

INSPIRE MIDDLETON

England & Wales · Charity number 1126093

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06624568
Registered	2008-09-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	18 Aylesbury Grove Middleton Manchester M24 2TG
Phone	01616431163
Email	info@inspirem Middleton.org.uk
Website	www.inspirem Middleton.org.uk

Activities

Objects: I) TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY OF MIDDLETON, NORTH MANCHESTER IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO IDENTIFY, AND HELP MEET, THEIR NEEDS AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN SOCIETY.II) TO PROMOTE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, THE EFFICIENCY OF THE POLICE IN MIDDLETON, NORTH MANCHESTER AND TO PROMOTE GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND GREATER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE PREVENTION AND SOLUTION OF CRIME IN THE ARE.III) TO ADVANCE IN LIFE AND HELP YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH;A) THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES PROVIDED IN THE INTEREST OF SOCIAL WELFARE, DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE;B) PROVIDING SUPPORT AND ACTIVITIES WHICH DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS.IV) TO RELIEVE PERSONS WHO ARE IN CONDITION OF NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS BY REASON OF THEIR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PROVISION OF A DROP IN CENTRE.V) TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THE PERSONS REFERRED TO IN CLAUSE 4.VI) TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE GOOD HEALTH OF THE PERSONS REFERRED TO IN CLAUSE 4.VII) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

Activities: Our overall aim is inspiring people, places and organisations within Middleton, seeking to support and release their potential thus contributing towards building a better place to live, work and visit. We also seek to challenge a prevailing negative attitude towards the town and change this through positive actions, motivation & encouragement.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Manchester City
- Rochdale

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£459,060	£332,569	-	-
2024-03-31	£312,521	£276,512	-	-
2023-03-31	£182,307	£261,811	-	-
2022-03-31	£282,111	£250,256	-	-
2021-03-31	£296,422	£207,876	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Benny Mudzingwa		2018-07-01
Carl Anthony Roach		2008-06-19
Charles Edward White		2025-09-26
Janet Lesley Roach		2008-06-19
KELLY HUGHES		2011-08-01
Shereen Marie Howarth		2019-01-01
Simon Anthony Beaumont		2025-09-26

INSPIRE MIDDLETON

England & Wales - Charity number 1126093

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06624568

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1126093

**Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2025**

THOMPSON JONES BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LIMITED

Chartered accountants
2 Heap Bridge
Bury
BL9 7HR

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	17
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	19
Statement of financial position	20
Notes to the financial statements	21

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Inspire Middleton
Charity registration number	1126093
Company registration number	06624568
Principal office and registered office	18 Aylesbury Grove Middleton Manchester M24 2TG

The trustees

C.A. Roach	
J.L. Roach	
K. Hughes	
S.M. Howarth	
B. Mudzingwa	
C.E. White	(Appointed 26 September 2025)
S.A. Beaumont	(Appointed 26 September 2025)
M. Lee	(Resigned 1 December 2025)

Independent examiner	Simon GrettonWatson A.C.A. 2 Heap Bridge Bury BL9 7HR
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Structure, governance and management

The current Memorandum and Articles of Association that govern Inspire Middleton are those dated June 2008 as amended by Special Resolution no.1 dated 3rd September 2008, which are registered with Companies House and which have been accepted by the Charity Commission of England.

All work carried out is as identified in these documents.

Election to the Board of Trustees is open to other individuals or organisations who:

- (a) apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors; and
- (b) are approved by the Directors.

All current and future work is monitored through regular trustee meetings. Trustees will supervise and manage the running of the work to ensure that the charity is compliant with its aims and objectives and operating within the Charity Commissions guidelines as presently constituted.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

Public Benefit Statement

(1) To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Middleton, North Manchester in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

(2) To promote, for the benefit of the public, the efficiency of the police in Middleton, North Manchester and to promote good citizenship and greater public participation in the prevention and solution of crime in the area.

(3) To advance in life and help young people through:

The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

(4) To relieve persons who are in condition of need, hardship or distress by reason of their social and economic circumstances in particular but not exclusively by the provision of a drop in centre.

(5) To provide education and training for the persons referred to in clause 4.

(6) To preserve and protect the good health of the persons referred to in clause 4.

(7) To advance the Christian religion.

The trustees believe that these objectives clearly demonstrate the concept of "public benefit", as specified in Section 4 Charities Act 2011.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Charity Overview

Inspire Middleton is a community development charity, and our vision is to inspire the people, places and organisations of Middleton, to make it a better place to live work and visit.

We run a variety of community projects through which the charity's objectives are advanced. These project are the names that the public are more familiar with and include, the amazing Lighthouse Project, our drop-in style community centre/hub, Middleton Central Foodbank, Lighthouse Pantry, Lighthouse Money Advice our FCA registered debt service, and others.

We describe the way we work as 'the plant pot model', the pot being Inspire Middleton, the container in which things are grown; and as seeds become fruit people naturally focus on what is produced more than the pot in which they are carried, and so it is with us. It is the improvement of people's lives that is our focus, not promotion of ourselves.

The charity operates from leased premises on the second floor of Middleton Shopping Centre right in the heart of Middleton town centre. We moved into these premises in December 2016 on a 3-year short-term lease, and subsequently were able to agree a lease for a further ten years, running from December 2019 - December 2029.

The building and its location contribute significantly to the success of our work. We are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and have good regular passing footfall. Our presence also contributes to the wellbeing of the Shopping centre as the people visiting us also visit the local shops, and vice versa.

The Lighthouse Project is one of our specific charitable objectives, and as a community anchor organisation it is a multi-service hub used as the main outlet for advancing many of our other charitable aims.

Middleton Central Foodbank is co-located within the Lighthouse Project, and it is run as part of the **Trussell Trust** foodbank network, in collaboration with local churches, tackling poverty, hardship, and individual crisis.

The Lighthouse Pantry is a membership based food club supporting people and families struggling to cover their weekly/monthly household costs. It offers them access to supermarket surplus food to reduce their weekly food costs leaving them with more money to spend on other household costs. The Pantry is part of a growing national network operating under the banner of '**Your Local Pantry**' managed by **Church Action on Poverty**.

The Lighthouse Money Advice service is a FCA accredited debt advice service run as part of the **Community Money Advice** network. The service offers free advice and face-to-face support for people experiencing personal debt and financial crisis. Many of the clients are referrals from the Foodbank, or Pantry and several of our team are dedicated to supporting Foodbank and Pantry members.

Highlights and Project Activity Summary

Attendance

Lighthouse Project - all activities combined

Attendance at the Lighthouse Project has increased throughout the year, and thankfully with the impact of Covid-19 behind us attendance has now risen above our pre-Covid attendance levels.

These are some of the Highlights for 2024-2025, which is a summary of all attendances and sessions.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

Highlights

1. **Annual Footfall of** - 42,725 attendances during the year (which is 16% above our pre-covid target of 37,000 attendances) - we are now seeing a positive return to year-on-year growth.
2. **Sessions** - during the year we ran 7,400 sessions/activities supporting people's needs. A session is a recorded activity of one kind or another, and these typically include structured activities/sessions, drop-in and advice sessions, social, leisure, art/craft sessions, etc.
3. **Individual Visitors** - 3,131 different people/visitors were directly supported during the year.
4. **New Visitors attending** - 1,316 new people who first visited between 1 April 24 - 31 March 2025.

People/Families Fed

Middleton Central Foodbank - crisis food support

The Foodbank opens twice a week offering volunteer led support and food parcel distribution, and when circumstances require we also give out food parcels at other times of the week through the Lighthouse.

Highlights

1. During the reporting period the Foodbank **redeemed 1225 vouchers**, which is a small increase on the number of vouchers issued in the previous year. It is a significant number of families in need, showing us that poverty and deprivation still has a grip on the town.
2. We were able to moderate the demand for crisis support because of the partnership with the Lighthouse Pantry where users of the foodbank who need extended support are offered membership in the Pantry to support them for longer and as a progressive step towards self-management. This is a positive relationship limiting increasing demand for the Foodbank and helping families to move away from reliance on emergency support. The Pantry is also used to catch families who are starting to struggle to help them before they need to use the Foodbank.
3. The food parcels we issued provided the equivalent of **71,731 meals** during the year, supporting **2,771 adults and children**, who came from **658 different** families.
4. The foodbank **received 27 tonnes of food donations** during the year from a variety of groups, individuals and organisations, which is a slight reduction on the previous year reflecting that donors continue to face their own challenges due to the ongoing impact of the cost-of-living crisis.
5. The foodbank **gave away 27 tonnes of food** in its 3-day emergency food parcels. This equates to approx. **71,100 meals valued at over £72,000**. The total food given out was 3 tonnes more than what we received in donations meaning we had to buy a lot of additional food to keep up stocks.
6. From time to time we also donated surplus short-dated food to other groups as we choose not to operate in isolation, supporting other where we can. This builds wider community.
7. As part of its reach into the community the Foodbank has over 60+ referral agencies it works with, which includes local schools, community groups, churches, and other support agencies. These operate as the eyes-and-ears of the foodbank, and helps us reach those in need.
8. We are also happy to accept referrals from organisations not on our books making sure we maintain as few barriers

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

as possible for families to get access to crisis food support. New referrers are then usually offered the opportunity to join the Foodbank's list of regular referral agencies.

The purpose of using a referral system is to ensure that people receive additional support relevant to their need or circumstances, not just simply giving them a bag of food for the short term.

Lighthouse Pantry

The Lighthouse Pantry opens for three sessions per week for 50 weeks during the year, typically supporting 100-110 families per week. Demand for Pantry membership remains high and we have a waiting list to manage demand. The waiting list is regularly reviewed.

The Pantry needs over 1,500 items each week to stock the shelves, which is sourced from donations, or full-priced purchases. There is a practical limit to how many families the Pantry can support, which is our ability to access enough food to cover the weekly sessions. Maintaining enough stock to support over 100 families per week is an ongoing and increasing challenge.

Highlights

1. The Pantry ran **151 sessions**, and **supported 4889 member visits** during the year. This is a similar number of members who attended as last year. The demand is not abating, and it is being sustained by economic challenges and the growing number of people still struggling with low income, and the cost-of-living crisis which is not reducing.
2. We supported **353 different families**, and within these families there were an **additional 447 adults or children**, so collectively the Pantry supported **800 people** during the year.
3. The Pantry supplied 4889 'baskets' of food for members to use. A weekly basket is typically valued at between £25-30, which would have an estimated retail value of between £122,225 - £146,670.
4. For every £1 members spent (£4.50 / week) they received an average of £6.67 worth of food in return! This is an excellent social return of value for them, and produces a potential saving of £1,275 per family on their annual food bills, leaving more money available for other household expenditure, which is one of the primary aims of the Pantry.
5. In addition to this we gave families several weeks of free attendance during the year with support from local Food Solutions grants we received.

Collectively the Pantry and Foodbank provided food support for 3,570 individuals from 1,010 families. the equivalent of **170,000 meals** with an estimated retail value of **£264,400**. This is a significant amount of support being provided helping to hold back the relentless tide of poverty that is impacting more and more families in the area.

Financial & debt support

Lighthouse Money Advice

The Lighthouse Money Advice service provides access to daily face-to-face appointments for people needing financial help and support, be this debt or benefit advice. We are one of only 2 organisations in the whole of the Rochdale Borough who do this.

It is widely recognised by the governments Money and Pensions Service (MAPs) that there is a national shortage of face-to-face appointments available for people in debt. There is plenty of online, or self-help type services, but so little direct face-to-face support.

This is what we are working to change because there are many people who are not able to manage their debt journey

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

on their own due to vulnerability, poor mental health, anxiety, or long term health conditions. In these cases face-to-face appointments are essential to help the clients engage.

Here are some of the Highlights from the year.

Highlights

1. The team worked with **840 different clients** during the year (20% increase on 2023-24) who made use of our service on at least one occasion, attending **2,846** appointments, conversations or meetings, and having collective personal debts **estimated at £1.14 million** in total value.
2. Of these we had **410 new clients** (19% increase) requesting help and support.
3. From the clients supported during the year, **£175,823** worth of debts were removed by Debt Relief Orders (DRO's), and a further **£18,988** was written off by creditors - **totalling £194,811** of relief.
4. Other clients tackled their debts through the use of other options such as Debt Management Plans valued at circa **£25,369**.
5. For clients helped with benefit advice we recorded over **£190,000** worth of grants, or benefit income increases, or expenditure reductions during the year.
6. This totals over **£384,815 of financial benefits/relief** gained by people we have supported.
7. For each client/family supported by the service the knock on benefits of improvement in health, mental health and general wellbeing is significant and clear for all to see.
8. For the majority they describe the support they receive as life changing once they start to get help or see their debts/benefits being reduced / increased, or removed. In many cases these improvements are considered by the clients as 'significant'.

Computer Classes, Employment, Skills and Getting back into work

The Lighthouse Project is a long term member of the National Digital Inclusion Network, formerly the UK Online Centre network, and through this we support people with free access to the internet, and access to tutor and peer supported free basic computer training. Digital exclusion within the UK remains stubbornly high at over 20% of people, so this work is our contribution to tackling exclusion and disadvantage, especially as more and more people are being digitally left behind.

The uptake of attending computer courses has been slow post-Covid, and not at the levels we have previously seen. This therefore remains a work in progress in terms of re-engaging people.

In conjunction with our digital services we also offered various form of support during the year, which involved a combination of remote interaction and support, and face-to-face engagement. We have plans to re-start our Work Club and some new employability partnership work later in the year.

Highlights

1. We provided digital support for **246 people** during the year, attending **over 3,600 times**. Within this **25 people specifically attended** Learn My Way basic computer skills training courses, collectively completing over 540 different modules, through 119 session.
2. Our employability sessions supported **110 people who were looking to improve their life chances** by developing

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

their employability and job hunting skills and to help them get back into work, or improve their chances of getting back into work.

3. Of these people we recorded **365 attendances** for activities related to actively looking for work, improving their job hunting skills, and improving work place skills through online learning and face-to-face appointments.

4. We provided 1-2-1 **CV support for 26 people**, and **54 people** attended job hunting sessions to help them get back into work.

Family and Children support - Toy Appeal

Over the last seven years we have organised an annual 'Toy Appeal' aimed at collecting toys and games from the general public to support Lighthouse Project families, and others who may be referred to us from partner organisations, including local schools and foodbank referral agencies. Its aim is to ensure that as many of the families we work with, or are connected to, are able to have some toys and gifts to open at Christmas.

As with previous years we were supported by many local organisations, individuals, and schools who collected toy donations for us to give out. Middleton Shopping Centre, our local Tesco Extra, and several other groups helped with the promotion and setting up of collection points. The local community have been extremely generous when it comes to supporting the Toy Appeal, and it is safe to say that we were inundated with toys, gifts and financial support for the Appeal.

Highlights

1. We were inundated with local support providing toys, gifts and financial donations.
2. We were able to support **217 children** from **93 different families**. Each child receiving at least one main present, 4 medium presents, 3 small presents, a game, book, confectionery, and stocking fillers.
3. 63 children came from the **Lighthouse Project, foodbank and pantry families**, 130 children were referred through **local schools**, 11 children came from **self-referrals** or other family contacts, and 4 children came from **Lighthouse Money Advice families**.
4. The local schools, as well as nominating children, also arranged fun themed toy collections, sponsored runs and devised other interesting ways of giving toys and donating money.
5. We received over £2,300 in cash and online donations which help us buy targeted gifts and gift cards to fill gaps in the types of toys donated, and 100's of individual toys donated so we could help and support different aged children. This made sure that no-one missed out

Social Leisure and Health Activities

Social activity and engagement is an essential part of life and community. Isolation and exclusion quickly lead to a decline in health and wellbeing, as Covid highlighted. With Covid successfully behind us our social groups and activities have once again flourished and increased, with new groups and activities being added to our offer.

The types of groups and activities include, knitting sessions, arts, craft and card making, photography, walking, a Tea Disco, quiz and gaming sessions, healthy living, veterans group, ladies group, and cooking. With others still in the planning.

Highlights

1. During the year 2024/25 we ran over **910**, social/leisure/health related sessions/activities (an increase of 30% on last

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

year - 2023/24).

2. These activities which were attended **9,778 times by 623 different people**.

3. The activities aim to tackle social isolation and poor health/mental health by offering opportunities for people to connect with others, make new friends, learn new skills, and improving their health. This included physical events, such as walking, leisure activities/interest groups, and some social groups/gatherings.

The Brick Multi-bank - Borough sub-distribution hub

During the year we started a new project in conjunction with 'The Brick Multibank' based in Wigan. The Brick has been supporting its local community for many years, and they wanted to expand their reach by working with other partner organisations to provide a network of sub-distribution hubs around Greater Manchester. The Lighthouse Project became one of two sub-hubs in Rochdale Borough, serving 20 local community groups with regular multibank donations.

A multibank generally receives non-food donations of surplus items from manufacturers and distributors, e.g. Amazon surplus stock, which is then distributed to community organisations in support of their work, or for them to give out to their beneficiaries to combat poverty, or low income. The donated items can be anything from deodorants, to heaters, craft materials to nappies, and they are different every time.

Each week we apply for donations on behalf of 4 groups, which are delivered to us on a Friday and then generally collected on the same day. We facilitate the donations and ensure they are distributed locally.

Since we started we've distributed an estimated **20 tonnes of products** through **120 bulk donations**.

Other Achievements and Developments

Core Staff: As with previous years the trustees want to acknowledge and give thanks to our core staff team who have worked so hard during the year, Pam Semp, Cath Stott, Carl Roach, and Donna Williams, who all live locally in Middleton, and who have such a great passion to see the Community changed and transformed. The teams passion continues to inspire and innovate both the volunteers and our visitors to encourage them to advance and progress. They are at the forefront of advancing the Charity's objectives, and their work is to be greatly commended.

Well done, and thank you! Your work is often unseen by the majority, but it doesn't go unnoticed by those who see behind the scenes. The collaboration and flexibility of the core team is one of our organisational strengths, and is key to making sure that all of our services are integrated and work in concert; and their efforts underpin all that we do.

Volunteers: The Lighthouse Project is about empowering people, which includes our volunteers. Our volunteers provide a significant amount of support to our work, and without them it would be difficult, or expensive to provide the same amount of help and support that they offer to us. We've calculated that they typically provide over **15,600 hours of free support**, which if we had to pay for at minimum wage rates would cost over **£196,000** per year.

To mark their contribution to our work we hold a Volunteer Celebration every two years, with the last being in October 2023 where we gave out 92 awards. Our next Volunteer Celebration is due in August 2025 where we will again express our thanks and appreciation for all that our volunteers contribute.

Our Premises: Our main base is the Lighthouse Project Community Hub located in Middleton Shopping Centre. This centre makes a significant contribution to the success of our work.

It is a great place for a community hub as we are accessible to the whole area, and it allows us to work with a wide variety of people and services in supporting the community. Being centrally located means we offer ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and we also have good amount of regular passing footfall.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

We are part way through a 10 year lease which offers us stability and longevity in terms of building and sustaining the work and services we provide.

Development of our Systems and facilities: this is an ongoing process where we review and adapt our infrastructure and admin systems to help us be 'light of foot' and continually improve how we work.

A particular challenge on the horizon is the upgrading of our IT systems and PCs in the light of Microsoft's decision to end support for their Windows 10 operating system which all of our systems are based upon. Unfortunately based on Microsoft's advice none of our PCs are capable of being upgraded to run their new Windows 11 operating system. This leaves us having to explore different options.

Our Community Impact

Our work remains people centred and solution focussed, and by having a people first community development approach our impact increases as we support more ongoing needs and challenges.

As with previous years our biggest and most noticeable impact remains the support offered through our food projects and the Lighthouse Money Advice service. All three remain strong and effective in the face of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis and the negative effects of expanding levels of poverty faced by our community. These projects are taking the strain and thankfully we have remained steadfast and strong during this year, whilst also looking to try and find ways of doing things in a better way.

Through both food projects we have ensured that over a 1,000 families have had regular food on their table, been able to feed their kids, and able to save money to meet other household bills/cost.

Collectively the Foodbank and Pantry have served and supported **3,571 individuals** (Adults and Children) from **1,010 different families**, and provided the equivalent of an estimated **170,000 meals** valued at an estimated £263,400.

The Lighthouse Money advice service has also seen continued growth in demand resulting in the need to have a waiting list for support, and it remains a life-line to many new people this year, with over 20% increase in the number of clients being helped to face over **£1.14m worth of debt**. It has supported 841 people during very difficult financial and challenging times. Providing essential debt and benefit advice.

Funding from different partners has allowed us to maintain the capacity of the money advice team, retaining our specialist debt and benefit staff, helping meet the continued and increasing demand for debt and benefit advice support. The anticipated increase in families struggling with their finances has manifested, fuelled by the cost of living crisis', and deepening poverty that our community is experiencing.

Partnership Working: : Our operational model is built upon partnership and collaborative working, so, in addition to our own activities we partner with and support other groups and organisations with their work. We don't work in isolation and we chose to build collaborative relationships.

Our approach is to complement and not to compete. The needs of Middleton are substantial and we recognise that no one organisation has the capacity or resources to meet all those needs. Therefore, it is essential that we nurture and encourage a collaborative approach of supporting the community, with each playing their part and using their skills and resources to best advantage.

To this end we also participate in many of the community prevention networks organised through Action Together operating as the co-ordinator for many VCFSE activities in the Borough, and some of the Council's and NHS neighbourhood partnerships. We attend the Anti-Poverty Network, Welfare Network, Food Solutions Network, etc. Our aim is to participate in strategic public service and structural reforms as well as providing 'on-the-ground' practical solutions for day-to-day needs.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

During the year our work was showcased in a number of settings. A relationship with Comic Relief based around food insecurity and food poverty resulted in them making a short appeal film about the Lighthouse Pantry, which was aired on national TV as part of their 40th Anniversary Red Nose Day appeal show, raising awareness of the impact of food poverty in the UK.

Within Greater Manchester there is currently a lot of discussion about public service reform of NHS and local authority health and welfare services, under the banner of something called 'Live Well'. There has already been a lot of pilot work carried out exploring new ways of working with the VCFSE sector and the challenges of moving public services from crisis response to a prevention response model.

