academy for Social Prescribing for social prescribing does not generate a surplus. It remains an ambition to build up unrestricted reserves. The next step to this end is to finalise a strategy, building on the lessons of the past two years. With this strategy finalised, we intend to approach a number of funders in London. We will also approach City Bridge Trust to discuss terms of our existing and potential future funding in light of the new strategy.

### **Funding received in this period:**

#### *City Bridge Trust funding*

Funding from existing City Bridge Trust grants was used for the salaries of the Chief Executive, Networks Manager, Data and Research Analyst, Communications Officer and London Plus Coordinator. It also covered central office costs and overheads.

## **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

#### **Financial Review/cont'd...**

#### **Funding received in this period:/cont'd...**

During this period, we received confirmation of a new grant from City Bridge Trust for £500,000 covering 2022/23-2024/25. This is split £200,000 in 2022/23, £175,000 in 2023/24, and £125,000 in 2024/25. This funding was provided under City Bridge Trust's Bridging Divides Programme.

Additionally, we received a grant from City Bridge Trust of £12,860 to cover transport costs for work done by partner organisations during the Afghan refugee crisis in the summer of 2021. This funding was passed through to other organisations via grants.

#### *GLA funding*

We received a grant for £20,000 from the GLA to cover our contribution to work on London's recovery missions, specifically the mission on Building Strong Communities. A second instalment of this grant is due to be paid in 2022/23.

We also received a grant of £16,000 from the GLA to distribute up to £15,000 of access grants to community-led organisations who were delivering activities as part of the Festival of Ideas. We received a further £33,000 of which up to £30,000 was distributed to organisations to host health conversations with young Londoners. And we received £10,000 to distribute up to £9,000 to anchor organisations who hosted vaccine hesitancy events.

We also received a grant of £20,000 to lead on a London Volunteering Strategy Group volunteering campaign and £35,000 to lead on a collaborative platform both to be delivered in the financial year 2022/23.

Separately, the GLA funds our London Social Prescribing Network. The grant for this in 2021/22 was £32,409. This grant funds our Social Prescribing Network Manager.

#### *National Academy for Social Prescribing funding*

We received a grant from National Academy for Social Prescribing for £79,542 to cover our work on the Thriving Communities Programme. Much of this is passed through to five local CVSs who support the programme in the five NHS Integrated Care System regions within London.

#### *VCS Emergencies Partnership funding*

We received a grant from the VCS Emergencies Partnership for £12,750 during this period as remuneration for our role as Local Lead within the Emergencies Partnership.

# **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

### **Financial Review../cont'd**

#### **Reserves Policy**

The charity maintains reserves sufficient to enable it to fulfil its charitable objectives. The Board of Trustees reviewed the risk-based reserves policy in July 2019 and has continued to monitor and review its fit for purpose since.

Loss of funding is deemed the greatest risk to the organisation and loss of our primary funder would likely need to result in closure of the charity. The trustees are satisfied that the £46,348 held in reserves at the end of the year is sufficient to meet the costs of closure. To help this assessment, a calculation of the costs of closing the charity is periodically updated. The latest calculation was in June 2021 and showed the costs of closure would be £32,325. During the next financial year, the trustees will consider a move towards a reserves policy targeting at least three months' spending in unrestricted reserves. This will add to the cushion the charity has and allow it to face future uncertainties with greater confidence, and reduce the risk of closure in the event of funding being interrupted. We will open conversations with funders about this target.

# **GREATER LONDON VOLUNTEERING**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022**

### **Trustees Responsibilities Statement**

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

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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

Approved by the trustees on: 21 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

**Sarah Mulley**  
**Chair of Board of Trustees**





## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Greater London Volunteering**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Greater London Volunteering (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

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

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Greater London Volunteering (continued)**

### **Other information**

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

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

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

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

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

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Greater London Volunteering (continued)**

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception/cont'd...**

- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance about actual and potential litigation or claims and the identification of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Greater London Volunteering (continued)**


- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- Professional scepticism in course of the audit and with audit sampling in material audit areas.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

  
Stephen Jones FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Myrus Smith  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
Norman House, 8 Burnell Road, Sutton, Surrey  
SM1 4BW

21 December 2022

## Greater London Volunteering

### Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2022 £	31 March 2021 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and grants	2	-	356,274	356,274	456,520
Charitable activities	3	-	-	-	4,800
<b>Total</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>356,274</u>	<u>356,274</u>	<u>461,320</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	4	-	7,303	7,303	7,304
Charitable activities	5	-	430,137	430,137	350,817
<b>Total</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>437,440</u>	<u>437,440</u>	<u>358,121</u>
<b>Net (deficit)/surplus</b>	9	-	(81,166)	(81,166)	103,199
Transfers between funds	13	(2,257)	2,257	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(2,257)</u>	<u>(78,909)</u>	<u>(81,166)</u>	<u>103,199</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward	13	48,605	124,854	173,459	70,260
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	13	<u>£46,348</u>	<u>£45,945</u>	<u>£92,293</u>	<u>£173,459</u>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The SOFA includes all gains and losses recognised during the period.

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form part of these accounts

## Greater London Volunteering

### Balance Sheet As at 31 March 2022

	Notes	31 March 2022 £	31 March 2021 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	10,937	15,921
Cash at Bank		171,019	255,876
		<u>181,956</u>	<u>271,797</u>
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	12	(89,663)	(98,338)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>92,293</u>	<u>173,459</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	14	<u>£92,293</u>	<u>£173,459</u>
<b>Funds:</b>			
Unrestricted funds			
- General funds	13	46,348	48,605
Restricted funds	13	45,945	124,854
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>£92,293</u>	<u>£173,459</u>

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These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the directors and trustees on 24 December 2022 and signed on their behalf.



**Sarah Mulley, Chair**

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form part of these accounts.

# **Greater London Volunteering**

## **Notes to the financial statements**

### **for the year ended 31 March 2022**

#### **1. Accounting policies**

##### **General information and basis of preparation**

Greater London Volunteering is a private company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the "Reference and Administrative Information" on page 1 of these financial statements.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2020, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

##### **Income recognition**

Items of income are recognised in the financial statements when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from performance related grants and contracts is recognised as the charity earns the right to consideration through delivery of the specified services.

## **Greater London Volunteering Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022**

### **Expenditure recognition**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount can be measured reliably. Expenditure includes all irrecoverable VAT which is included as part of the relevant cost. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises those costs associated with attracting voluntary donations and grants
- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs associated with the delivery of the various activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries.

Expenditure includes those costs of a direct nature which can be allocated to a specific activity and also includes indirect costs, including governance costs that do not relate to a specific activity but are necessary to support those activities. Support costs are apportioned to each activity on the basis of staff time.

### **Leases**

Operating lease rentals are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted general funds are freely available for use in furtherance of the objects of the charity and which have not been designated for specific purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which can only be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or which have been raised for a particular purpose.

### **Pensions**

The charity contributes to Stakeholder Pension Schemes on behalf of its employees. These schemes are defined contribution pension schemes.

Contributions payable under these schemes are charged the Statement of Financial Activities in the year to which they relate. The charity has no liability under these schemes other than for the payment of those contributions.

### **Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within the year**

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



**Greater London Volunteering**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2022**

**2. Donations and grants**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
City Bridge Trust - Core	115,625	254,584
City Bridge Trust – Covid 19	-	15,000
City Bridge Trust – LRC	-	50,000
City Bridge Trust – Afghan travel	12,860	-
GLA – Soc. Prescribe/small grants	104,897	74,059
Nat. Academy for Social Prescribing	94,542	53,377
GLA – Matched funding for Core	20,000	-
VCSEP – Matched funding for Core	8,350	9,500
	<u>£356,274</u>	<u>£456,520</u>

All of the £456,520 recognised in 2021 related to restricted funds.

**3. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Consultancy	-	4,800
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£4,800</u>

All of the £4,800 recognised in 2021 related to restricted funds.

**4. Cost of raising funds**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Fundraising activities	<u>£7,303</u>	<u>£7,304</u>

All of the £7,304 expenditure recognised in 2021 was charged to restricted funds.

**5. Cost of charitable activities**

	<b>Direct Costs</b>	<b>Support Costs</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Civil society services	<u>£394,092</u>	<u>£36,045</u>	<u>£430,137</u>	<u>£350,817</u>

All of the £350,817 expenditure recognised in 2021 was charged to restricted funds.

**Greater London Volunteering**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2022**

<b>6. Analysis of direct costs</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	234,893	194,587
Redundancy/settlement costs	-	12,100
Recruitment	2,545	1,437
Consultancy fees/secondments	21,488	426
Travel costs	2,760	-
Project delivery costs	126,976	105,110
Website costs	697	299
Computer/equipment costs	329	125
Network days/conference	2,606	1,908
Legal fees	438	3,156
Other direct costs	1,360	457
	<u>£394,092</u>	<u>£319,605</u>
	<u><u>£394,092</u></u>	<u><u>£319,605</u></u>
 <b>7. Analysis of support costs</b>	 <b>2022</b>	 <b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Office costs	10,068	7,455
Premises costs	18,202	18,122
Marketing & promotion	2,040	-
Governance costs (note 8)	5,735	5,635
	<u>£36,045</u>	<u>£31,212</u>
	<u><u>£36,045</u></u>	<u><u>£31,212</u></u>
 <b>8. Governance costs</b>	 <b>2022</b>	 <b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Audit and accountancy fees	5,735	5,635
	<u>£5,735</u>	<u>£5,635</u>
	<u><u>£5,735</u></u>	<u><u>£5,635</u></u>

**Greater London Volunteering**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2022**

**9. Net surplus/(deficit)**

The net surplus or deficit is stated after charging:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Auditors' remuneration:		
Audit fees	1,800	1,824
Trustee remuneration	-	-
Operating leases	16,288	16,793
	<u>16,288</u>	<u>16,793</u>

No trustees were reimbursed during the year. (2021 – none).