One concept being progressed is about the creation of 'Live Well' centres, multi service hubs based in VCFSE settings where lots of activities and services can be hosted, just like how the Lighthouse Project currently runs. In March 2025 the Lighthouse Project featured in a 'Live Well' commissioned short film exploring existing community projects where 'live well' type activities were already being modelled. This video was shown at a major Greater Manchester Live Well showcase event.

Things we've learned

Person Centred/Whole person Approach

We remain committed to a **person centred approach** as a founding principles upon which our work is built; and whilst we ourselves have always believed this to be true its value in recent years is being more widely recognised and adopted by other groups, e.g. GM Live Well.

Co-location, and co-delivery are also key principles we advance. We have always used this multi-service approach, which is now becoming the aspiration of many other organisations, both large and small.

Providing '**wrap around**' support is something we have always done, it is the most beneficial means of helping people in a '**whole person**' way. Many organisations start with a single focus, e.g. Foodbanks delivering emergency food, or a Pantry's making use of supermarket surplus to feed people, but now it is recognised that providing access to multi stranded support is the most effective approach.

A good example of this **integrated approach** is the three-stranded support provided by the Foodbank, Pantry and Lighthouse money advice service. Each has its own strengths but by working together they are more successful in helping people move away from crisis and return to being more self-sufficient.

If someone is in crisis and ends up at the Foodbank, they will get food, but if their crisis is as a result of financial difficulties they can be supported by the debt or benefit adviser to improve their situation, and after a while we can move them from using the Foodbank into becoming a member of the Pantry, where they still save money but are on a progressive journey away from poverty towards recovery.

This is where the benefit of being whole person / person centred project comes into its own. Everyone who uses the Lighthouse Project comes in via a different doorway depending upon their need or circumstances, but once inside we don't just help them in one way and then say 'goodbye'.

Through relationship and active listening we become aware of other related needs, and are then able to link them up with other services and activities within the centre to progress in those areas too.

For us it's all about helping people to cope with or to remove burdens they are carrying alone, and giving them access to opportunities, helping them to develop their own potential and finding ways of solving problems or needs. In essence we do stuff 'with' people, not 'to' them.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2025

Relationship and Trust

We value the importance of building relationships and trust. The key thing that people are often looking for when accessing support services is the quality of welcome, relationship and trust that they can develop with you in order to help them solve their needs.

Success in these areas means that the impact of the work is significantly amplified, even if all you did was make someone a cup of tea and listen to them.

Providing a 'safe place' within the community is one of Inspire Middleton's foundational objectives, and being an accessible community anchor organisation where people know they will get a good welcome, be listened to, and be supported to achieve is our goal.

Time and time again we see people opening up to our staff or volunteers in ways that they haven't done with other types of organisation. People are often guarded when they talk to agencies, e.g. the council, DWP, their housing provider, etc., which can mean that their underlying needs may not be fully explained or revealed. Yet, when they feel safe and welcomed, they will then often ask for support or share a deeper need allowing it to be addressed or supported.

Change, and the need to adapt is not always a bad thing

The pandemic made us all to look at what we did, and to evaluate how we could work differently to meet the needs of the day. We learnt from that experience that 'change is not always a bad thing', and that 'adaptation can actually make a service better'.

We have learnt that we can be adaptable and that change should not to be feared, and actually a fresh look at the way things are done can prove positive and illuminating.

We have always been a reflective organisation and open to change, so, this is something we are not afraid of and realise that flexibility and being adaptable is actually one of our organisational strengths.

Emerging needs - how the challenge of low income affects every area of life

The impact of low income continues to affect more and more people, drawing them into increasing levels poverty and hardship. As an organisation this is one of the reasons that Inspire Middleton was set up, to help improve the lives of the people in Middleton.

We continue to see year-on-year the number of people experiencing the difficulties of low income grow and expand, to the extent that it now threatens the daily lives of a significant proportion of our community. Low income also often leads to the decline of health/mental health, homelessness, destitution, and related indebtedness and isolation.

For us tackling low income and debt is a practical reality as well as a campaign topic. We are not yet a campaigning organisation, but we may well be drawn into this, increasingly advocating on behalf of people, through the Anti-Poverty network, if the local economics don't improve, and people's lives become less sustainable.

We are already helping people deal with the practical impact of low income, by tackling food insecurity, through the provision of access to food, and/or helping them with debts and benefits. But these needs are growing, along with the associated impact on mental and physical health and wellbeing. We can already see that the next few years are likely to expose a much greater need than those currently manifesting.

A solution needs to be found, and maybe it is actually many solutions rather than just one, of how to help people to increase their income, or reduce their expenditure. This is not just simply about improving budgeting skills as many

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

suggest. The expenses and outgoings that people have are not always within their ability to change, e.g. energy costs, rents, council tax, etc., and neither is their ability to increase their income, so, they become trapped.

These societal challenges, which are huge topics, only strengthens our resolve to remain whole person focussed and people centred, to strengthen the safe space, and the co-located services that we offer. We need to build more bridges, to connect with more people, and support them so that they can be connected to more opportunities to improve their lives.

Working Relationships with other organisations

Here is a selection of the organisations we have worked with during the year, or who have used the Lighthouse to provide services / activities for visitors.

- Action Together - voluntary sector support
- Alkington & Junction GP surgeries,
- All Saints & Martyrs C of E Church Langley
- Ashdown Phillips - MSC management
- Barclays Bank - Community spaces
- Better Health 4 Middleton - community activist group
- Bowlce Primary School - foodbank supporter
- BOC - Cardiac Care services
- Cardinal Langley RC High School - foodbank supporter
- Creative Health and Wellbeing - art and creative craft sessions
- Chris Clarkson MP - Apprenticeship Fair / exhibition
- Church Action on Poverty - Lighthouse Pantry
- Chinese Overseas Christian Mission - Alpha course and community cohesion sessions
- Comic Relief - Pantry and Foodbank funder
- Community Connectors - RMBC advisers
- Community Money Advice - Lighthouse Money Advice
- Edgar Wood Academy High School - foodbank supporter
- Elmwood Primary School - foodbank supporter
- EnergyWorks - Drop-in support group
- Fareshare - Food recycling - Lighthouse Pantry
- FareshareGO - supermarket surplus
- GMP - anti fraud advisers
- GM Business Growth Hub - development training
- GM Tenants Union Middleton - a new local tenants support group
- Good Things Foundation - National Digital Inclusion Network
- Hollin Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Ingeous - employability drop-ins
- Inspire Community - missional community
- Job Centre Plus - Middleton
- Long Street Methodist Church
- Many local schools and community groups through the Foodbank referral agency network
- Middleton Cooperating - collaborative working and digital skills development
- Middleton Photography Group - community camera club
- Middleton Rotary - Community humanitarian group
- Middleton Shopping Centre - promotions and support
- Mills Hill Baptist Church
- Mizkan Food Distributor - foodbank supporter
- N-Compass Carers Hub - drop in and training events
- New Economics Foundation
- NHS Early Attachment Service
- Neighbourly - surplus food distribution

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

- Parkfield Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Pike Fold Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Positive Steps - careers service for young people
- RBH - Rochdale Boroughwide Housing
- Rochdale Council - Adult Care, Revenue & Benefits Service, Welfare team and recycling team
- Rochdale Healthwatch - independent voice on health for the community- Riverside Housing
- Rotary Club Middleton - Community Awards activities
- Royal British Legion - Middleton
- Slimming World - foodbank supporter
- St. Anne's Academy - foodbank supporter
- St. John Fisher RC Primary School - foodbank supporter
- St Mary's RC Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Tesco Extra Middleton branch, and Tesco Express branches
- The Hive, Drs Stockton & Thompson - Boarshaw Clough surgery
- The National Lottery - Reaching Communities Fund
- Trussell Trust - national Foodbank network charity
- Veterans in Community - Veterans support group
- Wonderfully Made Women - women's support group
- Your Local Pantry - Pantry food network

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

Financial review

During the year unrestricted funds have increased from £258,008 to £294,817. Restricted income of £300,808 was received during the year with £294,433 of its related expenditure occurring before the year end.

The Trustees have reviewed the reserve policy and agreed to maintain reserves of at least six months expenditure, for the Lighthouse Project. Current reserves are sufficient to meet this requirement.

Historically our work has been mainly grant funded, but as we have grown in size the challenge of covering all of our costs this way is proving more difficult. In response we are actively exploring new alternative sources of funding and are working to develop a Sustainability and Fundraising plan to set out future strategic fundraising goals and objectives for the charity.

In November 2023 we received a 2-year grant from the National Lottery Communities Fund for a project called 'Lighthouse Project - Community Toolbox' to support a proportion of our core and running costs. This commenced in November 2023 running until October 2025. By the time you read this report this funding will have ended, and we will once again be looking for ongoing core funding support.

Some other parts of our core work were also supported through short-term grants from Comic Relief, the Trussell Trust and the RBC Innovation Fund, which helped cover the projects core costs for the balance of the year, and into 2024/25.

In December 2023 we started to receive some funding from Comic Relief who wanted to support the Pantry and Foodbank tackling food poverty and food insecurity, which are part of their aims. Through this relationship the Appeal film was created, and they also offered to help us with a second award towards some of our ongoing core costs. This funding runs from March 2025 through to February 2027. We hope to strengthen this relationship throughout this period of time.

As of November 2025 our main core funding support from the National Lottery Community Fund will end leaving us with the challenge of sourcing and finding new support.

This remains an ongoing sustainability challenge for VCFSE organisations, and is something we often highlight with funders or other potential commissioning organisations in order to advocate for better long-term funding solutions in the future.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

Plans for future periods

With regards to the future, and the upcoming year, our biggest and most immediate challenges are:

1. Continuing to support our existing and new visitors and empowering them to improve their lives through the range of services that they can access through the Lighthouse Project.
2. Building up our volunteer capacity so that we can continue to offer a full and varied selection of activities for them to support.
3. To develop and expand our donor and Funder base in support of our ongoing growth, helping us to be sustainable in our ambition to be less reliant on short-term grant funding.
4. To participate in the discussions about public service reform and the development of better and stronger links and funding for the VCFSE sector, and ourselves.
5. Developing new resources to meet emerging needs brought on by the cost-of-living crisis, e.g. increased mental health support, tackling isolation and loneliness, etc.
6. Promoting the availability of community rooms and spaces that can be hired, which will help us offer more services and build up a sustainable income stream.

We will continue to reflect and review how we operate, we are keen to ensure that our work remains effective and efficient in an ever changing environment.

Review and reflection is an ongoing process especially as we see new needs and emerging issues showing themselves in the community and wider society. Thankfully our structure and team dynamic allows us to be light of foot in adapting to change and meeting new needs. This is something we have confidence in being able to do in the year to come.

We want to offer more face-to-face services and expand the relational basis of our work. We have learnt a number of lessons from having to adapt and rethink our methods and approach over the last few years, and we want to continue this.

We want to say 'Thank You' to everyone who has contributed to our work and achievements over this last year. Together we have been able to achieve so much.

We trust that this report inspires you as much as it has inspired us.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees' annual report was approved on 9 December 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.A. Roach', written in a cursive style.

C.A. Roach
Trustee

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton
Year ended 31 March 2025

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (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:

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).

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

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



Simon Gretton Watson A.C.A.
Independent Examiner

2 Heap Bridge
Bury BL9 7HR

9 December 2025

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Activities
(including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2025

		2025			2024
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income					
Donations and grants	5	74,378	300,808	375,186	242,431
Other trading activities	6	70,515	—	70,515	67,173
Investment income	7	5,424	—	5,424	2,917
Other income	8	7,935	—	7,935	—
Total income		<u>158,252</u>	<u>300,808</u>	<u>459,060</u>	<u>312,521</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	9,10	<u>38,137</u>	<u>294,433</u>	<u>332,569</u>	<u>276,512</u>
Total expenditure		<u>38,137</u>	<u>294,433</u>	<u>332,569</u>	<u>276,512</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>120,115</u>	<u>6,375</u>	<u>126,491</u>	<u>36,009</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>269,228</u>	<u>25,589</u>	<u>294,817</u>	<u>258,808</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>389,343</u>	<u>31,964</u>	<u>421,307</u>	<u>294,817</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 21 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	15	949	1,265
Current assets			
Debtors	16	2,110	4,615
Cash at bank and in hand		427,425	297,405
		<u>429,535</u>	<u>302,020</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>9,177</u>	<u>8,468</u>
Net current assets		<u>420,358</u>	<u>293,552</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>421,307</u>	<u>294,817</u>
Net assets		<u>421,307</u>	<u>294,817</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		31,964	25,589
Unrestricted funds		<u>389,343</u>	<u>269,228</u>
Total charity funds	19	<u>421,307</u>	<u>294,817</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- 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;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 9 December 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

The notes on pages 21 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 18 Aylesbury Grove, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2TG.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. 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.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

- 25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. The liability of the members of the company, as set out in the Memorandum of Association is limited to £10 per member in the event of the company being wound up whilst they are a member or within a year of ceasing to be a member.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2025

5. Donations and grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	41,030	—	41,030
Donations Lighthouse Project	6,448	—	6,448
Donations Foodbank	8,761	—	8,761
Donations LMA	300	—	300
Donations Pantry	2,400	—	2,400
Donations Toy Appeal	229	—	229
Donations DIAL	48	—	48
Grants			
Big Lottery	—	181,235	181,235
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	—	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	—	24,950	24,950
Trussell Trust	8,862	45,000	53,862
Action Together	2,700	24,623	27,323
Comic Relief	—	25,000	25,000
	<u>74,378</u>	<u>300,808</u>	<u>375,186</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	38,445	—	38,445
Donations Lighthouse Project	5,718	—	5,718
Donations Foodbank	9,632	—	9,632
Donations LMA	300	—	300
Donations Pantry	540	—	540
Donations Toy Appeal	1,025	—	1,025
Donations DIAL	40	—	40
Grants			
Big Lottery	—	88,989	88,989
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	—	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	—	16,380	16,380
Trussell Trust	3,012	51,750	54,762
Action Together	1,800	8,700	10,500
Comic Relief	—	12,500	12,500
	<u>64,112</u>	<u>178,319</u>	<u>242,431</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2025

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Room hire	42,618	42,618	40,283	40,283
Dial sales and rentals	8,567	8,567	6,934	6,934
Pantry subscriptions	19,330	19,330	19,276	19,276
Other income	—	—	680	680
	<u>70,515</u>	<u>70,515</u>	<u>67,173</u>	<u>67,173</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	5,424	5,424	2,917	2,917

8. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Gift Aid Reclaim	7,935	7,935	—	—

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2025

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Inspire Middleton	2,649	—	2,649
Lighthouse Project	7,007	188,644	195,650
Middleton Central Foodbank	12,209	27,520	39,729
Lighthouse Money Advice	8,199	68,565	76,764
Lighthouse Pantry	7,096	9,704	16,800
DIAL	183	—	183
Support costs	794	—	794
	<u>38,137</u>	<u>294,433</u>	<u>332,569</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Inspire Middleton	2,220	2,176	4,396
Lighthouse Project	90,384	68,996	159,381
Middleton Central Foodbank	9,606	7,108	16,714
Lighthouse Money Advice	2,915	68,630	71,544
Lighthouse Pantry	17,318	5,900	23,218
DIAL	499	—	499
Support costs	40	720	760
	<u>122,982</u>	<u>153,530</u>	<u>276,512</u>

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2025 £	Total fund 2024 £
Inspire Middleton	2,649	—	2,649	4,396
Lighthouse Project	195,650	—	195,650	159,381
Middleton Central Foodbank	39,729	—	39,729	16,714
Lighthouse Money Advice	76,764	—	76,764	71,544
Lighthouse Pantry	16,800	—	16,800	23,218
DIAL	183	—	183	499
Governance costs	—	794	794	760
	<u>331,775</u>	<u>794</u>	<u>332,569</u>	<u>276,512</u>

11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>316</u>	<u>422</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2025

12. Independent examination fees

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>794</u>	<u>760</u>

13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	215,168	191,207
Social security costs	10,286	8,541
Employer contributions to pension plans	5,026	4,479
	<u>230,480</u>	<u>204,227</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 12 (2024: 11). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Number of support staff	8	7
Number of administrative staff	2	2
Number of management staff	2	2
	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year £35,729 (2023: £34,833) was paid to C.A. Roach a trustee of the charity for his employment as Development Manager. No monies were paid for any trustee duties undertaken.

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024	2,735	2,735
Charge for the year	316	316
At 31 March 2025	<u>3,051</u>	<u>3,051</u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2025	<u>949</u>	<u>949</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,265</u>	<u>1,265</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

16. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	154	2,407
Prepayments and accrued income	1,335	2,087
Other debtors	621	121
	<u>2,110</u>	<u>4,615</u>

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,034	50
Accruals and deferred income	2,742	3,074
Social security and other taxes	3,753	3,773
Other creditors	1,648	1,571
	<u>9,177</u>	<u>8,468</u>

18. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,026 (2024: £4,479).

19. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
General funds	269,228	158,252	(38,137)	389,343

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	258,008	134,202	(122,982)	269,228

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure 31 March 2025	At
	£	£	£	£
Comic Relief	3,625	22,300	(22,300)	3,625
Rochdale Innovation Fund	—	24,950	(22,340)	2,610
Big Lottery	21,164	181,235	(182,789)	19,610
Action Together	—	27,323	(21,204)	6,119
Ambition for Aging	800	—	(800)	—
Trussell Trust	—	45,000	(45,000)	—
	<u>25,589</u>	<u>300,808</u>	<u>(294,433)</u>	<u>31,964</u>

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure 31 March 2024	At
	£	£	£	£
Comic Relief	—	12,500	(8,875)	3,625
Rochdale Innovation Fund	—	16,380	(16,380)	—
Big Lottery	—	88,989	(67,825)	21,164
Action Together	—	8,700	(8,700)	—
Ambition for Aging	800	—	—	800
Trussell Trust	—	51,750	(51,750)	—
	<u>800</u>	<u>178,319</u>	<u>(153,530)</u>	<u>25,589</u>

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	2025
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	949	—	949
Current assets	391,947	37,588	429,535
Creditors less than 1 year	(9,177)	—	(9,177)
Net assets	<u>383,719</u>	<u>37,588</u>	<u>421,307</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,265	—	1,265
Current assets	276,431	25,589	302,020
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,468)	—	(8,468)
Net assets	<u>269,228</u>	<u>25,589</u>	<u>294,817</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2025

21. Operating lease commitments

In 2019 a 10 year lease was been signed with Middleton Shopping Centre with a breakclause exercisable by the charity at 5 years. No disclosure has been made due to the commercial confidentiality agreement in the lease.

INSPIRE MIDDLETON

England & Wales - Charity number 1126093

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06624568

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1126093

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2024

THOMPSON JONES BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LIMITED

Chartered accountants
2 Heap Bridge
Bury
BL9 7HR

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2024

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	15
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	17
Statement of financial position	18
Notes to the financial statements	19

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Inspire Middleton
Charity registration number	1126093
Company registration number	06624568
Principal office and registered office	18 Aylesbury Grove Middleton Manchester M24 2TG

The trustees

C.A. Roach
J.L. Roach
K. Hughes
S.M. Howarth
M. Lee
B. Mudzingwa

Independent examiner	Mr C. Urmston A.C.A. 2 Heap Bridge Bury BL9 7HR
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Structure, governance and management

The current Memorandum and Articles of Association that govern Inspire Middleton are those dated June 2008 as amended by Special Resolution no.1 - dated 3rd September 2008, which are registered with Companies House and which have been accepted by the Charity Commission of England.

All work carried out is as identified in these documents.

Election to the Board of Trustees is open to other individuals or organisations who:

- (a) apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors; and
- (b) are approved by the Directors.

All current and future work is monitored through regular trustee meetings. Trustees will supervise and manage the running of the work to ensure that the charity is compliant with its aims and objectives and operating within the Charity Commissions guidelines as presently constituted.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

Public Benefit Statement

(1) To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Middleton, North Manchester in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

(2) To promote, for the benefit of the public, the efficiency of the police in Middleton, North Manchester and to promote good citizenship and greater public participation in the prevention and solution of crime in the area.

(3) To advance in life and help young people through:

The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

(4) To relieve persons who are in condition of need, hardship or distress by reason of their social and economic circumstances in particular but not exclusively by the provision of a drop in centre.

(5) To provide education and training for the persons referred to in clause 4.

(6) To preserve and protect the good health of the persons referred to in clause 4.

(7) To advance the Christian religion.

The trustees believe that these objectives clearly demonstrate the concept of "public benefit", as specified in Section 4 Charities Act 2011.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance

Charity Overview

We are a community development charity and our aims are to inspire the people, places and organisations of Middleton. We describe the way we work as 'the plant pot model', the pot being the container in which things are grown. Once grown people focus on what is produced rather than the pot they are carried in, and so it is with us. People are our focus, not ourselves.

Inspire Middleton runs a variety of community projects and activities through which the charity's objectives are advanced: these project are the names that the public are more familiar with. They include, the Lighthouse Project, our drop-in style community centre/hub, Middleton Central Foodbank, Lighthouse Money Advice our FCA registered debt service, and the Lighthouse Pantry.

The charity operates out of leased premises on the second floor of Middleton Shopping Centre right in the heart of Middleton town centre. We moved into these premises in December 2016 on a 3-year short-term lease, and subsequently were able to agree a lease for a further ten years, running from December 2019 - December 2029.

The building and its location contribute significantly to the success of our work. We are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and have good regular passing footfall. Our presence also contributes to the wellbeing of the Shopping centre as the people visiting us or attending our activities also visit the local shops.

The Lighthouse Project is one of our specific charitable objectives, and as a community anchor organisation it is a hub used as the main outlet for advancing many of our other charitable aims.

Middleton Central Foodbank is co-located within the Lighthouse Project, and it is run as part of the national **Trussell Trust** foodbank network, in collaboration with local churches, tackling individual crisis, poverty and hardship.

The Lighthouse Pantry is a membership food club helping people and families struggling to cover their weekly/monthly household costs, it offers them access to supermarket surplus food to reduce their weekly food costs leaving them with more money to spend on other household costs. The Pantry is part of a growing national network operating under the banner of 'Your Local Pantry' managed by **Church Action on Poverty**.

The Lighthouse Money Advice service is a FCA accredited debt advice service run as part of the **Community Money Advice** network. The service offers free advice and face-to-face support for people experiencing personal debt and financial crisis. Many of the clients are referrals from the Foodbank, or Pantry and several of our team are dedicated to supporting Foodbank and Pantry members.

Highlights and Project Activity Summary

Attendance

Lighthouse Project as a whole

With the challenges of Covid-19 largely behind us we have thankfully seen a recovery in attendance at the Lighthouse, which is now looking more like our pre-Covid levels.

Here are some of the Lighthouse Project Highlights for 2023-2024, which is a summary of all attendances and sessions.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Highlights

1. **Annual Footfall of** - 35,634 attendances during the year (which is 96% of pre-covid target of 37,000) - we are therefore seeing a healthy return of attendance for our social groups and activities.
2. **Sessions** - during the year we ran 5,360 sessions/activities supporting people's needs. This includes structured sessions, unstructured drop-in and advice sessions, social, leisure, art/craft sessions, etc.
3. **Individual Visitors** - 2,489 different people/visitors were directly supported during the year.
4. **New Visitors attending** - 1,669 new people who first visited between 1 April 23 - 31 March 2024.

People/Families Fed

Middleton Central Foodbank

The Foodbank opens twice a week offering volunteer led support and food parcel distribution. In emergencies we also give out food parcels at other times of the week through the Lighthouse.

Highlights

1. During the reporting period the Foodbank **redeemed 1147 vouchers**, which is slightly below the number of vouchers issued in the previous year, but is still a high number of families in need.
2. Some of this levelling off is because of the partnership with the Lighthouse Pantry where regular users of the foodbank as offered membership in the Pantry as a progressive step towards self-management. This is a positive thing reducing attendance at the Foodbank and helping families to move away from reliance on emergency support. The Pantry is also used to catch families who are starting to struggle to help them before they need to use the Foodbank.
3. The food parcels we issued provided the equivalent of **61,100 meals** during the year, supporting **2,596 adults and children**, who came from **700 different families**.
4. The foodbank **received 30 tonnes of food donations** during the year from a variety of groups, individuals and organisations, which is excellent given that our donors have also been facing their own cost-of-living challenges.
5. The foodbank **gave away 27 tonnes of food** in its 3-day emergency food parcels. This equates to approx. **61,100 meals valued at over £61,000**.

Throughout the year we also donate surplus or short-dated food to other groups providing food support to families and individuals that we can't reach, e.g. local veteran's groups. We choose not to operate in isolation and support other groups where we can. This builds wider community.

In a typical year we would normally expect to give out a similar amount of food to what we receive.

6. To help identify people in need within the community, the Foodbank has over 60+ referral agencies on its books, which includes, local schools, community groups, churches, and other support agencies. These are the primary eye-and-ears of the foodbank.

We also accept referrals from organisations not on our books to make sure there are as few barriers as possible for families to get access to crisis food support whilst still maintaining appropriate checks and balances from the referrers. New referrers are then offered the opportunity to join the Foodbank's list of regular referral agencies.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

The purpose of using a referral system is to ensure that people receive additional support relevant to their need or circumstances, not just simply giving them a bag of food for the short term.

Lighthouse Pantry

The Lighthouse Pantry opens for three sessions per week during the year, typically supporting 100-110 families per week. Demand for Pantry membership remains high and we have a waiting list to try and mitigate and manage demand. This is regularly reviewed.

There is a practical limit to how many families the Pantry can support, which is our ability to access enough food to support the weekly sessions. The Pantry needs over 1,500 items each week to stock the shelves, which is sourced from donations, or full-priced purchases. Maintaining enough stock to support over 100 families per week is an ongoing challenge.

Highlights

1. The Pantry ran **150 sessions**, and **supported 5100 member visits** during the year. This was a slight increase in the number of members attending over the same period last year. The demand is sustained by the growing number of people struggling with low income, and the ongoing national cost-of-living crisis.
2. We supported **370 different families** (23% increase), and within these families there were an **additional 402 adults or children**, so collectively the Pantry supported **768 people** during the year.
3. The Pantry supplied 5100 'baskets' of food for members to use. A weekly basket is typically valued at between £25-30, which would have an estimated retail value of between £127,500 - £153,000.
4. This means that for every £1 members spent (£4.50 / week) they received an average of £6.67 worth of food in return! This is an excellent social return of value for them.
5. This produced a potential saving of £1,275 per family on their annual food bills, which leaves more money available for other household expenditure, which is one of the primary aims of the Pantry.
6. In addition to this we gave families 2 weeks of free attendance during the year.

Collectively the Pantry and Foodbank provided food support for 3,360 individuals from 1,070 families.

Financial & debt support

Lighthouse Money Advice

The Lighthouse Money Advice service provides access to daily face-to-face appointments for people needing financial help and support. We are one of only 2 organisations in the whole of the Rochdale Borough who do this.

It is widely recognised by the governments Money and Pensions Service (MAPs) that there is a national shortage of face-to-face appointments available for people in debt. There is plenty of online, or self-help type services, but so little direct face-to-face support. This is what we are working to change.

Here are some of the Highlights from the year.

Highlights

1. During the year the team worked with 699 different clients (44% increase) who made use of our service on at least

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2024

one occasion, attending 2,100 appointments, and experiencing collective personal debts estimated at £1.32 million in total value.

2. Of these we had 345 new clients (35% increase) requesting support.

3. From the clients supported during the year, £406,248 worth of debts were removed by Debt Relief Orders (DRO's), and a further £39,885 was written off by creditors - totalling £446,133 of debt relief.

4. Many other clients tackled their debts through the use of other options such as Debt Management Plans valued at circa £6,700, Bankruptcy valued at £34,900, or IVA valued at £32,300 = £73,900.

5. For clients helped with benefit advice we recorded over £471,000 worth of grants, or benefit increases or expenditure reductions during the year.

6. This totals over £991k financial benefits/relief gained by people we have supported.

7. For each client/family supported by the service the knock on benefits of improvement in health, mental health and general wellbeing are clear to see once they start to get help, or they see their debts/benefits being reduced/increased, or removed. In many cases these improvements are considered by the clients as 'significant', and some would even say 'life changing'.

Computer Classes, Employment, Skills and Getting back into work

The Lighthouse Project is part of the National Digital Inclusion Network, formerly the UK Online Centre network, and through this we support people with free access to the internet, and access to tutor and peer supported free basic computer training. This is part of our contribution to tackling digital exclusion which remains stubbornly high at over 20% of people in the UK.

This work was halted completely during the Covid-19 pandemic, and since then has gradually been picking up. The uptake of attending computer courses has been slow and not at the levels we have previously seen. This is therefore still a work in progress in terms of re-engaging people.

We offered some employability support during the year, however this was also a reduced amount compared to pre-pandemic levels. It involved a combination of remote interaction and support, and face-to-face engagement.

Highlights

1. During the year we supported **99 people** attending **over 2150 times** through 269 sessions. With this **54 people attended** Learn My Way basic computer skills training courses. We anticipate that this will continue to increase through the coming year.

2. During the year our employability sessions supported **88 people who were looking to improve their life chances** by developing their employability and job hunting skills and to help them get back into work, or improve their chances of getting back into work.

3. Of these people we recorded **110 attendances** for activities related to actively looking for work, improving their job hunting skills, and improving work place skills through online learning and face-to-face appointments.

4. We provided **CV support for 63 people**, and **37 people** attended job hunting sessions to help them get back into work.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Family and Children support - Toy Appeal

Over the last six years we have organised an annual 'Toy Appeal' aimed at collecting toys and games from the general public to support Lighthouse Project families, and others who may be referred to us from partner organisations, including local schools and foodbank referral agencies. Its aim is to ensure that as many of the families we work with, or are connected to, are able to have some toys and gifts to open at Christmas.

As with previous years we were supported by many local organisations, individuals, and schools who collected toy donations for us to give out. Middleton Shopping Centre, our local Tesco Extra, and several other groups helped with the promotion and setting up of collection points. In the shopping centre a 'Giving Tree' was used as an alternative to their regular annual Santa's Grotto. The local community have been extremely generous when it comes to supporting the Toy Appeal, and it is safe to say that we were inundated with toys, gifts and financial support for the Appeal.

Highlights

1. We were inundated with local support providing toys, gifts and financial donations.
2. We were able to support **193 children** from **84 different families**. Each child receiving at least one main present, 4 medium presents, 3 small presents, a game, book, confectionery, and stocking fillers.
3. 32 children came from the **Lighthouse Project, foodbank and pantry families**, 40 families were referred through **local schools**, 5 children came from **self-referrals** or other family contacts, and 7 children came from **Lighthouse Money Advice families**.
4. The local schools, as well as nominating children, also arranged fun themed toy collections, sponsored runs and devised other interesting ways of giving toys and donating money.
5. We received over £2,300 in cash/voucher and online donations which help us buy targeted gifts and gift cards to fill gaps in the types of toys donated, and so we could help and support different aged children. This made sure that no-one missed out.
6. We also supported another local community centre, Burnside, who we work with regularly, by providing them with additional toy donations from which they were able to set up a 'toy bank' to support some of their own families.

Social Leisure and Health Activities

During Covid-19 all of our Social and Leisure activities were stopped over-night, so once restrictions were lifted we literally had to start all over again. Thankfully this has been a successful campaign and over the last 2 years we have seen a growth in attendance for all the groups we are running/hosting.

The types of groups and activities include, knitting sessions, arts, craft and card making, photography, walking, a Tea Disco, quiz and gaming sessions, and cooking. With others still to develop. Here are some of our highlights.

Highlights

1. During the year 2023/24 we ran over **700**, social/leisure/health related sessions/activities (an increase of 94% on last year - 2022/23).
2. These activities which were attended **8,749 times** by **400 different people**.
3. The activities aim to tackle social isolation and poor health/mental health by offering opportunities for people to connect with others, make new friends, learn new skills, and improving their health. This included physical events, such as walking, leisure activities/interest groups, and some social groups/gatherings.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Other Achievements and Developments

Core Staff: This year the trustees want to again acknowledge and give thanks to our core staff team who worked so hard during the year, Pam Semp, Cath Stott, and Carl Roach, who all live locally in Middleton, and who have such a great passion to see the Community changed and transformed. This team continue to inspire and innovate in order to advance and progress the Charity's objectives. Their work is to be greatly commended.

The collaboration and flexibility of the core team is one of our organisational strengths, and is key to making sure that all of our services are integrated and work in concert; and their efforts underpin all that we do. Well done, and thank you! Your work is often unseen by the majority, but it doesn't go unnoticed by those who see behind the scenes.

Volunteers: Our volunteers provide a significant amount of support to our work, and without them it would be difficult, or expensive to provide the same amount of help and support that they offer to us. We've calculated that they typically provide over 12,000 hours of free support, which if we had to pay for would cost over £160,000 per year.

The Lighthouse Project is about empowering people, which includes our volunteers. To mark their contribution to our work we held a Volunteer Celebration in October 2023. This was attended by over 60 volunteers, including Steve Coogan our Lighthouse Project patron as a special guest handing out the awards. During the event we gave out 92 awards across 9 different categories, - it was a great evening of celebration, and thankful reflection of all that they have helped us to achieve.

Our Premises: Our main base is the Lighthouse Project Community Hub located in Middleton Shopping Centre. This centre makes a significant contribution to the success of our work. It is a great place for a community hub as we are accessible to the whole area, and it allows us to work with a wide variety of people and services in supporting the community.

Being centrally located means we offer ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and we also have good amount of regular passing footfall.

We are part way through a 10 year lease which offers us stability and longevity in terms of building and sustaining the work and services we provide.

Development of our Systems and facilities: this is an ongoing process where we review and adapt our infrastructure and admin systems to help us be 'light of foot' and continually improve how we work.

We continue reviewing our activity recording and general record keeping, which provides us with better insights into the impact we are having. In turn this gives us greater opportunities to tell a more complete story, develop our capacity, and improve how we serve and support people, which in turn makes us a more robust and stronger organisation.

We want to improve how we tell the story of the impact our work makes, and to the development of our fundraising, sustainability plans, and strategic planning.

Areas we have been working on include:

1. Improved staff communication and management.
2. Improvement of Visitor and Activity database (Lamplight) to record information about individual attendance, progression and engagement, as well as activity recording and summary analysis.
3. Software updates for managing Pantry membership and payments, including the introduction of online and contactless payments and donations.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

4. Stocktaking processes for Pantry stock management improving our understanding of the financial benefit that Pantry membership provides.

5. Specialist Debt management software and client engagement software.

6. Promotion of our new 120 seat capacity conference, and training and activity rooms. These are spaces we also use for our own activities as well as being a resource for the community. These spaces also allow us to run activities for larger groups and events that need more space, e.g. tea-dances, exercises, table tennis competitions, exhibitions, and larger group meetings.

7. Updating and development of the Lighthouse Project website, and other social media outlets.

Our Community Impact

Our work remains people centred and solution focussed, and by taking a community development approach our impact increases as we support more ongoing needs and challenges.

Our biggest and most noticeable impact remains the support offered through our food projects and the Lighthouse Money Advice service. All three have remained strong and effective in the face of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis and the negative effects of expanding levels of poverty faced by our community. Thankfully these projects are taking the strain and we have managed to remain steadfast and strong during this year, whilst also looking ahead to find ways of doing things in a better way.

Through both food projects we have ensured that over a 1,000 families have had regular food on their table, been able to feed their kids, and able to save money to meet other household bills/cost.

Collectively the Foodbank and Pantry have served and supported **3,360 individuals** (Adults and Children) from **1,070 different families**, and provided the equivalent of **180,000** meals.

The Lighthouse Money advice service has also seen significant growth in demand and it has been a life-line to many new people this year, with close to 44% increase in the number of clients being helped to face over **£1,332,000 worth of debt**. It has been able to support clients during very difficult and changing times.

With funding from different partners we grew the capacity of the money advice team, retaining our specialist debt and benefit staff, helping meet the continued and increasing demand for debt and benefit advice support. The predicted increase in families struggling with their finances has manifested, fuelled by the energy and cost of living crisis' the nation has been experiencing.

Partnership Working: Our model of operation is built upon partnership and collaboration, so, in addition to our own work we also partner with and support other groups and organisations with their work. For example we donated lots of toys to the Burnside Centre on Langley, supporting their 'Toy Bank' for local families, we also helped them, and others, with bulk food donations in support of their efforts to prepare meals for families and individuals.

Our approach is to complement and not to compete. The needs of Middleton are substantial and we recognise that no one organisation has the capacity or resources to meet all those needs. Therefore, it is essential that we nurture and encourage a collaborative approach of supporting the community, with each playing their part and using their skills and resources to best advantage.

We also participate in many of the community prevention networks organised through Action Together operating as the co-ordinator for many VCSFE activities in the Borough. We attend the Anti-Poverty Network, Welfare Network, Food Solutions Network, and were active in the Economic Support Forum when it was running. Our aim is to participate in strategic and structural reforms as well as providing 'on-the-ground' practical solutions for day-to-day needs.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Things we've learned

Person Centred/Whole person Approach

We remain committed to a person centred approach which is one of the founding principles upon which our work is built; and whilst we ourselves have always believed this to be true its value in recent years is being more widely recognised and adopted by other groups.

Co-location, and co-delivery are also key principles we advance. We have always used this approach, however it is now becoming the aspiration of many other organisations, both large and small.

Many organisations start with a single focus, e.g. Foodbanks delivering emergency food, or a Pantry's making use of supermarket surplus to feed people, but now it is recognised that providing additional 'wrap around' support is the most beneficial of helping people in a 'whole person' way. This is the model we have been advocating since we first launched the Lighthouse Project in 2010.

A good example of this integrated approach is the three-stranded support provided by the Foodbank, Pantry and Lighthouse money advice service. Each has its own strengths but by working together they are more successful in helping people move away from crisis and return to being more self-sufficient.

If someone is in crisis and ends up at the Foodbank, they will get food, but if their crisis is as a result of financial difficulties they can be supported by the debt or benefit adviser to improve their situation, and after a while we can move them from using the Foodbank into becoming a member of the Pantry, where they still save money but are on a progressive journey away from poverty towards recovery.

This is where the benefit of being whole person / person centred project comes into its own. Everyone who uses the Lighthouse Project comes in via a different doorway depending upon their need or circumstances, but once inside we don't just help them in one way and then say 'goodbye'.

Through relationship and active listening we become aware of other related needs, and are then able to link them up with other services and activities within the centre to progress in those areas too.

For us it's all about helping people to cope with or to remove burdens they are carrying alone, and giving them access to opportunities, helping them to develop their own potential and finding ways of solving problems or needs. In essence we do stuff 'with' people, not 'to' them.

Relationship and Trust

We value the importance of building relationships and trust. The key thing that people are often looking for when accessing support services is the quality of welcome, relationship and trust that they can develop with you in order to help them solve their needs.

Success in these areas means that the impact of the work is significantly amplified, even if all you did was make someone a cup of tea and listen to them.

Providing a 'safe place' within the community is one of Inspire Middleton's foundational objectives, and being an accessible community anchor organisation where people know they will get a good welcome, be listened to, and be supported to achieve is our goal.

Time and time again we see people opening up to our staff or volunteers in ways that they haven't done with other types of organisation. People are often guarded when they talk to agencies, e.g. the council, DWP, their housing

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

provider, etc., which can mean that their underlying needs may not be fully explained or revealed. Yet, when they feel safe and welcomed, they will then often ask for support or share a deeper need allowing it to be addressed or supported.

Change, and the need to adapt is not always a bad thing

The pandemic caused us all to look at what we did, and to evaluate how we could do it differently to meet the needs of the day. We learnt from that experience that 'change is not always a bad thing', and that 'adaptation can actually make a service better'.

At the start of the pandemic all of our services were changed and adapted, and some of the changes we made to how those services were run have been retained as they made the service better.

We have learnt that we can be adaptable, and that change is not to be feared, and actually a fresh look at the way things are done can prove positive and illuminating.

We have always been a reflective organisation and open to change, so, this is something we are not afraid of and realise that flexibility and being adaptable is actually one of our organisational strengths.

Emerging needs - how the challenge of low income affects every area of life

The impact of low income is affecting more and more people, drawing them into increasing levels poverty and hardship. As an organisation this is one of the reasons that Inspire Middleton was set up, to help improve the lives of the people in Middleton.

During the last few years we have begun to see the number of people experiencing the difficulties of low income grow and expand to the extent that it now threatens the daily lives of a significant proportion of our community. Low income also often leads to related indebtedness, the decline of health/mental health, homelessness, and possibly destitution.

For us tackling low income and debt is a practical reality as well as a campaign topic. We are not yet a campaigning organisation, but we may well be drawn into this, increasingly advocating on behalf of people if the local economics don't improve, and people's lives become less sustainable.

We are already helping people deal with the practical impact of low income, by tackling food insecurity, through the provision of access to food, and/or helping them with debts and benefits. But these needs are growing, along with the associated impact on mental and physical health and wellbeing. There were already many needs in these areas. We can already see that the next few years are likely to expose a much greater need than those currently manifesting.

A solution needs to be found, and maybe it is actually many solutions rather than just one, of how to help people to increase their income, or reduce their expenditure. This is not just simply about improving budgeting skills as many suggest. The expenses and outgoings that people have are not always within their ability to change, e.g. energy costs, rents, council tax, etc., and neither is their ability to increase their income, so, they become trapped.

These societal challenges, which are huge topics, only strengthens our resolve to remain whole person focussed and people centre, to strengthen the safe space, and the co-located services that we offer. We need to build more bridges, to connect with people, and support them so that they can be connected to more opportunities to improve their lives.

Working Relationships with other organisations

Here is a selection of the organisations we have worked with during the year, or who have used the Lighthouse to provide services / activities for visitors.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

- Action Together - voluntary sector support
- Albany Logistics - foodbank supporter
- Alkrington & Junction GP surgeries,
- All Saints & Martyrs C of E Church Langley,
- Ashdown Phillips - MSC management
- Barclays Bank - Community spaces
- Better Health 4 Middleton - community activist group
- Bowlee Primary School - foodbank supporter
- BNI Middleton - emerging business network
- BOC - Cardiac Care services
- Cardinal Langley RC High School - foodbank supporter
- Castle Grey Training - training sessions
- Creative Health and Wellbeing - art and creative craft sessions
- Chris Clarkson MP - Apprenticeship Fair / exhibition
- Church Action on Poverty - Lighthouse Pantry
- Chinese Overseas Christian Mission - Alpha course and community cohesion sessions
- Community Connectors - RMBC advisers
- Community Money Advice - Lighthouse Money Advice
- Edgar Wood Academy High School - foodbank supporter
- Elmwood Primary School - foodbank supporter
- EnergyWorks - Drop-in support group
- Fareshare - Food recycling - Lighthouse Pantry
- FareshareGO - supermarket surplus
- Getir - local food delivery organisation
- GMP - anti fraud advisers
- GM Tenants Union Middleton - a new local tenants support group
- Good Things Foundation - National Digital Inclusion Network
- Hollin Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Ingeous - employability drop-ins
- Inspire Community - missional community
- Job Centre Plus - Middleton,
- Long Street Methodist Church,
- Many local schools and community groups through the Foodbank referral agency network
- Middleton Cooperating - collaborative working and digital skills development
- Middleton Photography Group - community camera club
- Middleton Rotary - Community humanitarian group
- Middleton Shopping Centre - promotions and support
- Mills Hill Baptist Church,
- Mizkan Food Distributor - foodbank supporter
- N-Compass Carers Hub - drop in and training events
- New Economics Foundation
- NHS Early Attachment Service
- Neighbourly - surplus food distribution
- Parkfield Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Pike Fold Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Positive Steps - careers service for young people,
- RBH - Rochdale Boroughwide Housing,
- Rochdale Council - Adult Care, Revenue & Benefits Service, Welfare team and recycling team
- Rochdale Healthwatch - independent voice on health for the community
- Riverside Housing
- Royal British Legion - Middleton
- Slimming World - foodbank supporter
- St. Anne's Academy - foodbank supporter

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

- St. John Fisher RC Primary School - foodbank supporter
- St Mary's RC Primary School - foodbank supporter
- Tesco Extra Middleton branch, and Tesco Express branches
- The Hive, Drs Stockton & Thompson - Boarshaw Clough surgery
- The National Lottery - Reaching Communities Fund
- Trussell Trust - national Foodbank network charity
- Veterans in Community - Veterans support group
- Wonderfully Made Women - women's support group
- Your Local Pantry - Pantry food network

Financial review

During the year unrestricted funds have increased from £258,008 to £294,817. Restricted income of £178,319 was received during the year with £153,530 of its related expenditure occurring before the year end.

The Trustees have reviewed the reserve policy and agreed to maintain reserves of at least six months expenditure, for the Lighthouse Project. Current reserves are sufficient to meet this requirement.

In June 2022 the 3-year National Lottery Communities Fund grant that covered the majority of the Lighthouse Project's core costs came to an end, and a renewal application for extension of the funding was unsuccessful. From July 2022 the Lighthouse Projects core costs post lottery grant were therefore being met from the charity's own funds, which were sufficient to do this.

A second reduced and revised funding application was made to the National Lottery Communities Fund for a project called 'Lighthouse Project - Community Toolbox' to support a proportion of our core costs and the development of some new activities for 2-years. This application was successful and commenced in November 2023 running until October 2025.

Other parts of our core work were also supported through short-term grants from Comic Relief, the Trussell Trust and the RBC Innovation Fund, which helped cover some of project core costs for the balance of the year, and into 2024/25.

Historically our work has been mainly grant funded, but as we have grown in size the challenge of covering all of our costs this way is proving more difficult. In response we are open to exploring new alternative sources of funding and are working on a Sustainability and Fundraising plan to set out future strategic fundraising goals and objectives for the charity.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2024

Plans for future periods

With regards to the future, and the upcoming year, our biggest and most immediate challenges are:

1. Continuing to re-engage and inform existing and new visitors of the range of services that they can access through the Lighthouse Project.
2. Building up our volunteer capacity to its pre-pandemic levels so that we can once again offer a full and varied selection of activities.
3. To develop and expand our donor and funder base in support of our ongoing growth, helping us to be sustainable in our ambition to be less reliant on short-term grant funding.
4. Developing new resources to meet emerging needs brought on by the cost-of-living crisis, e.g. increased mental health support, tackling isolation and loneliness, etc.
5. Promoting the availability of community rooms and spaces that can be hired, which will help us offer more services and build up a sustainable income stream.

We will continue to reflect and review how we operate in the coming year, as we are keen to ensure that our work remains effective and efficient in an ever changing environment. Review and reflection is an ongoing process especially as we see new needs and emerging issues showing themselves in the community and wider society. Thankfully our structure and team dynamic allows us to be light of foot in adapting to change and meeting new needs. This is something we have confidence in being able to do in the year to come.

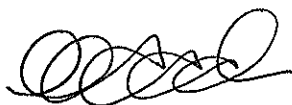
We want to offer more face-to-face services and expand the relational basis of our work. We have learnt a number of lessons from having to adapt and rethink our methods and approach over the last few years, and we want to continue this if activities can be delivered in different and better ways.

We trust that this report inspires you as much as it has inspired us.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 5 December 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton

Year ended 31 March 2024

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (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:

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).

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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



Mr C. Urmston A.C.A.
Independent Examiner

2 Heap Bridge
Bury
BL9 7HR

5 December 2024

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Activities
(including income and expenditure account)
Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024			2023
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income					
Donations and grants	5	64,112	178,319	242,431	138,176
Other trading activities	6	67,173	–	67,173	43,826
Investment income	7	2,917	–	2,917	305
Total income		<u>134,202</u>	<u>178,319</u>	<u>312,521</u>	<u>182,307</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	122,982	153,530	276,512	261,811
Total expenditure		<u>122,982</u>	<u>153,530</u>	<u>276,512</u>	<u>261,811</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		<u>11,220</u>	<u>24,789</u>	<u>36,009</u>	<u>(79,504)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		258,008	800	258,808	338,312
Total funds carried forward		<u>269,228</u>	<u>25,589</u>	<u>294,817</u>	<u>258,808</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	14		1,265	1,687
Current assets				
Debtors	15	4,615		4,386
Cash at bank and in hand		297,405		261,677
		302,020		266,063
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	8,468		8,942
Net current assets			293,552	257,121
Total assets less current liabilities			294,817	258,808
Net assets			294,817	258,808
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			25,589	800
Unrestricted funds			269,228	258,008
Total charity funds	18		294,817	258,808

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- 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;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 5 December 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 18 Aylesbury Grove, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2TG.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates: 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.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

- 25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. The liability of the members of the company, as set out in the Memorandum of Association is limited to £10 per member in the event of the company being wound up whilst they are a member or within a year of ceasing to be a member.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

5. Donations and grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	38,445	—	38,445
Donations Lighthouse Project	5,718	—	5,718
Donations Foodbank	9,632	—	9,632
Donations LMA	300	—	300
Donations Pantry	540	—	540
Donations Toy Appeal	1,025	—	1,025
Donations DIAL	40	—	40
Grants			
Big Lottery	—	88,989	88,989
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	—	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	—	16,380	16,380
Trussell Trust	3,012	51,750	54,762
Action Together	1,800	8,700	10,500
Comic Relief	—	12,500	12,500
	<u>64,112</u>	<u>178,319</u>	<u>242,431</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	17,635	—	17,635
Donations Lighthouse Project	3,634	—	3,634
Donations Foodbank	12,778	—	12,778
Donations LMA	300	—	300
Donations Pantry	425	—	425
Donations Toy Appeal	—	—	—
Donations DIAL	22,474	—	22,474
Grants			
Big Lottery	—	—	—
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	—	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	—	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	8,580	51,750	60,330
Action Together	—	2,000	2,000
Comic Relief	—	—	—
	<u>69,426</u>	<u>68,750</u>	<u>138,176</u>

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Room hire	40,283	40,283	26,495	26,495
Dial sales and rentals	6,934	6,934	3,320	3,320
Pantry subscriptions	19,276	19,276	13,797	13,797
Other income	680	680	214	214
	<u>67,173</u>	<u>67,173</u>	<u>43,826</u>	<u>43,826</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>2,917</u>	<u>2,917</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>305</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Inspire Middleton	2,220	2,176	4,396
Lighthouse Project	90,384	68,996	159,381
Middleton Central Foodbank	9,606	7,108	16,714
Lighthouse Money Advice	2,915	68,630	71,544
Lighthouse Pantry	17,318	5,900	23,218
DIAL	499	—	499
Support costs	40	720	760
	<u>122,982</u>	<u>153,530</u>	<u>276,512</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Inspire Middleton	4,416	—	4,416
Lighthouse Project	130,921	27,138	158,059
Middleton Central Foodbank	17,392	—	17,392
Lighthouse Money Advice	2,047	66,750	68,797
Lighthouse Pantry	9,911	2,000	11,911
DIAL	516	—	516
Support costs	720	—	720
	<u>165,923</u>	<u>95,888</u>	<u>261,811</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2024	Total fund 2023
	£	£	£	£
Inspire Middleton	4,396	—	4,396	4,416
Lighthouse Project	159,381	—	159,381	158,059
Middleton Central Foodbank	16,714	—	16,714	17,392
Lighthouse Money Advice	71,544	—	71,544	68,797
Lighthouse Pantry	23,218	—	23,218	11,911
DIAL	499	—	499	516
Governance costs	—	760	760	720
	<u>275,752</u>	<u>760</u>	<u>276,512</u>	<u>261,811</u>

10. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>422</u>	<u>563</u>

11. Independent examination fees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>760</u>	<u>720</u>

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	191,207	162,868
Social security costs	8,541	6,919
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,479	3,790
	<u>204,227</u>	<u>173,577</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 11 (2023: 9). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Number of support staff	7	6
Number of administrative staff	2	1
Number of management staff	2	2
	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

12. Staff costs *(continued)*

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year £35,729 (2023: £34,833) was paid to C.A. Roach a trustee of the charity for his employment as Development Manager. No monies were paid for any trustee duties undertaken.

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	2,313	2,313
Charge for the year	<u>422</u>	<u>422</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,735</u>	<u>2,735</u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,265</u>	<u>1,265</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,687</u>	<u>1,687</u>

15. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	2,407	2,609
Prepayments and accrued income	2,087	1,656
Other debtors	<u>121</u>	<u>121</u>
	<u>4,615</u>	<u>4,386</u>

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	50	297
Accruals and deferred income	3,074	3,641
Social security and other taxes	3,773	3,646
Other creditors	<u>1,571</u>	<u>1,358</u>
	<u>8,468</u>	<u>8,942</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2024

17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £4,479 (2023: £3,790).

18. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>258,008</u>	<u>134,202</u>	<u>(122,982)</u>	<u>269,228</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>310,374</u>	<u>113,557</u>	<u>(165,923)</u>	<u>258,008</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Comic Relief	–	12,500	(8,875)	3,625
Rochdale Innovation Fund	–	16,380	(16,380)	–
Big Lottery	–	88,989	(67,825)	21,164
Action Together	–	8,700	(8,700)	–
Ambition for Aging	800	–	–	800
Trussell Trust	–	51,750	(51,750)	–
	<u>800</u>	<u>178,319</u>	<u>(153,530)</u>	<u>25,589</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Comic Relief	–	–	–	–
Rochdale Innovation Fund	–	15,000	(15,000)	–
Big Lottery	26,638	–	(26,638)	–
Action Together	500	2,000	(2,500)	–
Ambition for Aging	800	–	–	800
Trussell Trust	–	51,750	(51,750)	–
	<u>27,938</u>	<u>68,750</u>	<u>(95,888)</u>	<u>800</u>

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,265	—	1,265
Current assets	276,431	25,589	302,020
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,468)	—	(8,468)
Net assets	269,228	25,589	294,817

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,687	—	1,687
Current assets	265,263	800	266,063
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,942)	—	(8,942)
Net assets	258,008	800	258,808

20. Operating lease commitments

In 2019 a 10 year lease was been signed with Middleton Shopping Centre with a breakclause exercisable by the charity at 5 years. No disclosure has been made due to the commercial confidentiality agreement in the lease.

INSPIRE MIDDLETON

England & Wales - Charity number 1126093

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06624568
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1126093

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2023

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2023

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	15
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	16
Statement of financial position	17
Notes to the financial statements	18

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Inspire Middleton
Charity registration number	1126093
Company registration number	06624568
Principal office and registered office	18 Aylesbury Grove Middleton Manchester M24 2TG

The trustees

C.A. Roach
J.L. Roach
K. Hughes
S.M. Howarth
M. Lee
B. Mudzingwa

Independent examiner	Mr C. Urmston A.C.A. 2 Heap Bridge Bury BL9 7HR
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Structure, governance and management

The current Memorandum and Articles of Association that govern Inspire Middleton are those dated June 2008 as amended by Special Resolution no.1 - dated 3rd September 2008, which are registered with Companies House and which have been accepted by the Charity Commission of England.

All work carried out is as identified in these documents.

Election to the Board of Trustees is open to other individuals or organisations who:

- (a) apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors; and
- (b) are approved by the Directors.

All current and future work is monitored through regular trustee meetings. Trustees will supervise and manage the running of the work to ensure that the charity is compliant with its aims and objectives and operating within the Charity Commissions guidelines as presently constituted.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

Public Benefit Statement

(1) To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Middleton, North Manchester in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

(2) To promote, for the benefit of the public, the efficiency of the police in Middleton, North Manchester and to promote good citizenship and greater public participation in the prevention and solution of crime in the area.

(3) To advance in life and help young people through:

The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

(4) To relieve persons who are in condition of need, hardship or distress by reason of their social and economic circumstances in particular but not exclusively by the provision of a drop in centre.

(5) To provide education and training for the persons referred to in clause 4.

(6) To preserve and protect the good health of the persons referred to in clause 4.

(7) To advance the Christian religion.

The trustees believe that these objectives clearly demonstrate the concept of "public benefit", as specified in Section 4 Charities Act 2011.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance

Introductory comment - Coronavirus Pandemic 2021 update:

During the year covered by this Trustee report all the Covid-19 restrictions previously imposed on activities and social interactions introduced during the year 2020/21 had been withdrawn, and we were able to resume our normal activities.

The Charity was therefore able to operate without restrictions being in place, however we found that the return to our normal level of attendance from visitors and volunteers was quite slow, and we were having to significantly rebuild both visitor attendance, and volunteer support of the work.

Charity Overview

Inspire Middleton is a community development charity, and our aims can be summarised by our desire to inspire people, places and organisations. To help people understand why our charity name is not emblazoned on everything that we do, we describe the way we work as 'the plant pot model', because a plant pot is something that helps other things to grow, and the things that are grown are the focus of people's attention more than the pot they are carried in, and so it is with us.

We run a number of community projects and activities through which the charity's objectives are advanced: and these are the names that the public will be more familiar with. They include, the Lighthouse Project, our drop-in style community centre/hub, Middleton Central Foodbank, Lighthouse Money Advice our FCA registered debt service, and the Lighthouse Pantry.

We operate out of leased premises on the second floor of Middleton Shopping Centre right in the heart of Middleton town centre. We moved into these premises in December 2016 on a 3-year short-term lease, and subsequently we were able to renew our lease for a further ten years running from December 2019 - December 2029.

The building and location makes a significant contribution to the success of our work, it means we are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and in normal non-covid circumstances we also have good regular passing footfall. Our footfall additionally contributes to the wellbeing of the Shopping centre as people visit local shops as well as attending our activities.

The Lighthouse Project is one of our specific charitable objectives, and as a community anchor organisation it is a hub used as the main outlet for advancing many of our other charitable aims.

Middleton Central Foodbank is co-located within the Lighthouse Project, and it is run as part of the national **Trussell Trust** foodbank network, in collaboration with local churches, tackling individual crisis, poverty and hardship.

The Lighthouse Pantry is a membership food club helping people and families struggling to cover their weekly/monthly household costs, by offering them access to supermarket surplus food to reduce their weekly food costs leaving them with more money to spend on other household costs. The Pantry is part of a growing national network operating under the banner of 'Your Local Pantry' managed by **Church Action on Poverty**.

The Lighthouse Money Advice service is a FCA accredited debt advice service run as part of the **Community Money Advice network**. The service offers free advice and face-to-face support for people experiencing personal debt and financial crisis. Many of the clients are referrals from the Foodbank, or Pantry and several of our team are dedicated to supporting Foodbank and Pantry members.

Highlights and Project Activity Summary

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

Attendance

Lighthouse Project as a whole

During the year we saw a progressive increase in people attending the centre, however the return was slow even though all of the previous Covid-19 restrictions had been removed. We felt there remained a lack of confidence in people venturing out, and also that the circumstances of many lives had been changed by the pandemic. Recovery back to pre-pandemic levels of attendance will take time.

Since 2010 when the Lighthouse Project first opened we saw just 10 people in the first week, since that time we have recorded a footfall of just under 370,000 visits through the door, which is an amazing achievement and reflects the impact our work is having in the community.

Highlights

1. **Annual Footfall of - 28,058 visits** during the year (80% of pre-covid target of 35,000) - this was due to the slow return of confidence in coming out, and changed life circumstances.
2. **Sessions -** during the year we ran 5,499 sessions/activities supporting people's needs.
3. **Individual Visitors -** 2,087 different people/visitors were directly supported during the year.
4. **New Visitors attending -** 974 new people who first visited between 1 April 22 - 31 March 2023.

People/Families Fed

Middleton Central Foodbank

The Foodbank remained open during the entire year, and many of the redesigned features of the service remained in place to reduce the amount of time people spent waiting for food parcels.

Highlights

1. During the reporting period the Foodbank **redeemed 1413 vouchers**, which is similar to our previous year's achievements. The pandemic saw the emergence of numerous new groups and self-help organisations, including Council led projects that provided alternative sources of free food relief to people in difficulty, who were self-isolating, or who had been told to stay-at-home. So, with all this additional food support available this variance is understandable.
2. Some of this levelling off is a reflection of the partnership with the Lighthouse Pantry where Pantry memberships are offered to regular users of the foodbank as a progressive step back towards self-management, thus helping families to move away from reliance on emergency support. The outworking of this is reduced attendance at the Foodbank, as we progress families onto the Pantry as part of their recovery journey. Equally the Pantry is used to catch families who are starting to struggle before they need to use the Foodbank.
3. The food parcels we issued provided the equivalent of **80,000 meals** during the year, supporting **2,989 adults and children**, who came from **800 different families**.
4. The foodbank **received 30 tonnes of food donations** during the year from a variety of groups, individuals and organisations. This is above the pre-pandemic donation levels of around 25 tonnes, so we continued to see a positive increase in donation support.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

5. The foodbank gave away **34 tonnes** of emergency food which is **3.25 tonnes** above the amount of food received during the year. This equates to approx. **80,000 meals**. Some of the food support we provide also includes donating food to other organisations who provide emergency support themselves, such as our local children's centres, and community centres providing cooked meals and support packages.

We also donate to other new groups and charities providing food in order to help them support different families and individuals in need that we can't reach, e.g. local veteran's groups. We choose not to operate in isolation, and support other groups where we can in just the same way as we too receive support from people who see that we are in need. This builds wider community.

6. In a typical year we would normally expect to give out a similar amount of food to what we receive. This year we gave out an **additional 3.25 tonnes** of food above the level of donations received, reflecting the ongoing demand and need for family food support.

7. To help us distribute food within the community the Foodbank has over 75+ referral agencies on its books, which includes, local schools, community groups, churches, and other support agencies. We also accept referrals from new organisations who are not on our books and who have not been referring into the Foodbank before. We chose to do this to make sure that there were as few barriers as possible for families to get access to crisis food support whilst still maintaining appropriate checks and balances from the referrers. These new referrers are then offered the opportunity to join the Foodbank's list of regular referral agencies.

Lighthouse Pantry

The Lighthouse Pantry opens for three sessions per week during the entire year and had been operating at this level since May 2020. The project continued to grow during the year increasing the number of members and families it reached and supported. This demand remained high and a waiting list was used to try and mitigate and manage demand. There is a limit to how many families the Pantry can support, and this is our ability to access enough food to support the weekly sessions. The Pantry needs over 1,500 items each week to stock the shelves, and this food has to be sourced from donations, or full-priced purchases. It is an ongoing challenge.

Highlights

1. The Pantry ran **154 sessions**, and supported **4361 member visits** during the year. This was a 18% increase in the number of members attending over the same period last year. The growth was driven in part by the ongoing and increasing needs of people struggling with low income and the resulting financial difficulties, and the national cost of living crisis.

2. We supported **370 different families** (23% increase), and within these families there were an **additional 443 adults or children**, so collectively the Pantry supported **813 people** (16% increase).

3. The Pantry supplied over 20 tonnes of food for members to use, equivalent to **45,600 meals**, with an estimated retail value of approximately £105,000.

4. During the year a typical members average weekly 'shop' was calculated to have an approximate retail value of £31, which meant that for every £1 members spent (£3.50 per week) they received an average of £8.56 worth of food in return! This is an excellent social return of value for them.

5. This produced a potential saving of £1,375 per family on their annual food bills, which leaves more money available for other household expenditure, which is one of the primary aims of the Pantry.

6. In addition to this, during December 2022 - January 2023 we covered the cost of the weekly membership fee for each family, so they received 2 weeks of free food support.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

Collectively the Pantry and Foodbank provided food support for 3800 individuals from 1,170 families.

Financial & debt support

Lighthouse Money Advice

The Lighthouse Money Advice service remained open and active for the whole of the year offering face-to-face appointments for people needing financial help and support.

The impact of the pandemic in many ways created a delay in terms of people requesting debt support because the government placed embargoes on some types of debt collection, evictions, etc. This meant that some clients benefited from the relief that these measures brought. The downside however, meant they didn't always come forward to get support because the pressures had eased. As the Covid-19 protection measures came to an end we have seen a growing number of people requesting help for debt relief, financial support, or benefit advice.

Highlights

1. During the year the team worked with 484 different clients (58% increase) who made use of our service on at least one occasion, attending 1900 appointments, and experiencing collective personal debts estimated at £1.58 million in total value.
2. Of these we had 255 new clients (71% increase) requesting support.
3. From the clients supported during the year, £536,118 worth of debts were removed by Debt Relief Orders (DRO's), and a further £46,149 was written off by creditors - totalling £582,267 of debt relief. Many other clients tackled their debts through the use of other options such as Debt Management Plans valued at circa £24,300, or IVA valued at £32,300.
4. For clients helped with benefit advice we recorded £390,000 worth of benefit increases or expenditure reductions during the year.
5. For each client/family supported by the service the knock on benefits of improvement in health, mental health and general wellbeing are clear to see once they start to get help, or they see their debts/benefits being reduced/increased, or removed. In many cases these improvements are considered by the clients as 'significant', and some would even say 'life changing'.

Computer Classes, Employment, Skills and Getting back into work

The Lighthouse Project is part of the UK Online Centre network, now renamed the National Digital Inclusion Network, and we have been supporting people with free access to the internet, and access to tutor and peer supported free basic computer training. All of this is our contribution to tackling digital exclusion which remains stubbornly high at over 20% of people in the UK.

This work was halted during the Covid-19 pandemic, but has since restarted now that there are no restrictions on gathering or meeting together. The uptake of use of the internet and attending computer courses has been gradual, but is increasing as people become more confident in being back out in the community.

We offered some employability support during the year, however this was a reduced amount compared to pre-pandemic levels. It involved a combination of remote interaction and support, and face-to-face engagement.

Highlights

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

1. During the year we supported **69 people** people attending over **2100 times** through 558 sessions. With this **49 people attended** Learn My Way basic computer skills training courses. We anticipate that this will continue to increase through the coming year.
2. During the year our employability sessions supported **41 people who were looking to improve their life chances** by developing their employability and job hunting skills and to help them get back into work, or improve their chances of getting back into work.
3. Of these people we recorded **120 attendances** for activities related to actively looking for work, improving their job hunting skills, and improving work place skills through online learning and face-to-face appointments.
4. We provided **CV support for 36 people**, and **39 people** attended job hunting sessions to help them get back into work.

Family and Children support - Toy Appeal

Over the last five years we have organised an annual 'Toy Appeal' aimed at collecting toys and games from the general public to support Lighthouse Project families, and others who may be referred to us from partner organisations, including local schools and foodbank referral agencies. It is intended to ensure that as many families as possible that we work with, or are connected to, are able to have some toys and gifts to open at Christmas.

This year we again worked with local organisations, individuals, and schools to collect toy donations for giving out. Middleton Shopping Centre (our landlord), and our local Tesco Extra, and other groups helped us with the promotion and setting up of collection points. Both also donating toys themselves. In the shopping centre a 'Giving Tree' was used as an alternative to their regular annual Santa's Grotto. The local community is really generous when it comes to supporting children, and it is safe to say that we were inundated with toys, gifts and financial support for the Appeal.

Highlights

1. We were inundated with local support providing toys, gifts and financial donations.
2. We were able to support **190 children** from **89 different families**. Each child receiving at least one main present, 4 medium presents, 3 small presents, a game, book, confectionery, and stocking fillers.
3. **72 children** came from the **Lighthouse Project, foodbank families and pantry families**, **79 children** were referred through **local schools**, **37 children** came from **self-referrals** or other family contacts, and **2 children** came from **Lighthouse Money Advice families**.
4. The local schools, as well as nominating children, also arranged fun themed toy collections, sponsored runs and devised other interesting ways of giving toys and donating money.
5. We received over £1,600 in cash/voucher and online donations which help us buy targeted gifts and gift cards to fill gaps in the types of toys donated, and so we could help and support different aged children. This made sure that no-one missed out.
6. We also supported another local community centre, Burnside, who we work with regularly, by providing them with additional toy donations from which they were able to set up a 'toy bank' to support some of their own families.

Social Leisure and Health Activities

These are the groups and activities were the ones most affected and impacted by the pandemic restrictions on close

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

social contact or interaction. Once the easing of restrictions allowed we re-started these groups and sessions progressively.

Highlights

1. During the year we re-started our social and leisure activity groups as the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and people felt safe and confident to return.
2. We ran 363 social/leisure/health related sessions/activities which were attended 5,139 times by 262 different people.
3. These activities included physical events, such as walking, leisure activities/interest groups, and some social groups/gatherings.

Other Achievements and Developments

Core Staff: This year the trustees want to again acknowledge and give thanks to our core staff team who worked so hard during the year, Pam Semp, Cath Stott, and Carl Roach, who all live locally in Middleton, and who have such a great passion to see the Community changed and transformed. This team have worked relentlessly over the last few years, and their willingness to adapt and change in response to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the subsequent recovery is to be greatly commended.

With the loss of 80% of our volunteers at the start of the Covid-19 restrictions this meant that a lot of responsibility shifted onto the shoulders of this core team. In the subsequent season of recovery we have been progressively rebuilding our volunteer capacity, which is a gradual process. In the meantime the brunt of the work has remained on the shoulders of the core team.

The collaboration and flexibility of the core team is one of our organisational strengths, and is key to making sure that all of our services work, they underpin all that we do. Well done, and thank you! Your work is unseen by the majority, but it doesn't go unnoticed by those who see behind the scenes.

In June 2022 we sadly lost Dave Melia, our support worker, who passed away after a determined fight with cancer, and a short period of care in Springhill Hospice. We want to acknowledge his memory and lasting legacy. Dave had been a volunteer with us before joining our staff team 6 years ago, and his passing is a great loss to us, and also to the many people who he helped, supported, and inspired over the years at the Lighthouse Project. A familiar face that is sadly no-longer with us. He always had a heart to serve and support people, and we miss him.

Volunteers: Our volunteer support was severely impacted by the pandemic. Pre-pandemic we had 60+ regular volunteers who came into the centre on different days to support all the activities we run. During the pandemic our volunteer numbers dropped to approximately 12 people, and post-pandemic whilst this number is increasing it is still below where we would like it to be. We have been working hard to build up the volunteer team so we can restore our services to pre-pandemic levels.

To highlight our appreciation for the volunteers who remained working with us, and for those who have subsequently joined us during this year we planned a Volunteer Celebration for later in the year. This event was held in October 2023, attended by over 60 volunteers, where we gave out 92 awards across 9 different categories, with special guest and Lighthouse Project patron, Steve Coogan, in attendance - it was a great evening of celebration, and thankful reflection.

Our Premises: Our building, and location in Middleton Shopping Centre, makes a significant contribution to the success of our work, it means we are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and we also have good regular passing footfall. It's a great place for a community hub, we are accessible to the whole community, and it allows us to work with a wide variety of people and services in supporting the community.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

Development of our Systems and facilities: this is an ongoing process where we review and adapt our infrastructure and admin systems to continually improve the way that we work.

As more groups emerge from the Covid pandemic themselves we are seeing an increase in demand for use of our premises via room-hire and joint activities. This is beneficial in terms of increasing income, and increasing our connections and ability to contribute to local strategy and initiatives.

We continue to reflect on our activity recording and general record keeping, which is making a difference, and providing us with better insights into the impact we are having. This gives us greater opportunities to tell a more complete story, develop our capacity, and improve how we serve and support, which in turn makes us a more robust and stronger organisation.

We also use this information to feed into our sustainability plans, and strategic planning.

Areas we have been working on include:

1. Improved staff communication and management.
2. Improvement of Visitor and Activity database (Lamplight) to record information about individual attendance, progression and engagement, as well as activity recording and summary analysis.
3. Software updates for managing Pantry membership and payments, including the introduction of online and contactless payments.
4. Stocktaking software for Pantry stock management improving our understanding of the financial benefit that Pantry membership receive.
5. Specialist Debt management software and client engagement software.
6. Promotion of our new 120 seat capacity conference, training and events room. This space is a resource for the community which also allows us to run new social and leisure activities for larger groups and more events that need more space, e.g. tea-dances, armchair exercises, table tennis competitions, exhibitions, and larger group meetings.
7. Updating and development of the Lighthouse Project website, and other social media outlets.

Our Community Impact

By focusing on community development our impact continues to increase as we support ongoing needs and meet new challenges. The pandemic changed how we worked but it didn't necessarily diminish our impact. Our impact was just experienced in different ways.

Our biggest and most noticeable impact during this year has been through our two food projects, and the Lighthouse Money Advice service. We maintained and expand all three projects, and grew the amount of support that families and individuals received from us during these difficult times.

The cost-of-living and energy crisis' which have emerged since the end of the pandemic is now taking its toll on families and individuals right across all spectrums, and these three projects are taking the strain that this is bringing to many people.

Our food projects have made sure that families had food on their table, that they were able to feed their kids, and that they were also able to save money so they could meet other household bills/cost. Collectively the two food projects have served and supported **3,800 individuals** (Adults and Children) from **1,170 different families**, and provided the

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

equivalent of 125,600 meals.

Our Lighthouse Money advice service has also seen significant growth in demand and it has been a life-line to many new people this year, with close to 60% increase in the number of clients being helped to face over £1,578,000 worth of debt. It has been able to support clients during very difficult and changing times.

With funding from different partners we grew the capacity of the money advice team, adding new specialist debt and benefit staff, helping meet the demand that was greater than our previous capacity could serve. The predicted post-Covid increase in families struggling with their finances is manifesting, along with the added challenge of the energy and cost of living crisis the nation is experiencing.

Partnership Working: Our model of operation is built upon partnership and collaboration, so, in addition to our own work we also partner with and support other groups and organisations with their work. For example we donated lots of toys to the Burnside Centre on Langley, supporting their 'Toy Bank' for local families, we also helped them, and others, with bulk food donations in support of their efforts to prepare meals for families and individuals.

During the pandemic there were many organisations, agencies and support groups that closed their doors, and where this happened some of that un-met need and demand came to our door instead. Thankfully as we remained open during that time we were able to offer continuity of support and encouragement for people where we could.

An example of this continuity of support was Middleton DIAL, a local disability charity, which during the latter part of 2021 was working to close down. As part of this they asked Inspire Middleton if we would continue their work under our own banner, which we started doing in October 2021.

Through our working relationship they have been able to wind down and the Lighthouse Project has taken it over and been able to continue supporting the disabled community of Middleton with a vital wheelchair hire service. This service is now flourishing and growing once again.

Things we've learned

Person Centred/Whole person Approach

The things we have learned; some are new and some are a reinforcement of what we already believed to be true, one example being the value of a person centred approach when offering support.

A person centred approach is one of the founding principles upon which the work of the Lighthouse Project is built, and whilst we have always believed this to be true its value in recent years is being more widely recognised and adopted by other groups. People not processes need to be at the heart of recovery.

Co-location, and co-delivery are key. At one time our model of co-location and joint working was not widely used but now it is becoming the aspiration of many organisations, both large and small.

Often charities or projects start with a single focus, e.g. Foodbanks delivering emergency food, or a Pantry's making use of supermarket surplus to feed people, but now it is recognised that they can no longer just have a single focus, and that they need to provide additional 'wrap around' support to make sure that the people they help can be helped in a 'whole person' way. This is the model we have been advocating since the Lighthouse Project was first launched.

A good example of this for ourselves is the three-stranded approach of the Foodbank, Pantry and Lighthouse money advice service. Each has its own speciality, however by working together and cross referring they can help people move away from crisis and return to being more self-sufficient.

Which means that if someone is in crisis and ends up at the Foodbank, they will get food, but if their crisis is as a

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

result of financial difficulties they can be supported by the debt or benefit adviser to improve their situation, and after a while we can move them from using the Foodbank into becoming a member of the Pantry, where they still save money but are on a progressive journey to recovery.

This is where the benefit of being whole person / person centred project comes into its own. Everyone who uses the Lighthouse Project comes in via a different doorway depending upon their need or circumstances, but once inside we don't just help them in one way and then say 'goodbye' we help with all their needs.

Through relationship and active listening we pick up on, or become aware of other needs that they might have, and then we are able to link them up with the other services and activities within the centre so that they can progress in those areas too.

For us it's all about helping people to cope with or remove the burdens they are carrying alone, and giving them access to opportunities, and helping them to develop their own potential and find ways of solving problems or needs. We do stuff 'with' people, not 'to' them.

Whilst we have processes for our work we are not process driven, we are people focussed, developing relationships and not just routines.

Relationship and Trust

We have found that it is important to build relationship and trust. The key thing that people are often looking for is the quality of welcome, relationship and trust that they can develop with you in order to help them solve their needs.

Success in these areas means that the impact of the work is significantly amplified, even if all you did was make someone a cup of tea and listen to their needs.

Another of our foundational aims is to be a community anchor organisation, providing a 'safe place' within the community where people know they will get a good welcome, be listened to, and be supported to achieve whatever it is they want to achieve.

Time and time again we see people opening up to our staff or volunteers in ways that they haven't done with other types of organisation. People are often guarded when they talk to agencies, e.g. the council, DWP, their housing provider, etc., which can mean that their underlying needs may not be fully explained or revealed. Yet, when they feel safe and welcomed, they will then often ask for support or share a deeper need allowing it to be addressed or supported.

Change, and the need to adapt is not always a bad thing

The pandemic caused us all to look at what we did, and to evaluate how we could do it differently to meet the needs of the day. Several things that we have learnt from that experience is that 'change is not always a bad thing', and that 'adaptation can actually make a service better'.

At the start of the pandemic all of our services were changed and adapted, and some of the changes we made to how those services were run have been retained as it actually made the service better. On the flip side, there are some aspects of the adaptations that helped us to be more efficient when we needed to, but now that the pandemic has eased we want to restore things that were lost or removed from the service, e.g. restoration of face-to-face engagement.

We have learnt that we can be adaptable, and that change is not to be feared. Actually a fresh look at the way things are done can prove positive and illuminating. We have always been a reflective organisation and open to change, the extent of change that the pandemic response required was fairly significant but we successfully navigated this and made it work to our advantage. So, we are not afraid of change, and realise how adaptable and flexible we can actually be when needs must.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Emerging needs - how the challenge of low income affects every area of life

The impact of low income is affecting more and more people, drawing them into increasing poverty and hardship. We have always been an organisation that responds to need, this is one of the reasons that Inspire Middleton was set up, to help improve and inspire the lives of people, places and organisations. So, responding to need is not new to us.

During the last few years however, we have increasingly seen one particular need begin to grow and expand to the extent that it now threatens the daily lives of a significant section of our community - that of low income, which then often leads to related indebtedness, decline of health/mental health, homelessness, and possibly destitution.

Low income and debt is a practical reality as well as a campaign topic. We are not yet a campaigning organisation, but we may well be drawn into this, increasingly advocating on behalf of people if the local economics don't improve, and people's lives become less sustainable.

We are already helping people deal with the practical impact of low income, by tackling food insecurity, through the provision of access to food, and/or helping them with debts and benefits. But these needs are growing, along with the associated impact on mental and physical health and wellbeing. There were already many needs in these areas. We can already see that the next few years are likely to expose a much greater need than those currently manifesting.

A solution needs to be found, and maybe it is actually many solutions rather than just one, of how to help people to increase their income, or reduce their expenditure. This is not just simply about improving budgeting skills as many suggest. The expenses and outgoings that people have are not always within their ability to change, e.g. energy costs, rents, council tax, etc., and neither is their ability to increase their income, so, they become trapped.

These societal challenges, which are huge topics, only strengthens our resolve to remain whole person focussed and people centre, to strengthen the safe space, and the co-located services that we offer. We need to build more bridges, to connect with people, and support them so that they can be connected to more opportunities to improve their lives.

Working Relationships with other organisations

Here is a selection of the organisations we have worked with during the year, or who have used the Lighthouse to provide services / activities for visitors.

- Action Together - voluntary sector support
- Alkrington & Junction GP surgeries,
- All Saints & Martyrs C of E Church Langley,
- Ashdown Phillips - MSC management
- Barclays Bank - Community spaces
- Better Health 4 Middleton - community activist group
- BNI Middleton - emerging business network
- BOC - Cardiac Care services
- Church Action on Poverty - Lighthouse Pantry
- Community Connectors - RMBC advisers
- Community Money Advice - Lighthouse Money Advice
- EnergyWorks - Drop-in support group
- Fareshare - Food recycling - Lighthouse Pantry
- FareshareGO - supermarket surplus
- Getir - local food delivery organisation
- GM Tenants Union Middleton - a new local tenants support group
- Inspire Community - missional community
- Job Centre Plus - Middleton,
- Long Street Methodist Church,
- Many local schools and community groups through the Foodbank referral agency network

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

- Middleton DIAL, - disability charity
- Middleton Photography Group - community camera club
- Middleton Rotary - Community humanitarian group
- Middleton Shopping Centre - promotions and support
- Mills Hill Baptist Church,
- Morrisons Supermarket Whitefield - Foodbank donations
- Neighbourly - surplus food distribution
- Positive Steps - careers service for young people,
- RBH - Rochdale Boroughwide Housing,
- Rochdale Council - Adult Care, Revenue & Benefits Service, Welfare team
- Rochdale Healthwatch - independent voice on health for the community
- Riverside Housing
- Royal British Legion - Middleton
- St Annes Academy - foodbank supporter
- Soul Sisters - Women's Domestic Abuse support group
- Tesco Extra Middleton branch, and Tesco Express branches
- The Hive, Drs Stockton & Thompson - Boarshaw Clough surgery
- The National Lottery - Reaching Communities Fund
- Trussell Trust - national Foodbank network charity
- UK Online Centres (Good Things Foundation),
- Veterans in Community - Veterans support group
- Your Local Pantry - Pantry food network

Financial review

During the year unrestricted funds have decreased from £310,374 to £258,008. Restricted income of £68,750 was received during the year with £95,888 of its related expenditure occurring before the year end.

The Trustees have reviewed the reserve policy and agreed to maintain reserves of at least six months expenditure, for the Lighthouse Project. Current reserves are sufficient to meet this requirement.

In June 2022 the 3-year National Lottery Communities Fund grant that covered the majority of the Lighthouse Project's core costs came to an end. A renewal application for extension of the funding was unsuccessful, due to the fund being oversubscribed. The Lighthouse Projects core costs post July 2022 are currently being met from the charity's own funds, which are sufficient to do this.

After a period of months a second revised application was made to the National Lottery Communities Fund for a project called 'Lighthouse Project - Community Toolbox' which included support for some of our core costs and the development of some new activities. This application, which provides two years of partial-core cost funding, was successful and is due to commence in November 2023.

We have also been exploring new alternative sources of funding and are working on a Sustainability and Fundraising plan to set out future strategic fundraising goals and objectives for the charity.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

Plans for future periods

With regards to the future, and the upcoming year, our biggest and most immediate challenges are:

1. Continuing to re-engaging with new and former visitors letting them know that the Lighthouse Project is fully open and ready to serve, and that we are available to welcome and support them with their needs as we have always done.
2. Recruitment of new volunteers to restore and build up our volunteer capacity to its pre-pandemic levels so that we can maintain our recovery and once again offer a full and varied selection of activities.
3. To develop and expand our donor and funder base in support of our ongoing growth, helping us to be sustainable in our ambition to be less reliant on short-term grant funding.
4. Developing new resources to meet needs brought on by the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis that followed, e.g. increased mental health needs, bereavement and trauma support, tackling isolation and loneliness, etc.
5. Promoting the availability of community rooms and spaces that can be hired, which will help build this up as a sustainable income stream.

We have been encouraged seeing a return of familiar faces and groups. There are still a lot who haven't returned, so in some ways it feels like we are having to start afresh in building up our visitor family and reaching new people.

We will continue to reflect and review how we operate in the coming year, as we are keen to ensure that our work remains effective and efficient in an ever changing environment. Review and reflection is an ongoing process especially as we see new needs and emerging issues showing themselves in the community and wider society. Thankfully our structure and team dynamic allows us to be light of foot in adapting to change and meeting new needs. So this is something we have confidence in being able to do in the year to come.

We want to build more face-to-face services and expand the relational basis of our work. We have learnt a number of lessons from having to adapt and rethink our methods and approach during Covid and want to continue this if some activities could be delivered in different and better ways.

We trust that this report inspires you as much as it has inspired us.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 18.12.23 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton
Year ended 31 March 2023

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 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 accounts to be reached.



Mr C. Urmston A.C.A.
Independent Examiner

2 Heap Bridge
Bury
BL9 7HR

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Activities
(including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted funds	2023 Restricted funds	Total funds	2022 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and grants	5	69,426	68,750	138,176	254,769
Other trading activities	6	43,826	–	43,826	27,315
Investment income	7	305	–	305	27
Total income		<u>113,557</u>	<u>68,750</u>	<u>182,307</u>	<u>282,111</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	165,923	95,888	261,811	250,256
Total expenditure		<u>165,923</u>	<u>95,888</u>	<u>261,811</u>	<u>250,256</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>(52,366)</u>	<u>(27,138)</u>	<u>(79,504)</u>	<u>31,855</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		310,374	27,938	338,312	306,457
Total funds carried forward		<u>258,008</u>	<u>800</u>	<u>258,808</u>	<u>338,312</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 18 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	14	1,687	2,250
Current assets			
Debtors	15	4,386	20,810
Cash at bank and in hand		261,677	322,634
		<u>266,063</u>	<u>343,444</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>8,942</u>	<u>7,382</u>
Net current assets		<u>257,121</u>	<u>336,062</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>258,808</u>	<u>338,312</u>
Net assets		<u>258,808</u>	<u>338,312</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		800	27,938
Unrestricted funds		258,008	310,374
Total charity funds	19	<u>258,808</u>	<u>338,312</u>

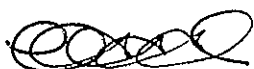
For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- 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;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 18.12.23, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

The notes on pages 18 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 18 Aylesbury Grove, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2TG.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. 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.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

- 25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. The liability of the members of the company, as set out in the Memorandum of Association is limited to £10 per member in the event of the company being wound up whilst they are a member or within a year of ceasing to be a member.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

5. Donations and grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	17,635	—	17,635
Donations Lighthouse Project	3,634	—	3,634
Donations Foodbank	12,778	—	12,778
Donations LMA	300	—	300
Donations Pantry	425	—	425
Donations Toy Appeal	—	—	—
Donations DIAL	22,474	—	22,474
Grants			
Big Lottery	—	—	—
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	—	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	—	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	8,580	51,750	60,330
Action Together	—	2,000	2,000
	<u>69,426</u>	<u>68,750</u>	<u>138,176</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	42,895	—	42,895
Donations Lighthouse Project	1,232	—	1,232
Donations Foodbank	11,971	—	11,971
Donations LMA	300	—	300
Donations Pantry	205	—	205
Donations Toy Appeal	55	—	55
Donations DIAL	233	—	233
Grants			
Big Lottery	—	172,208	172,208
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	—	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	—	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	3,574	—	3,574
Action Together	2,000	1,496	3,496
	<u>66,065</u>	<u>188,704</u>	<u>254,769</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Room hire	26,495	26,495	17,405	17,405
Dial sales and rentals	3,320	3,320	1,714	1,714
Pantry subscriptions	13,797	13,797	8,196	8,196
Other income	214	214	—	—
	<u>43,826</u>	<u>43,826</u>	<u>27,315</u>	<u>27,315</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	305	305	27	27

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Inspire Middleton	4,416	—	4,416
Lighthouse Project	130,921	27,137	158,058
Middleton Central Foodbank	17,392	—	17,392
Lighthouse Money Advice	2,047	66,750	68,797
Lighthouse Pantry	9,911	2,001	11,912
DIAL	516	—	516
Support costs	720	—	720
	<u>165,923</u>	<u>95,888</u>	<u>261,811</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Inspire Middleton	—	3,866	3,866
Lighthouse Project	835	171,389	172,224
Middleton Central Foodbank	13,395	827	14,222
Lighthouse Money Advice	9,694	40,186	49,880
Lighthouse Pantry	8,670	1,000	9,670
DIAL	35	—	35
Support costs	—	359	359
	<u>32,629</u>	<u>217,627</u>	<u>250,256</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Inspire Middleton	4,416	–	4,416	3,866
Lighthouse Project	158,058	–	158,058	172,224
Middleton Central Foodbank	17,392	–	17,392	14,222
Lighthouse Money Advice	68,797	–	68,797	49,880
Lighthouse Pantry	11,912	–	11,912	9,670
DIAL	516	–	516	35
Governance costs	–	720	720	359
	<u>261,091</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>261,811</u>	<u>250,256</u>

10. Net (expenditure)/income

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>563</u>	<u>750</u>

11. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>720</u>	<u>384</u>

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	162,868	160,184
Social security costs	6,919	7,405
Employer contributions to pension plans	3,790	3,334
	<u>173,577</u>	<u>170,923</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 9 (2022: 9). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Number of support staff	6	6
Number of administrative staff	1	1
Number of management staff	2	2
	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

12. Staff costs *(continued)*

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year £34,833.(2022: £34,692) was paid to C.A. Roach a trustee of the charity for his employment as Development Manager. No monies were paid for any trustee duties undertaken.

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	4,000	4,000
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	1,750	1,750
Charge for the year	563	563
At 31 March 2023	2,313	2,313
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2023	1,687	1,687
At 31 March 2022	2,250	2,250

15. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,609	5,927
Prepayments and accrued income	1,656	14,762
Other debtors	121	121
	4,386	20,810

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	297	46
Accruals and deferred income	3,641	3,845
Social security and other taxes	3,646	2,976
Other creditors	1,358	515
	8,942	7,382

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2023

17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £3,790 (2022: £3,334).

18. Covid 19

Inspire Middleton has been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic and this has resulted in a change to the way we have been able to deliver our services and activities during this year.

19. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>310,374</u>	<u>113,557</u>	<u>(165,923)</u>	<u>258,008</u>

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>249,596</u>	<u>93,407</u>	<u>(32,629)</u>	<u>310,374</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2023

19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Rochdale Innovation Fund	—	15,000	(15,000)	—
Big Lottery	26,638	—	(26,638)	—
Action Together	500	2,000	(2,500)	—
Kashmir Youth Project	800	—	—	800
Trussell Trust	—	51,750	(51,750)	—
	<u>27,938</u>	<u>68,750</u>	<u>(95,888)</u>	<u>800</u>

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Rochdale Innovation Fund	4,821	15,000	(19,821)	—
Big Lottery	31,398	172,208	(176,968)	26,638
Action Together	500	1,496	(1,496)	500
Kashmir Youth Project	800	—	—	800
Trussell Trust	19,342	—	(19,342)	—
	<u>56,861</u>	<u>188,704</u>	<u>(217,627)</u>	<u>27,938</u>

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,687	—	1,687
Current assets	265,263	800	266,063
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,942)	—	(8,942)
Net assets	<u>258,008</u>	<u>800</u>	<u>258,808</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,250	—	2,250
Current assets	315,506	27,938	343,444
Creditors less than 1 year	(7,382)	—	(7,382)
Net assets	<u>310,374</u>	<u>27,938</u>	<u>338,312</u>

21. Operating lease commitments

A 10 year lease has been signed with Middleton Shopping Centre with a breakclause exercisable by the charity at 5 years. No disclosure has been made due to the commercial confidentiality agreement in the lease.

INSPIRE MIDDLETON

England & Wales - Charity number 1126093

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06624568
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1126093

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2022

SKS BAILEY GROUP LTD

Chartered accountants
Units 10-12 County End Business Centre
Jackson Street
Springhead
Oldham
OL4 4TZ

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2022

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	15
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	16
Statement of financial position	17
Notes to the financial statements	18

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Inspire Middleton
Charity registration number	1126093
Company registration number	06624568
Principal office and registered office	18 Aylesbury Grove Middleton Manchester M24 2TG

The trustees

C.A. Roach
J.L. Roach
K. Hughes
S.M. Howarth
M. Lee
B. Mudzingwa

Independent examiner	Mr A. Brooks F.C.A. Units 10-12 County End Business Centre Jackson Street Springhead Oldham OL4 4TZ
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Structure, governance and management

The current Memorandum and Articles of Association that govern Inspire Middleton are those dated June 2008 as amended by Special Resolution no.1 - dated 3rd September 2008, which are registered with Companies House and which have been accepted by the Charity Commission of England.

All work carried out is as identified in these documents.

Election to the Board of Trustees is open to other individuals or organisations who:

- (a) apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors; and
- (b) are approved by the Directors.

All current and future work is monitored through regular trustee meetings. Trustees will supervise and manage the running of the work to ensure that the charity is compliant with its aims and objectives and operating within the Charity Commissions guidelines as presently constituted.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

Public Benefit Statement

(1) To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Middleton, North Manchester in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

(2) To promote, for the benefit of the public, the efficiency of the police in Middleton, North Manchester and to promote good citizenship and greater public participation in the prevention and solution of crime in the area.

(3) To advance in life and help young people through:

The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

(4) To relieve persons who are in condition of need, hardship or distress by reason of their social and economic circumstances in particular but not exclusively by the provision of a drop in centre.

(5) To provide education and training for the persons referred to in clause 4.

(6) To preserve and protect the good health of the persons referred to in clause 4.

(7) To advance the Christian religion.

The trustees believe that these objectives clearly demonstrate the concept of "public benefit", as specified in Section 4 Charities Act 2011.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance

Introductory comment - Coronavirus Pandemic 2021:

During the year covered by this Trustee report the UK was still experiencing the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic even though many of the restrictions that had been in place during the year 2020/21 had been withdrawn. The Charity was able to operate without significant restrictions being in place, however we have found that the return to our normal level of attendance from both visitors and volunteers was quite slow.

In effect, even though we had maintained high levels of support for people during the pandemic, with regards to the return of physical visits to the Lighthouse Project Hub we were having to significantly rebuild both visitor attendance, and volunteer support of the work.

Charity Overview

Inspire Middleton is a community development charity, and our aims can be summarised by our desire to inspire people, places and organisations. To help people understand why our charity name is not emblazoned on everything that we do, we describe the way we work as 'the plant pot model', because a plant pot is something that helps other things to grow, and the things that are grown are the focus of people's attention more than the pot they are carried in, and so it is with us.

We run a number of community projects and activities through which the charity's objectives are advanced: and these are the names that the public will be more familiar with. They include, the Lighthouse Project, our drop-in style community centre/hub, Middleton Central Foodbank, Lighthouse Money Advice our FCA registered debt service, and the Lighthouse Pantry.

We operate out of leased premises on the second floor of Middleton Shopping Centre right in the heart of Middleton town centre. We moved into these premises in December 2016 on a 3-year short-term lease, and during the last year we have been able to renew our lease for a further ten years running between December 2019 - December 2029.

The building and location makes a significant contribution to the success of our work, it means we are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and in normal non-covid circumstances we also have good regular passing footfall. Our footfall additionally contributes to the wellbeing of the Shopping centre as people visit local shops as well as attending our activities.

The Lighthouse Project is one of our specific charitable objectives, and as a community hub it is used as the main outlet for advancing many of our other charitable aims.

Middleton Central Foodbank is co-located within the Lighthouse Project, and it is run as part of the national **Trussell Trust** foodbank network, in collaboration with local churches, tackling individual crisis, poverty and hardship.

The Lighthouse Pantry is a membership food club that helps people and families who are struggling to cover their weekly/monthly household costs, by offering them access to supermarket surplus food to reduce their weekly food costs so that they have more money to spend on other household costs. The Pantry is part of an emerging national network operating under the banner of 'Your Local Pantry' managed by **Church Action on Poverty**.

The Lighthouse Money Advice service is an FCA accredited debt advice service run as part of the **Community Money Advice network**. The service offers free advice and face-to-face support for people experiencing personal debt and financial crisis. Many of the clients are referrals from the Foodbank, and several of our team are dedicated to supporting Foodbank and Pantry members.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

Highlights and Project Activity Summary

Attendance

Lighthouse Project as a whole

During the year some of the governments Covid-19 isolation and control regulations remained in place, whilst some were gradually being phased out. This meant that for part of the reporting period there were still some restrictions on access to the Lighthouse Project centre and its activities.

The Lighthouse centre itself remained open throughout the period, and the Foodbank, Pantry, and Money Advice service were all kept running. Some projects and services were progressively opened to facilitate a return to activity albeit in modified forms to reduce risk, and accommodate social distancing, etc.

Highlights

1. **Annual Footfall of** - 29,343 visits during the year (84% of pre-covid target) - this would typically have been circa 35,000 visits but this was curtailed by the ability of people to physically attend the centre. As mentioned above we were able to keep all of our emergency & essential activities running, within the limits of the Coronavirus guidelines, with a progressive return of some of our social, leisure, and learning activities as the government Covid-19 restrictions allowed.
2. **Sessions** - during the year we ran 4,573 sessions/activities supporting people's needs.
3. **Individual Visitors** - 1,699 different people/visitors were directly supported during the year.
4. **New Visitors attending** - 927 new people who first visited between July 21 - June 2022.

People/Families Fed

Middleton Central Foodbank

The Foodbank remained open during the entire year. The service had been redesigned during the pandemic to reduce the amount of time people spent waiting for food parcels, and the preparation process was also adapted to reduce risk, and to accommodate social distancing.

Highlights

1. During the reporting period the Foodbank **redeemed 1459 vouchers**, which is above our annual target but a slight reduction on our previous year's achievements. The pandemic saw the emergence of numerous new groups and self-help organisations, including Council led projects that provided alternative sources of free food relief to people in difficulty, who were self-isolating, or who had been told to stay-at-home. So, with all this additional food support available this variance is understandable.
2. The food parcels we issued provided the equivalent of **71,800 meals** during the year, supporting **1993 adults** and **874 children** (2867 in total), who came from **636 different families**.
3. The foodbank **received 28.2 tonnes of food donations** during the year from a variety of groups, individuals and organisations in a typical year prior to the pandemic the donations received would have been around 25 tonnes, so we continued to see a positive increase in donation support.
4. The foodbank **gave away 37.5 tonnes of emergency food** which is **9.3 tonnes above** the amount of food received

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

during the year. This equates to approx. **71,800 meals**. Some of our support also included us donating food to other organisations who provide emergency support themselves, such as our local children's centres, and community centres providing cooked meals and support packages.

We helped these groups so they could sustain the emergency activities they had created, as we believe that they were helping people who may normally have visited us, but due to Covid-19 restrictions were being asked to stay closer to home.

5. We additionally donated to several other new groups and charities providing food in order to help them support different families and individuals in need, e.g. local veteran's groups. We choose not to operate in isolation, and therefore seek to support other groups, who are themselves in need, in just the same way as we too receive support from people who see that we are in need.

6. In a typical year we would normally expect to give out a similar amount of food to what we receive. This year we gave out an **additional 9.3 tonnes** of food above the level of donations received, reflecting the ongoing demand and need for family food support.

7. The **main causes of food crisis** reported to the Foodbank during the year changed from the historic pattern, and this year they were found to be: 1) low income (64%), 2) Debt, 3) benefit delays, 4) Benefit changes, 5) Sickness. This is showing a shift in the reasons families are struggling to make ends meet, where family finances (low income and debt) are now becoming the main causes of difficulty, by a substantial margin.

8. To help us distribute food within the community, the Foodbank has over 75+ referral agencies on its books, which includes, local schools, community groups, churches, and other support agencies. During the pandemic we also accepted and received referrals from many new organisations who were not on our books and who had not been referring into the Foodbank before. We chose to do this to make sure that there were as few barriers as possible for families to get access to crisis food support whilst still maintaining appropriate checks and balances from the referrers.

Lighthouse Pantry

The Lighthouse Pantry remained open for three sessions per week during the entire year and had been operating at this level since May 2020. The service had been modified to allow social distancing and to reduce direct social contact. The project continued to grow during the year increasing the number of members and families it reached and supported.

Highlights

1. The Pantry ran 146 sessions, and supported 3693 member visits during the year. This was a 24% increase in the number of members attending over the same period last year. The growth was driven in part by the ongoing and increasing needs of people struggling with low income and the resulting financial difficulties.

2. We supported 300 different families (62% increase), and within these families there were an additional 402 adults or children, so collectively the Pantry supported 701 people (60% increase).

3. The Pantry supplied over 20 tonnes of food for members to use, equivalent to 47,200 meals, with an estimated retail value of approximately £108,500.

4. During the year a typical members average weekly 'shop' was calculated to have an approximate retail value of £27.37, which meant that for every £1 members spent (£3.50 per week) they received an average of £8.39 worth of food in return! This is an excellent social return of value for them.

5. This produced a potential saving of £1,294 per family on their annual food bills, which leaves more money available for other household expenditure, which is one of the primary aims of the Pantry.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

6. In addition to this, during December 2021 - February 2022 we covered the cost of the weekly membership fee for each family, so they received 12 weeks of free food support, worth a further £42.

Collectively the Pantry and Foodbank provided food support for 3568 individuals from 936 families.

Financial & debt support

Lighthouse Money Advice

The Lighthouse Money Advice service remained open and active for the whole of the year. Initially when the pandemic started we had to stop all face-to-face interaction and switch to remote access only, however as restrictions eased during the year we were able to reintroduce face-to-face appointments for some elements of the service in controlled settings.

The impact of the pandemic in many ways created a delay in terms of people requesting debt support because the government placed embargoes on some types of debt collection, evictions, etc. This meant that some clients benefited from the relief that these measures brought. The downside however, meant they didn't always come forward to get support because the pressures had eased. As the Covid-19 protection measures came to an end we started to see a growing number of people requesting help for debt relief or financial support.

Highlights

1. During the year we had 306 different clients (96% increase) who made use of our service on at least one occasion, experiencing collective personal debts estimated at £772,620 in total value.
2. Of these we had 149 new clients (180% increase) requesting support.
3. From the clients supported during the year, £215,423 worth of debts were removed by Debt Relief Orders (DRO's), and a further £25,257 was written off by creditors - totalling £240,680 of debt relief. Many other clients tackled their debts through the use of other options such as Debt Management Plans valued at circa £27,333, or Bankruptcy valued at £16,940.
4. For clients helped with benefit advice we recorded £175,067 worth of benefit increases or expenditure reductions during the year.
5. For each client/family supported by the service the knock on benefits of improvement in health, mental health and general wellbeing are clear to see once they start to get help, or they see their debts/benefits being reduced/increased, or removed. In many cases these improvements are considered by the clients as 'significant', and some would even say 'life changing'.

Employment skills and getting back into work

We were able to offer some employability support during the year, however this was still mainly by remote interaction with some limited face-to-face engagement as restrictions allowed. During the year the governments furlough scheme was in place supporting employees of businesses that were unable to trade during the various lockdowns, and encouragements to 'work at home'. This meant that many retained their jobs even though some companies were not operational.

Highlights

1. During the year we supported **58 people who were looking to improve their life chances** by developing their employability skills and to help them get back into work, or improve their chances of getting back into work.

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

2. Of these people we recorded **149 attendances** for activities related to actively looking for work, improving their job hunting skills, and improving work place skills through online learning and face-to-face appointments.

3. We provided CV support for 54 people, and 8 people specifically told us that they had managed to get back into work. The real figure is likely to be more than this, potentially 30+ people, based on the number of CV requests we received from employers prior to clients starting. It is par for the course that unfortunately not everyone comes back to tell us of their successes.

Family and Children support - Toy Appeal

Over the last four years we have organised an annual 'Toy Appeal' aimed at collecting toys and games from the general public to support Lighthouse Project families, and others who may be referred to us from partner organisations, including local schools and foodbank referral agencies. It is intended to ensure that as many families as possible that we work with, or are connected to, are able to have some toys and gifts to open at Christmas.

This year we again worked with local organisations, individuals, and schools to collect toy donations for giving out. Middleton Shopping Centre (our landlord), and our local Tesco Extra, and other groups helped us with the promotion and setting up of collection points. Both also donating toys themselves. In the shopping centre a 'Giving Tree' was used as an alternative to their regular annual Santa's Grotto which was not possible due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions. It is safe to say that we were inundated with toys, gifts and financial support for the Appeal.

Highlights

1. We were inundated with local support providing toys, gifts and financial donations.
2. We were able to support **187 children** from **74 different families**. Each child receiving at least one main present, 4 medium presents, 3 small presents, a game, book, confectionery, and stocking fillers.
3. 17 children came from the **Lighthouse Project** and **foodbank families**, 66 children were referred through **local schools**, 86 children came from **Pantry families**, and 18 children came from **Lighthouse Money Advice families**.
4. The local schools, as well as nominating children, also arranged fun themed toy collections, sponsored runs and devised other interesting ways of giving toys and donating money.
5. We received over £1,500 in cash/voucher and online donations which help us buy targeted gifts and gift cards to fill gaps in the types of toys donated, and so we could help and support different aged children. This made sure that no-one missed out.
6. We also supported another local community centre, Burnside, who we work with regularly, by providing them with additional toy donations from which they were able to set up a 'toy bank' to support some of their own families.

Social Leisure and Health Activities

These are the groups and activities which were most affected and impacted by the pandemic, as they generally all involve close social contact or interaction. Therefore, many of these activities remained suspended during this year. However, when the easing of restrictions allowed, and it was safe to do so, we did start to facilitate the return of some activities. We supported and encouraged people whenever we could.

Highlights

1. During the year we started to re-open some social and leisure activity groups as the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and people felt safe and confident to return.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

2. We ran **1,018** social/leisure/health related sessions/activities which were attended by **732 different people**.

3. These activities included physical events, such as walking, leisure activities/interest groups, and some social groups/gatherings.

Other Achievements and Developments

Core Staff: This year we particularly want to acknowledge and give thanks and appreciation to our core staff team who have worked so hard during the season of the Covid19 Pandemic, Pam Semp, Cath Stott, Dave Melia, and myself, Carl Roach, who all live locally in Middleton, and who have such a great passion to see the Community changed and transformed through our work. This team have worked relentlessly over the last few years, and their willingness to adapt and change in response to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is to be greatly commended.

With the loss of 80% of our volunteers at the start of the Covid-19 restriction this meant that a lot of responsibility shifted onto the shoulders of this core team. There was a moment at the beginning of the pandemic when circumstances were such that we seriously considered closing down and hibernating the whole project. However, in our hearts we knew we couldn't do that, and there was fresh agreement and commitment to do whatever was necessary to keep on serving the community through challenging times.

The collaboration and flexibility of the team was key to making all the changes to our services work, and they underpinned all that we did and were offering. Well done, and thank you! Much of your work may have been unseen by the majority, but it didn't go unnoticed by those of us who see behind the scenes.

In June 2022 we sadly lost Dave Melia, our support worker, who passed away after a determined fight with cancer, and a short period of care in Springhill Hospice. We want to acknowledge his memory and lasting legacy. Dave had been a volunteer with us before joining our staff team 6 years ago, and his passing is a great loss to us, and also to all the many other people who he has helped, supported, and inspired over the years he has worked at the Lighthouse Project. A familiar face that is sadly no-longer with us. He has always had a heart to serve and support people, and we miss him.

Volunteers: Our volunteer support has been severely impacted by the pandemic. Pre-pandemic we had 60+ regular volunteers who came into the centre on different days to support all the activities we run. During the pandemic our volunteer numbers dropped to approximately 12 people, see below, and post-pandemic whilst this number has increased, it is still less than half it was in early 2020. This reduction is currently having a noticeable impact upon our ability to recover and restore our services to pre-pandemic levels. But we are confident it will happen.

When the Coronavirus pandemic first hit in February 2020 we virtually lost the whole of our volunteer workforce overnight as the majority were told by the government to self-isolate due to age or health conditions, or because they lived with people who were classed as vulnerable to the virus, and as such they too should isolate themselves.

The impact of this was immediate and it required us to re-evaluate every aspect of our work to consider how it could continue, and in what form. We had to ensure that everything we did would remain safe to operate. This reduction in volunteer numbers also meant that our core staff team were forced to carry the brunt of the workload in the absence of volunteer support, as mentioned above. So, there was some adaptation of job roles in response to the need to redesign all the services so we were able to continue to operate.

We managed to retain some of our 'younger' volunteers, whose health wasn't as at risk as others, and we were able to recruit some new volunteers to help us form two small teams. We had one team who supported the Foodbank and one team who supported the Pantry, along with the staff team underpinning these and all other activities. This model helped us form 'work bubbles' to reduce risks and avoid cross contamination in work areas which worked well and was only changed as full restrictions were eased.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

We maintained a volunteer WhatsApp group and used this throughout the year to keep in regular touch with all the volunteers who were isolating. This was a two-way thing allowing those who felt alone at home to keep in touch with us, and their fellow volunteers, as well as us being able to provide them with regular updates. Obviously at the time no-one foresaw how long the pandemic and restrictions would actually be in place, and no-one could have imagined restrictions would have lasted in excess of 2 years.

The volunteers valued this ongoing connection and some were keen to return to duties once they are allowed, whilst for others their life priorities changed which meant that they were not in a position to return to their former volunteering roles, and so they stepped back. As a gesture of our appreciation for the team of volunteer who remained working with us through the pandemic, and beyond, into recovery, we arranged a 'thank you' meal at a local restaurant. This particular group of volunteers helped ensure we were able to remain open during the pandemic, and made sure our crisis support services could remain available for people to use. They definitely helped us keep feeding the many families that came to us in need.

Our Premises: Our building, and location in Middleton Shopping Centre, makes a significant contribution to the success of our work, it means we are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and we also have good regular passing footfall (when not in the midst of a pandemic). We are accessible to the whole community. It's a great place for a community hub.

During the pandemic, despite having less volunteers on hand, we were able to make some improvements to our facilities, which included improvements to ventilation, heating and deep cleaning some of the spaces that had been temporarily mothballed.

Our in-person footfall dropped by nearly half during the main years of the pandemic, but we have started to see a recovery of attendance as restrictions have eased. We are not yet back up to the pre-pandemic levels that we would like to see, but the trend is upward, and we can see a confidence returning for people to get back to out and doing things again, which is good.

Development of our Systems and facilities: this is an ongoing process where we review and adapt our infrastructure and admin systems to continually improve the way that we work.

We have enhanced our activity recording and general record keeping, which is making a difference, and providing us with better insights into the impact we are having giving us greater opportunity to tell a more complete story. These help give us the ability to develop our capacity, and improve how we serve and support, which makes us a more robust and stronger organisation.

Areas we have been working on include:

1. Improved staff communication and management.
2. Improvement of Visitor and Activity database (Lamplight) to record information about individual attendance, progression and engagement, as well as activity recording and summary analysis.
3. Software updates for managing Pantry membership and payments, including the introduction of online and contactless payments.
4. Stocktaking software for Pantry stock management improving our understanding of the financial benefit that Pantry membership receive.
5. Specialist Debt management software and client engagement software.
6. Promotion of our new 120 seat capacity conference, training and events room, which was completed just as the Covid-19 pandemic started. This space is a resource for the community which also allows us to run new social and leisure activities for larger groups and more events that need more space, e.g. tea-dances, armchair exercises, table tennis competitions, exhibitions, and larger group meetings.
7. Updating and development of the Lighthouse Project website.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

Our Community Impact

During the year we know that not as many people have been able to physically attend the Lighthouse Project to make use of the facilities. However, this doesn't mean that we have remained static, or that our impact has been reduced. It may have changed but it hasn't been reduced.

Our response to the pandemic has been to adapt, adjust and to continue to make ourselves available providing essential support and encouragement for people during these times of difficulty. We believe that we have been successful in this, and the presence of the Reaching Communities funding gave us complete stability during the uncertain times of the Covid-19 crisis. It allowed us to focus on what we needed to focus on, which was the adaption of our services and methods of support to ensure that we were still able to serve and be there for the Community. The funding ensured that we didn't have to close down.

Our biggest and most noticeable impact in this particular year has definitely been through our two food projects. We have been able to maintain and expand both projects, and grow the amount of support that families and individuals have received from us during these difficult times. We have been able to make sure that families had food on their table, that they were able to feed their kids, and that they were also able to save money so they could meet other household bills/cost.

Collectively the two food projects have served and supported **3568 individuals** (Adults and Children) from **936 different families**, and provided the equivalent of **119,000 meals**.

Our Lighthouse Money advice service has also seen significant growth in demand and it has been a life-line to many new people this year, with close to 100% increase in the number of clients being helped to face over **£770,000 worth of debt**. It has been able to support clients during very difficult and changing times.

With funding from different partners we have been able to grow the capacity of the team, adding new specialist debt and benefit staff, to help meet the demand which is greater than our current capacity can serve. We have already seen that demand increase, and as more and more of the Covid related support, benefits and employment support provisions get switched off demand is not likely to reduce. In addition, many predicted a significant post-covid increase in families struggling with their finances, this has now become true because of the added 'energy' and 'cost of living' crisis that the nation is experiencing.

Partnership Working: Our model of operation is built upon partnership and collaboration, so, in addition to our own work we also partner with and support other groups and organisations with their work, so for example we donated lots of toys to the Burnside Centre on Langley, and this helped them to start a 'Toy Bank' for local families, we also helped them and others with bulk food donations in support of their efforts to prepare meals for families and individuals. We also supported several breakfast and after school clubs providing children with meals.

There were many organisations, agencies and support groups that closed their doors during the pandemic, and where this happened some of that need and demand came to our door instead. Thankfully we were able to remain open during this time to offer continuity of support and encouragement for people where we could.

One example of this is Middleton DIAL, a local disability charity that rented some rooms from us to run their community wheelchair hire service. During the latter part of 2021 the ageing volunteers of the charity wanted to step down so they have been working towards closing the charity.

As part of this they asked the Lighthouse Project if we would continue their work under our own banner, which we started doing in October 2021. So, through this working relationship they have been able to wind down and we have been able to continue supporting the disabled community of Middleton with a vital wheelchair hire service.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

Things we've learned

Person Centred/Whole person Approach

With regards things we have learned, some are new and some are a reinforcement of what we already believed to be true, one example being the value of a person centred approach when offering support. This is one of the founding principles upon which the work of the Lighthouse Project is built, and whilst we have always believed this to be true its value in recent years has been more widely recognised and adopted by other groups.

When at one time our model of co-location and joint working was not widely used it is now becoming the aspiration of many organisations. So, where the work of some charities and projects originally started with a single focus, e.g. Foodbanks or Pantry's just providing people with food, it is now recognised that they need to provide additional 'wrap around' support to make sure that the people they help can be helped in a more whole person way.

A good example of this for ourselves is the three-stranded approach of the Foodbank, Pantry and LMA money advice service. Each has its own speciality, however by working together and cross referring they can help people move away from crisis and return to being more self-sufficient. For example, if someone is in crisis and ends up at the Foodbank, they will get food, but if their crisis is as a result of financial difficulties they can be supported by the debt or benefit adviser to improve their situation, and after a while we can move them from using the Foodbank into becoming a member of the Pantry, where they still save money but are on a progressive journey to recovery.

This is where the benefit of being whole person/person centred project comes into its own. Everyone who uses the Lighthouse Project comes in via a different doorway depending upon their need or circumstances, but once inside we don't just help them in one way and then say 'goodbye', through relationship and active listening we pick up on, or become aware of other needs that they might have, and then we are able to link them up with the other services and activities within the centre so that they can progress in those areas of their life too.

For us it's all about helping people to cope with or remove the burdens they are carrying alone, and giving them access to opportunities, and helping them to develop their own potential and find ways of solving problems or needs. We do stuff 'with' people, not 'to' them.

Whilst we by necessity have processes for our work, we are not process driven, we are people focussed, developing relationships and not just routines.

Relationship and Trust

We have found it is not always about the quality of service that you provide, although this is important, or whether you actually solve someone needs, the key thing that people are often looking for is the quality of welcome, relationship and trust that they can develop with you. If you are successful in these areas then the impact of the work is amplified quite significantly, even if all you did was make someone a cup of tea and listen to their needs.

Again one of our foundational aims is to provide a 'safe place' within the community where people know they will get a good welcome, will be listened to, and supported to achieve whatever it is they want to achieve. Time and time again we see people open up to our staff and volunteers in ways that they haven't with other types of organisation. People are often guarded when they talk to agencies or council or housing associations, so their underlying needs may not be fully explained or revealed. Yet, when they feel safe and welcomed, they will then often ask for support or share a deeper need.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

Change, and the need to adapt is not always a bad thing

The pandemic caused us all to look at what we did, and to evaluate how we could do it differently to meet the needs of the day. Several things that we have learnt from this experience is that 'change is not always a bad thing', and that 'adaptation can actually make a service better'.

During the core of the pandemic all of our services were changed and adapted, and some of the changes we made to how those services were run we have now retained as it actually made the service better. On the flip side, there are some aspects of the adaptations that helped us to be more efficient when we needed to, but now that the pandemic has eased we need to restore some of the things that were lost or removed from the service, e.g. restoration of face-to-face engagement.

We have learnt that we can be adaptable, and change is not to be feared and that actually a fresh look at the way things are done can prove positive and illuminating. We have always been a reflective organisation and open to change, however the extent of change that the pandemic response required was fairly significant and involved all areas of work all at the same time. We successfully navigated this and made it work to our advantage, so we are no longer afraid of change, and realise how adaptable and flexible we can actually be when needs must.

Emerging needs - how the challenge of low income affects every area of life

We have always been an organisation that responds to need, this is one of the reasons that the parent charity Inspire Middleton was set up, to help improve people, places and organisations. So, responding to need is not new to us.

During the last few years however, we have seen one particular need begin to grow and expand to the extent that it now threatens the daily lives of a significant section of our community - that of low income, which then often leads to related indebtedness, and decline of health/mental health, and possibly destitution.

Low income and debt is both a campaign topic as well as a practical reality. We are not yet a campaigning organisation, but we may well be drawn into this advocating on behalf of people if the local economics don't improve, and people's lives become less sustainable. We are clearly already helping people with the practical impact of low income, through the provision of access to food, and/or helping them with debts and benefits. But these needs are growing, along with the associated impact on mental and physical health and wellbeing. There were previously many needs in these areas already, but we can clearly see that the next few years are likely to expose much greater needs than those currently manifesting.

A solution needs to be found, and maybe it is actually many solutions rather than just one, of how to help people to increase their income, or reduce their expenditure. This is not just simple budgeting as many of the expenses people have are not within their ability to change, e.g. energy costs, rents, council tax, etc.

For us this just strengthens our resolve to remain whole person focussed and people centred, to strengthen the safe space, co-located services that we offer, and to build more bridges that people can walk across to thus improve their lives and gain access to opportunities.

Working Relationships with other organisations

Here is a selection of the organisations we have worked with during the year, or who have used the Lighthouse to provide services / activities for visitors.

- Action Together - voluntary sector support
 - Alkrington & Junction GP surgeries,
 - All Saints & Martyrs C of E Church Langley,
 - Ashdown Phillips - MSC management
 - Better Health 4 Middleton - community activist group
 - BOC - Cardiac Care services
 - Church Action on Poverty - Lighthouse Pantry
 - Community Connectors - RMBC advisers
 - Community Money Advice - Lighthouse Money Advice
-

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

- EnergyWorks - Drop-in support group
- Fareshare - Food recycling - Lighthouse Pantry
- FareshareGO - supermarket surplus
- Getir - local food delivery organisation
- Inspire Community - missional community
- Job Centre Plus - Middleton,
- Long Street Methodist Church,
- Many local schools and community groups through the Foodbank referral agency network
- Middleton DIAL, - disability charity
- Middleton Photography Group - community camera club
- Middleton Rotary - Community humanitarian group
- Middleton Shopping Centre - promotions and support
- Mills Hill Baptist Church,
- Morrisons Supermarket Whitefield - Foodbank donations
- Neighbourly - surplus food distribution
- Positive Steps - careers service for young people,
- RBH - Rochdale Boroughwide Housing,
- Rochdale Council - Adult Care, Revenue & Benefits Service, Welfare team
- Rochdale Healthwatch - independent voice on health for the community- Riverside Housing
- Royal British Legion - Middleton
- Soul Sisters - Women's Domestic Abuse support group
- Tesco Extra Middleton branch, and Tesco Express branches
- The Hive, Drs Stockton & Thompson - Boarshaw Clough surgery
- The National Lottery - Reaching Communities Fund
- Trussell Trust - national Foodbank network charity
- UK Online Centres (Good Things Foundation),
- Veterans in Community - Veterans support group
- Your Local Pantry - Pantry food network

Financial review

During the year unrestricted funds have increased from £249,596 to £310,374. Restricted income of £188,704 was received during the year with £217,627 of its related expenditure occurring before the year end.

The trustees have reviewed the reserve policy and established the need to maintain at least six months expenditure, for the Lighthouse Project, in reserve. Current reserves are sufficient to meet this requirement.

In June 2022 the 3-year National Lottery Reaching Communities grant funding that covered the majority of the Lighthouse Project's core costs came to an end. A renewal application for extension of the funding was unsuccessful, so, we are now seeking new sources of funding to cover the projects ongoing core costs from July 2022 onwards.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

Plans for future periods

With regards to the future, and the upcoming year, our biggest and most immediate challenges are:

1. Re-engaging with new and former visitors letting them know that the Lighthouse Project is once again fully open and ready to serve, and that we are available to welcome and support them with their needs as we have always done.
2. Recruitment of new volunteers to restore and build up our volunteer capacity to its pre-pandemic levels so that we can maintain our recovery and once again offer a full and varied selection of activities.
3. To develop and expand our donor and funder base in support of our growth, and to help us in our ambition to be more self-sufficient and less reliant on short-term grant funding.

We have been encouraged that since progressively re-opening we have already seen a return of familiar faces and groups, which is a good start. There is still a lot who haven't returned, so in some ways it feels like we are having to start afresh in building up our visitor family and reaching new people.

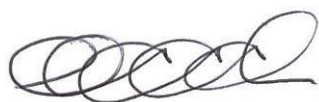
We don't envisage any fundamental changes to how we operate in the coming year, although we are keen to re-establish all face-to-face services and renew and restore the relational basis of our work. We have learnt a number of lessons from having to adapt and rethink our methods and approach during Covid and about how some activities could be delivered in different and better ways.

Review and reflection will be an ongoing process especially as we see new needs and emerging issues that begin to show themselves in the community and wider society. Thankfully our structure and team dynamic allows us to be light of foot in adapting to change and meeting new needs. So this is something we have confidence in being able to do in the year to come.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 22 December 2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

Inspire Middleton

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (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:

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 accounts to be reached.



Mr A. Brooks F.C.A.
Independent Examiner

Units 10-12 County End Business Centre
Jackson Street
Springhead
Oldham
OL4 4TZ

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Activities
(including income and expenditure account)
Year ended 31 March 2022

		Unrestricted funds	2022 Restricted funds	Total funds	2021 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and grants	5	66,065	188,704	254,769	289,207
Other trading activities	6	27,315	–	27,315	7,095
Investment income	7	27	–	27	120
Total income		<u>93,407</u>	<u>188,704</u>	<u>282,111</u>	<u>296,422</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	32,629	217,627	250,256	210,781
Management and overhead recharges	10	–	–	–	(2,905)
Total expenditure		<u>32,629</u>	<u>217,627</u>	<u>250,256</u>	<u>207,876</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>60,778</u>	<u>(28,923)</u>	<u>31,855</u>	<u>88,546</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		249,596	56,861	306,457	217,911
Total funds carried forward		<u>310,374</u>	<u>27,938</u>	<u>338,312</u>	<u>306,457</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 18 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	15		2,250	3,000
Current assets				
Debtors	16	20,810		3,054
Cash at bank and in hand		322,634		316,019
		<u>343,444</u>		<u>319,073</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>7,382</u>		<u>15,616</u>
Net current assets			<u>336,062</u>	<u>303,457</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>338,312</u>	<u>306,457</u>
Net assets			<u><u>338,312</u></u>	<u><u>306,457</u></u>
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			27,938	56,861
Unrestricted funds			310,374	249,596
Total charity funds	20		<u><u>338,312</u></u>	<u><u>306,457</u></u>

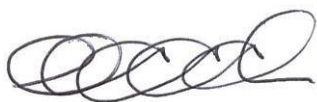
For the year ending 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- 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;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

The notes on pages 18 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2022

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 18 Aylesbury Grove, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2TG.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates: 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.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

- 25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. The liability of the members of the company, as set out in the Memorandum of Association is limited to £10 per member in the event of the company being wound up whilst they are a member or within a year of ceasing to be a member.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

5. Donations and grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	42,895	–	42,895
Donations Lighthouse Project	1,232	–	1,232
Donations Foodbank	11,971	–	11,971
Donations LMA	300	–	300
Donations Pantry	205	–	205
Donations Toy Appeal	55	–	55
Donations DIAL	233	–	233
Grants			
Big Lottery	–	172,208	172,208
Good Things Foundation	–	–	–
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,600	–	3,600
RMBC Innovation Fund	–	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	3,574	–	3,574
Action Together	2,000	1,496	3,496
Kashmir Youth Project	–	–	–
RMBC Covid funding	–	–	–
Riverside	–	–	–
	<u>66,065</u>	<u>188,704</u>	<u>254,769</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	18,376	–	18,376
Donations Lighthouse Project	1,008	–	1,008
Donations Foodbank	21,165	–	21,165
Donations LMA	1,200	–	1,200
Donations Pantry	4,383	–	4,383
Donations Toy Appeal	2,125	–	2,125
Donations DIAL	–	–	–
Grants			
Big Lottery	–	156,086	156,086
Good Things Foundation	3,281	–	3,281
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,300	–	3,300
RMBC Innovation Fund	–	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	6,234	23,250	29,484
Action Together	–	5,999	5,999
Kashmir Youth Project	–	800	800
RMBC Covid funding	25,000	–	25,000
Riverside	–	2,000	2,000
	<u>86,072</u>	<u>203,135</u>	<u>289,207</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Room hire	17,405	17,405	345	345
Dial sales and rentals	1,714	1,714	–	–
Pantry subscriptions	8,196	8,196	6,750	6,750
	<u>27,315</u>	<u>27,315</u>	<u>7,095</u>	<u>7,095</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>27</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>120</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Inspire Middleton	–	3,866	3,866
Lighthouse Project	835	171,389	172,224
Middleton Central Foodbank	13,395	827	14,222
Lighthouse Money Advice	9,694	40,186	49,880
Lighthouse Pantry	8,670	1,000	9,670
DIAL	35	–	35
Support costs	–	359	359
	<u>32,629</u>	<u>217,627</u>	<u>250,256</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Inspire Middleton	7,804	5,530	13,334
Lighthouse Project	3,892	126,325	130,217
Middleton Central Foodbank	13,294	5,630	18,924
Lighthouse Money Advice	942	27,699	28,641
Lighthouse Pantry	5,772	13,449	19,223
DIAL	–	–	–
Support costs	–	444	442
	<u>31,704</u>	<u>179,077</u>	<u>210,781</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2022 £	Total fund 2021 £
Inspire Middleton	3,866	–	3,866	13,334
Lighthouse Project	172,224	–	172,224	130,217
Middleton Central Foodbank	14,222	–	14,222	18,924
Lighthouse Money Advice	49,880	–	49,880	28,641
Lighthouse Pantry	9,670	–	9,670	19,223
DIAL	35	–	35	–
Governance costs	–	359	359	442
	<u>249,897</u>	<u>359</u>	<u>250,256</u>	<u>210,781</u>

10. Management and overhead recharges

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Management charges	–	–	(2,905)	(2,905)
	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(2,905)</u>	<u>(2,905)</u>

11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	750	1,000
	<u>750</u>	<u>1,000</u>

12. Independent examination fees

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	384	384
	<u>384</u>	<u>384</u>

13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	160,184	107,004
Social security costs	7,405	3,674
Employer contributions to pension plans	3,334	2,687
	<u>170,923</u>	<u>113,365</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

13. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 9 (2021: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Number of support staff	6	5
Number of administrative staff	1	1
Number of management staff	2	2
	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year £34,692 (2021: £28,636) was paid to C.A. Roach a trustee of the charity for his employment as Development Manager. No monies were paid for any trustee duties undertaken.

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	1,000	1,000
Charge for the year	750	750
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,750</u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,250</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>

16. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	5,927	748
Prepayments and accrued income	14,762	2,185
Other debtors	121	121
	<u>20,810</u>	<u>3,054</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	46	1,235
Accruals and deferred income	3,845	1,378
Social security and other taxes	2,976	2,197
Other creditors	515	10,806
	<u>7,382</u>	<u>15,616</u>

18. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £3,334 (2021: £2,687).

19. Covid 19

Inspire Middleton has been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic and this has resulted in a change to the way we have been able to deliver our services and activities during this year. Details of how our activities were affected are described in the trustees report. The funders confirmed our grant support would be unaffected and this gave us financial stability.

20. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>249,596</u>	<u>93,407</u>	<u>(32,629)</u>	<u>310,374</u>

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>185,108</u>	<u>93,287</u>	<u>(28,799)</u>	<u>249,596</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

20. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Rochdale Innovation Fund	4,821	15,000	(19,821)	–
Big Lottery	31,398	172,208	(176,968)	26,638
Action Together	500	1,496	(1,496)	500
Kashmir Youth Project	800	–	–	800
Trussell Trust	19,342	–	(19,342)	–
Riverside	–	–	–	–
	<u>56,861</u>	<u>188,704</u>	<u>(217,627)</u>	<u>27,938</u>

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
Rochdale Innovation Fund	2,686	15,000	(12,866)	4,820
Big Lottery	29,617	156,086	(154,304)	31,399
Action Together	500	5,999	(5,999)	500
Kashmir Youth Project	–	800	–	800
Trussell Trust	–	23,250	(3,908)	19,342
Riverside	–	2,000	(2,000)	–
	<u>32,803</u>	<u>203,135</u>	<u>(179,077)</u>	<u>56,861</u>

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,250	–	2,250
Current assets	315,506	27,938	343,444
Creditors less than 1 year	(7,382)	–	(7,382)
Net assets	<u>310,374</u>	<u>27,938</u>	<u>338,312</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,000	–	3,000
Current assets	262,212	56,861	319,073
Creditors less than 1 year	(15,616)	–	(15,616)
Net assets	<u>249,596</u>	<u>56,861</u>	<u>306,457</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2022

22. Operating lease commitments

A 10 year lease has been signed with Middleton Shopping Centre with a breakclause exercisable by the charity at 5 years. No disclosure has been made due to the commercial confidentiality agreement in the lease.

INSPIRE MIDDLETON

England & Wales - Charity number 1126093

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06624568
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1126093

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2021

CHRISTOPHER BAILEY ACCOUNTANTS (OLDHAM) LIMITED

Chartered accountants
Units 10-12
County End Business Centre
Jackson Street
Springhead
Oldham
OL4 4TZ

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2021

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	12
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	14
Statement of financial position	15
Notes to the financial statements	16

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Inspire Middleton
Charity registration number	1126093
Company registration number	06624568
Principal office and registered office	18 Aylesbury Grove Middleton Manchester M24 2TG
The trustees	C.A. Roach J.L. Roach K. Hughes S.M. Pitt M. Lee B. Mudzingwa
Independent examiner	Mr C. Bailey A.C.A. Units 10-12 County End Business Centre Jackson Street Springhead Oldham OL4 4TZ

Structure, governance and management

The current Memorandum and Articles of Association that govern Inspire Middleton are those dated June 2008 as amended by Special Resolution no.1 - dated 3rd September 2008, which are registered with Companies House and which have been accepted by the Charity Commission of England.

All work carried out is as identified in these documents.

Election to the Board of Trustees is open to other individuals or organisations who:

- (a) apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors; and
- (b) are approved by the Directors.

All current and future work is monitored through regular trustee meetings. Trustees will supervise and manage the running of the work to ensure that the charity is compliant with its aims and objectives and operating within the Charity Commissions guidelines as presently constituted.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Objectives and activities

Public Benefit Statement

(1) To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Middleton, North Manchester in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

(2) To promote, for the benefit of the public, the efficiency of the police in Middleton, North Manchester and to promote good citizenship and greater public participation in the prevention and solution of crime in the area.

(3) To advance in life and help young people through:

The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

(4) To relieve persons who are in condition of need, hardship or distress by reason of their social and economic circumstances in particular but not exclusively by the provision of a drop in centre.

(5) To provide education and training for the persons referred to in clause 4.

(6) To preserve and protect the good health of the persons referred to in clause 4.

(7) To advance the Christian religion.

The trustees believe that these objectives clearly demonstrate the concept of "public benefit", as specified in Section 4 Charities Act 2011.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Achievements and performance

Introductory comment regarding the Coronavirus Pandemic 2021:

During the year which this Trustee report covers the UK was still in a state of restricted operation due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic (Covid-19). As a result we were still operating under government restrictions aimed at controlling the spread of Coronavirus within the UK.

On 23rd March 2020 the UK went into a formal state of 'Lockdown' which required many businesses and organisations to close their activities completely, or to operate in new restricted formats. These restrictions affected the work of the Charity as of that date.

In practical terms this meant that the vast majority of our volunteer work-force went into immediate shielding, or self-isolation, because they, or close family members, had specific health conditions, or because they were in certain age groups considered to be 'at-risk'.

We were also required to close all of our non-essential activities and social groups with immediate effect. Overnight we lost use of 60+ volunteers, however a few were able to continue volunteering and we were able to recruit some new ones, which left us with a small team of 11 plus our core staff of 6.

With this team we were able to continue operating some of our services, such as the Foodbank, Pantry, and Money Advice debt service, as these were considered to be 'essential services' for helping and supporting people affected by the immediate crisis.

We were able to do this by:

- a) redesigning the way each project operated and engaged with the public,
- b) by adding in new Covid-Safe ways of working, along with appropriate policies and procedures
- c) by reassigning some of our staff duties, and
- d) by recruiting some new volunteers who were not affected by the government health restrictions.

Charity Overview

Inspire Middleton is a community development charity, and our aims can be summarised by our desire to inspire people, places and organisations. To help people understand why our charity name is not emblazoned on everything that we do, we describe the way we work as 'the plant pot' model, because a plant pot is something that helps other things to grow, and the things that are grown are the focus of people's attention more than the pot they are carried in, and so it is with us.

We run a number of community projects and activities through which the charity's objectives are advanced: and these are names that the public will be more familiar with. They include, the Lighthouse Project, our drop-in style community centre/hub, Middleton Central Foodbank, Lighthouse Money Advice our FCA registered debt service, and the Lighthouse Pantry.

We operate out of leased premises on the second floor of Middleton Shopping Centre right in the heart of Middleton town centre. We moved into these premises in December 2016 on a 3-year short-term lease, and during the last year we have been able to renew our lease for a further ten years running between December 2019 - December 2029.

The building and location that we are in makes a significant contribution to the success of our work, it means we are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and in normal non-covid circumstances we also have good regular passing footfall. Our footfall also contributes to the wellbeing of the Shopping centre as people visit local shops as well as attending our activities.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

The Lighthouse Project is one of our specific charitable objectives, and as a community hub it is used as the main outlet for advancing many of our other charitable aims.

Middleton Central Foodbank is based and co-located within the Lighthouse Project, and it is run as part of the national **Trussell Trust** foodbank network, in collaboration with local churches, to help tackle individual crisis, poverty and hardship.

The Lighthouse Pantry is a membership food club that helps people and families who are struggling to cover their weekly/monthly household costs, by offering them access to supermarket surplus food to reduce their weekly food costs so that they have more money to spend on other household costs. The Pantry is part of an emerging national network operating under the banner of '**Your Local Pantry**'.

The Lighthouse Money Advice service is a FCA accredited debt advice service run as part of the **Community Money Advice network**. The service offers free advice and face-to-face support for people experiencing personal debt and financial crisis. Many of the clients are referrals from the Foodbank.

Highlights and Project Activity Summary

Attendance

Lighthouse Project as a whole

Due to the lockdown and social isolation regulations in place throughout the year, we were in Tier 4 or full lockdown for the majority of the reporting period, we were unable to allow the usual unrestricted access to the Lighthouse Project centre and its activities. However, the Lighthouse centre was kept open right throughout the pandemic and we were able to redesign our essential services. The Foodbank, Pantry, and Money Advice service were all kept running albeit in a modified form to reduce risk, and accommodate social distancing, etc. Most of our other activities and groups were understandably put on hold. Some groups subsequently met externally to the Lighthouse, and some continued online via zoom.

Highlights

1. Annual Footfall of - 13,620 visits during the year (40% of pre-covid target) - this would typically have been circa 35,000 visits but this was curtailed by the ability of people to physically attend the Centre. As mentioned above we were able to keep our emergency activities running, within the limits of the Coronavirus guidelines, but unfortunately all of our social and leisure activities that involved close physical contact remained closed, as the government Covid restrictions required.
2. Sessions - during the year we ran 3383 sessions/activities supporting people's needs, covering 51,500+ hours of delivery.
3. Individual Visitors - 873 different people were directly supported.
4. New Visitors attending - 449 new people who first visited between April 20 - March 2021

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

People/Families Fed

Middleton Central Foodbank

The Foodbank remained open during the entire year. The service was redesigned to reduce the amount of time people spent in the centre waiting for food parcels, and the food parcel process was also adapted to reduce risk from direct contact and to accommodate social distancing.

Highlights

1. During the reporting period the Foodbank **redeemed 1754 vouchers** during the year, which is above our target however it was a slight reduction on our previous years achievements. The pandemic saw the flourishing of numerous groups and self-help organisations, including Council led projects, that provided alternative sources of free food relief to people in difficulty, or who were self-isolating, or who had been told to stay-at-home. So, with all this additional food support available this variance in our regular distribution of food is understandable. That said, the amount of food we distributed during the year actually increased by 50% as we supported many new organisations delivering emergency pandemic related food support in addition to our normal family food parcels.

2. The food parcels we issued provided the equivalent of **108,480 meals** during the year for **2580 adults and 1524 children** (4104 in total), who came from **576 different** families.

3. The foodbank **received 59.2 tonnes of food donations** during the year from a variety of groups, individuals and organisations, including many donations directly from Tesco and Morrisons warehouses rather than from customer collection points. In a typical year prior to the pandemic the donations received would have been around 25 tonnes, so we saw a 130% increase in donations.

4. The foodbank **gave away 45.2 tonnes of emergency food** during the year, approx. **108,480 meals**, which is a significant increase on the 30 tonnes given away in the previous year. Some of our support was to other organisations who were providing emergency support themselves, such as our local children's centres and community centres who were providing cooked meals and support packages.

We supported these groups so they could sustain the emergency activities that they had created. We believed that they were helping people who may normally have visited us, but due to lockdown restrictions were being asked to stay closer to home. We additionally donated to several other new groups and charities providing food to help them support families and individuals in need.

5. In a typical year previous to the pandemic we would normally expect to give out about 25 tonnes of food, which generally matches the level of donations received.

6. The **main causes of food crisis** during the year changed from the historic pattern, and were found to be: 1) low income, 2) sickness, 3) benefit delays, 4) debt. Benefit changes which used to be the highest cause dropped to 6th place. This shows a shift in the reasons families are struggling to make ends meet.

7. To help us with our increased collections and deliveries we invested in a used light goods van during the year. In the past we had been supported a lot via the use of volunteers vehicles, but as our volunteer pool drastically reduced we needed to make a strategic provision to make sure we could handle the increase in food donations. This was very helpful as the diversity of organisations making donations increased, and people preferred for us to collect rather than them having to come out to drop-off, especially during the various periods of lockdown.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Lighthouse Pantry

The Lighthouse Pantry remained open for three sessions per week during the entire year and operated at the increased level that we had started in May 2020. The service was modified to accommodate social distancing and to reduce any direct social contact. The project grew significantly during the pandemic and increased its reach and support during the year.

Highlights

1. The Pantry ran **172 sessions**, and supported **3445 member visits during the year**. This was a 77% increase in the number of members and families attending over the same period last year. The growth was helped by the additional weekly session which gave us greater capacity, increasing from 2 to 3 sessions per week, and being able to access additional food deliveries from FareShareGM.
2. We supported **175 different families** (20% increase), and within these families there were an additional 258 adults or children, so collectively the Pantry has supported **433 people**.
3. The Pantry supplied over **22.6 tonnes of food** for members to use, equivalent to 53,300 meals, with an **estimated retail value of close to £106,000**.
4. An average weekly 'shop' was calculated to have an approximate retail value of **£37.43**, so for **every £1 members spend (£3.50 / week) they received an average of £10.69 worth of food in return!**
5. This produced a potential **saving of £1,695.50 per family on their annual food bills**, leaving more money available for other household expenditure.
6. In addition to this, during **December 2020 - February 2021** we covered the cost of the weekly membership fee for each family, so they received 12 weeks of free food support, worth a further £42.

Financial & debt support

Lighthouse Money Advice

The Lighthouse Money Advice service remained open and active for the whole of the year. Initially when the pandemic started we had to stop all face-to-face interaction and switch to remote access only, however as restrictions eased during the year we were able to reintroduce face-to-face appointments for some elements of the service in controlled settings.

The impact of the pandemic has been mixed in terms of people requesting debt support. During the year the government placed embargoes on some types of debt collection, evictions, etc., which meant that some clients benefited from the relief that these measures brought. However, on the downside it meant that they didn't always come forward to get support because the pressures had eased. As some these covid protection measures have come to an end we have started to see a growing number of people requesting help for debt relief or support.

Highlights

1. During the year we had **84 different clients** who made use of our service on at least one occasion, experiencing collective personal debts estimated at **£674,000 in total value**.
2. From the clients supported, **£221,300 worth of debts** were removed by Debt Relief Orders (DRO's), and a further **£25,300 were written off** by creditors - **totaling £246,600 of debt relief**. Many other clients tackled their debts through the use of **Debt management Plans valued at circa £79,000**.
3. For each client/family involved the knock on benefits of significant improvement in health, mental health and general wellbeing are clear to see once their debts have been removed, or reduced.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Employment skills and getting back into work

We were still able to offer some employability support during the year, however this was mainly by remote interaction with some limited face-to-face engagement as restrictions allowed. During the year the governments furlough scheme was in place supporting employees of businesses that were unable to trade during the various national and local lockdowns. This meant that many people were able to retain their jobs even though companies were not operational.

Highlights

1. During the year we supported **63 people who were looking to improve their life chances** by developing their employability skills and to help them get back into work, or improve their chances of getting back into work.
2. Of these people we recorded **208 attendances** for activities related to actively looking for work, improving their job hunting skills, and improving work place skills through online learning and face-to-face appointments.
3. We provided **CV support for 45 people**, and **10 people** specifically told us that they had managed to **get back into work**. The real figure for getting back into work is likely to be more than this, potentially 33 people, based on the number of CV requests we received from employers prior to clients starting, unfortunately not everyone comes back to tell us of their successes.
4. We helped **30 people to create and set up new email accounts**, and uploaded 33 client CV's to online jobsites, with a further 39 being printed off and sent to clients.

Family and Children support

Over the last three years we have organised an annual 'Toy Appeal', which is aimed at collecting toys and games from the general public to support Lighthouse Project families, and others who may be referred to us from partner organisations, including local schools and foodbank referral agencies. It is intended to ensure that as many families as possible that we work with, or are connected to, are able to have some toys and gifts to open at Christmas.

We have used the Key 103 Christmas toy appeal in the past but this year we decided to work with a number of local organisations, individuals, and schools to collect donations on our behalf instead. Our local Tesco Extra and Middleton Shopping Centre (our landlord) helped us this year with promotions, setting up collection points, and donating toys themselves. In the shopping centre a 'Giving Tree' was set up an alternative to their annual Santa's Grotto which was not possible due to lockdown restrictions. We were inundated with toys, gifts and financial support.

Highlights

1. We were inundated with local support providing toys, gifts and financial donations.
2. We were able to support **207 children from 83 different families**. Each child received at least one main present, 4 medium presents, a game, a book and some confectionery.
3. 22 children came from **foodbank** families, 98 children were referred through **local schools**, 80 children came from **Pantry** families, and 7 children came from Lighthouse **Money Advice** families.
4. The local schools, as well as nominating children, also arranged fun themed collections, sponsored runs and devised other interesting ways of giving toys and donating money.
5. We received over £2,300 in cash donations and online appeals which help us buy targeted gifts and gift cards so we could help and support a wide range of different aged children. No-one missed out.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Social Leisure and Health Activities

These are the groups and activities which were mostly affected and impacted by the pandemic, as they all involve close social contact or interaction. Therefore, all of these activities reluctantly remained suspended during this year. We were aware that some individuals and groups were meeting up under their own steam during the year, either in-person outside when allowed, or via zoom type conference calls. We supported and encouraged them where we could.

Other Achievements and Developments

Volunteers: our volunteer support has been severely impacted by the pandemic. Typically we have around 60 regular volunteers who come in on different days and support different activities. When the Coronavirus pandemic first hit us in February 2020 we virtually lost the whole of our volunteer workforce overnight as the majority were told by the government to self-isolate due to age or health conditions, or they lived with people who were classed as vulnerable to the virus, and as such should isolate themselves.

The impact of this was immediate and required us to re-evaluate every aspect of our work to consider how it could continue, and in what form, and so that it would remain safe to operate. Our staff team were forced to carry the brunt of the workload in the absence of volunteer support, so, there was some adaptation of job roles and functions as we were forced to redesign the essential services that we were continuing to operate.

We managed to retain some of our younger volunteers, who's health wasn't as at risk as others, and we were able to recruit some new volunteers to help us form two small teams. We had one team who supported the Foodbank and one team who supported the Pantry. With the staff team supporting these and all other activities. This helped us form 'work bubbles' to reduce risks and avoid cross contamination in work areas. This worked well and is still in operation until full restrictions are eased.

We set up a volunteer WhatsApp group and used this throughout the year to keep in regular touch with all the volunteers who were isolating. This was a two-way thing and it allowed those who felt alone at home to keep in touch with us, and their fellow volunteers, as well as us being able to provide them with regular updates. Obviously at the time no-one foresaw how long the pandemic and restrictions would actually be in place. The volunteers have really valued this ongoing connection with us and most are really keen to return to duties once they are allowed.

As a gesture of our appreciation for their support we arranged to have a 2021 Lighthouse Project Calendar printed which was full of volunteer pictures and activities, and we gave/sent one to each volunteer as a gift.

Our Premises: When we first moved into Middleton Shopping Centre we secured a short term 3-year lease, and this time passed very quickly. In December 2019, after some long negotiations we were able to sign a 10-year lease for our premises. This has some stepped rental increases built into it which will require us to do additional fundraising, however it has given us stability in terms of our locality.

The building and location makes a significant contribution to the success of our work, it means we are centrally located, have ease of access in terms of transport and disabled facilities, and we also have good regular passing footfall (when not in the midst of a pandemic). Our footfall contributes to the wellbeing of the Shopping centre and surrounding premises as people visit the shops as well as attending our activities.

Development of our Systems and facilities: we continued to make improvements to our infrastructure and admin systems to improve the way that we work, and to enhance our activity recording and general record keeping. These are making a difference, and provide us with better insights giving us greater opportunity to tell a more complete story. These are also helping us to become a more robust and stronger organisation, and they give us the ability to develop our capacity, and improve how we serve and support.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Areas we have been working on include:

1. HR Software for improved staff communication and management.
2. Software for management of Pantry membership and payments, including online and contactless payments.
3. Stocktaking software for improved Pantry stock management and to inform us of the financial benefit that Pantry membership receive.
4. Development of our Visitor database for improved attendance recording and analysis.
5. Improvement of Visitor and Activity database (Lamplight) to record information about individual attendance, progression and engagement, as well as activity recording and summary analysis.
6. Specialist Debt management software and client engagement software.
7. Upgrading of visitor PC's by providing with newer models to improve speed of access and upgrade capacity, and to provide additional PC's and handheld tablets for visitors to use.
8. Introduction of a new 120 seat capacity conference, training and events room, to allow us to run new social and leisure activities for larger groups and more events that need more space, e.g. tea-dances, armchair exercises, table tennis competitions, exhibitions, and larger group meetings.
9. Update of our Lighthouse Project website.
10. Purchase of a light goods van to support the foodbank and Lighthouse Project.

Our Community Impact

During the year we know that not as many people have been able to physically attend the Lighthouse Project to make use of the facilities. However, this doesn't mean that we have remained static, or that our impact has been reduced. It may have changed but it hasn't been reduced. Our response to the pandemic has been to adapt, adjust and to continue to make ourselves available providing essential support and encouragement for people during these times of difficulty.

Our biggest impact has definitely been through our food projects where we have been able to maintain, and grow the support that families and individuals have received during these difficult times. We have been able to make sure families had food on their table and were able to save money so they could meet other household bills/cost.

Our debt advice service has also been a life-line to many, and it has been able to support clients during very changing and difficult times. This work has also grown and will continue to do so more and more as covid support, benefit support, and employment support provisions get switched off. Many are predicting that the latter months of the year will see a significant increase in families struggling with their finances.

In addition to our own work we have been able to partner and support other groups and organisations with their work, so for example we donated lots of toys to the Burnside Centre on Langley (another Lottery supported organisation), and this helped them to start a 'Toy Bank' for local families, we also helped them and others with bulk food donations in support of their efforts to prepare meals for families and individuals. We also supported several breakfast and after school clubs providing children with meals.

There were many organisations, agencies and support groups that closed their doors during the pandemic, and where this happened some of that need and demand came to our door instead. Thankfully we were able to remain open during this time to offer continued support and encouragement where we could.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Working Relationships with other organisations

Here is a selection of the organisations we have worked with during the year, or who have used the Lighthouse to provide services / activities for visitors.

- **Action Together** - voluntary sector support
- **Alkrington & Junction GP surgeries**
- **All Saints & Martyrs C of E Church** Langleigh
- **Ashdown Phillips** - MSC management
- **Better Health 4 Middleton** - community activist group
- **Church Action on Poverty** - Lighthouse Pantry
- **Community Connectors** - RMBC advisers
- **Community Money Advice** - Lighthouse Money Advice
- **Drs Stockton & Thompson** - Boarshaw Clough surgery
- **EnergyWorks** - Drop-in support group
- **Fareshare** - Food recycling - Lighthouse Pantry
- **FareshareGO** - supermarket surplus
- **Job Centre Plus** - Middleton
- **Long Street Methodist Church**
- **Many local schools and community groups** through the Foodbank referral agency network
- **Middleton DIAL** - disability charity
- **Middleton Photography Group**
- **Middleton Shopping Centre** - promotions and support
- **Mills Hill Baptist Church**
- **Morrisons Supermarket Whitefield** - foodbank donations
- **Positive Steps** - careers service for young people
- **RBH - Rochdale Boroughwide Housing**
- **Riverside Housing**
- **Royal British Legion** - Middleton
- **Tesco Extra Middleton branch**
- **UK Online Centres** (Good Things Foundation)

Financial review

During the year unrestricted funds have increased from £185,108 to £249,596. Restricted income of £203,135 was received during the year with £179,077 of its related expenditure occurring before the year end.

The trustees have reviewed the reserve policy and established the need to maintain at least six months expenditure, for the Lighthouse Project, in reserve. Current reserves are sufficient to meet this requirement.

Plans for future periods

With regards to the future, and the upcoming year, our biggest challenge will be to re-engage with visitors and volunteers who have not visited us for over 12 months, close on 18 months at the time of writing. We have been encouraged that since partly re-opening some of our services and groups we have already seen a return of familiar faces which is a good start. We hope that more will return after the summer holiday season and beyond, and when we re-open our coffee bar refreshment area.

We don't envisage any fundamental changes to how we operate in the coming year. We have learnt a number of lessons from having to adapt and rethink our methods and approach during Covid and about how some activities could be delivered in different ways.

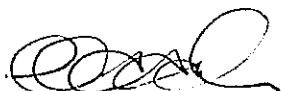
Review and reflection will be an ongoing process especially as we see new needs and emerging issues that begin to show themselves as more and more of the covid restrictions ease and support provisions are progressively stopped.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 23 December 2021 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton
Year ended 31 March 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Inspire Middleton ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (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:

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).

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inspire Middleton *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

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

Mr C. Bailey A.C.A.
Independent Examiner

Units 10-12
County End Business Centre
Jackson Street
Springhead
Oldham
OL4 4TZ

20 December 2021

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Activities
(including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2021

		Unrestricted funds	2021 Restricted funds	Total funds	2020 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and grants	5	86,072	203,135	289,207	250,412
Other trading activities	6	7,095	–	7,095	22,774
Investment income	7	120	–	120	210
Total income		<u>93,287</u>	<u>203,135</u>	<u>296,422</u>	<u>273,396</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	31,704	179,077	210,781	224,144
Management and overhead recharges	10	(2,905)	–	(2,905)	(250)
Total expenditure		<u>28,799</u>	<u>179,077</u>	<u>207,876</u>	<u>223,894</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>64,488</u>	<u>24,058</u>	<u>88,546</u>	<u>49,502</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		185,108	32,803	217,911	168,409
Total funds carried forward		<u>249,596</u>	<u>56,861</u>	<u>306,457</u>	<u>217,911</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	15		3,000	–
Current assets				
Debtors	16	3,054		5,333
Cash at bank and in hand		316,019		222,320
		319,073		227,653
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	15,616		9,742
Net current assets			303,457	217,911
Total assets less current liabilities			306,457	217,911
Net assets			306,457	217,911
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			56,861	32,803
Unrestricted funds			249,596	185,108
Total charity funds	20		306,457	217,911

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- 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;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23 December 2021, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



C.A. Roach
Trustee

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2021

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 18 Aylesbury Grove, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2TG.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates: 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.

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2021

5. Donations and grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	18,376	–	18,376
Donations Lighthouse Project	1,008	–	1,008
Donations Foodbank	21,165	–	21,165
Donations LMA	1,200	–	1,200
Donations Pantry	4,383	–	4,383
Donations Toy Appeal	2,125	–	2,125
Grants			
Big Lottery	–	156,086	156,086
Good Things Foundation	3,281	–	3,281
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,300	–	3,300
RMBC Innovation Fund	–	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	6,234	23,250	29,484
Action Together	–	5,999	5,999
Rochdale Township	–	–	–
Kashmir Youth Project	–	800	800
Tesco Bags of Help	–	–	–
RMBC Covid funding	25,000	–	25,000
Riverside	–	2,000	2,000
	<u>86,072</u>	<u>203,135</u>	<u>289,207</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations			
Donations Inspire Middleton	18,491	–	18,491
Donations Lighthouse Project	5,362	–	5,362
Donations Foodbank	5,898	–	5,898
Donations LMA	300	–	300
Donations Pantry	248	–	248
Donations Toy Appeal	–	–	–
Grants			
Big Lottery	–	182,461	182,461
Good Things Foundation	5,125	–	5,125
RMBC Foodbank Contribution	3,300	–	3,300
RMBC Innovation Fund	–	15,000	15,000
Trussell Trust	4,053	–	4,053
Action Together	–	1,000	1,000
Rochdale Township	–	