**10. Staff costs**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	212,653	178,561
Social Security costs	21,945	18,698
Pensions	11,598	8,632
Settlement agreement	-	12,100
NIC rebate	(4,000)	(4,000)
	<u>£242,196</u>	<u>£213,991</u>

One employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of between £60,000 - £69,999.

The average weekly number of employees during the period, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents was 6 (2021 – 5).

Total employee benefits received by key management amounted to £73,029 (2021 : £73,037).

Under FRS 102, employee benefits include gross salary, benefits in kind, employer's national insurance and employer pension costs.

**Greater London Volunteering**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2022**

<b>11. Debtors</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Prepayments	937	768
Grants receivable	10,000	10,050
Other Debtors	-	5,103
	<u>£10,937</u>	<u>£15,921</u>

<b>12. Creditors:</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade Creditors	14,500	24,069
Income in advance	69,000	71,250
Accruals	6,163	3,019
	<u>£89,663</u>	<u>£98,338</u>

<b>13. Movement in funds</b>	<b>At 1 Apr 2021</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>At 31 March 2022</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Core - City Bridge Trust	83,664	115,625	201,546	2,257	-
Core – Matched funding	-	28,350	28,350	-	-
GLA Soc. Prescribing	8,030	32,419	34,803	-	5,646
GLA Small grants	1,318	72,478	69,796	-	4,000
AFGHAN TRAVEL	-	12,860	12,860	-	-
NASP	31,842	94,542	90,085	-	36,299
	<u>124,854</u>	<u>356,274</u>	<u>437,440</u>	<u>2,257</u>	<u>45,945</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	48,605	-	-	(2,257)	46,348
	<u>48,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,257)</u>	<u>46,348</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>£173,459</u>	<u>£356,274</u>	<u>£437,440</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£92,293</u>

Each of the funds is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

**Greater London Volunteering**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2022**

**13. Movement in funds (cont'd)**

Comparative information for the net movement in funds is as follows:

	At 1 Apr 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2021 £
<b>2021</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
City Bridge Trust	18,662	283,884	218,882	-	83,664
City Bridge Trust - LRC	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
Greater London Authority	-	74,059	64,711	-	9,348
NASP	-	53,377	21,535	-	31,842
Sport England	2,993	-	2,993	-	-
	<u>21,655</u>	<u>461,320</u>	<u>358,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124,854</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	48,605	-	-	-	48,605
	<u>48,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,605</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>£70,260</u>	<u>£461,320</u>	<u>£358,121</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£173,459</u>

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
<b>2022</b>			
Current assets	135,608	46,348	181,956
Current liabilities	(89,663)	-	(89,663)
	<u>135,608</u>	<u>46,348</u>	<u>181,956</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>£45,945</u>	<u>£46,348</u>	<u>£92,293</u>

Comparative information for the net assets between funds is as follows:

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
<b>2021</b>			
Current assets	223,192	48,605	271,797
Current liabilities	(98,338)	-	(98,338)
	<u>223,192</u>	<u>48,605</u>	<u>271,797</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>£124,854</u>	<u>£48,605</u>	<u>£173,459</u>

## Greater London Volunteering Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

### 15. Related parties

Due to GLV's status as an umbrella body for London based volunteer centres, a number of GLV trustees are involved with the governance/management of these organisations. The work of GLV is such that a number of transactions arose with some of these organisations as part of its routine charitable activity on several contracts. The trustees are satisfied that all such transactions have been carried out on an arm's length basis.

### 16. Commitments

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Within one year	-	8,505
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£8,505</u>

### 17. Contingent Assets

The total amount of grant and other funding due to the charity but not yet recognised as income at 31 March 2022 was £500,000.

### Acknowledgements

The trustees would like to acknowledge the hard work of our team. Thanks to Martin Brookes, Chief Executive. And thanks to our wonderful staff team: Emily Coatham (London Plus Coordinator); Hannah Norgate (Networks Manager); Stephanie McKinley (Social Prescribing Programmes Manager); Anousha Khan (Communications Officer, February 2021 – June 2022); Hannah Scott (Researcher and Data Analyst, January 2022 – May 2022); Abbie Pascoe-Apaw (London Regional Co-ordinator Lead, October 2021 – October 2022); Lucy Smith (Social Research and Data Lead, November 2019 – April 2021) plus the many staff and volunteers in partner organisations who worked with us to deliver services during the 12 month period to 31 March 2022.

And particular thanks to our funders for their support of our work:

**City Bridge Trust**  
**Greater London Authority**  
**National Academy for Social Prescribing**  
**Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership**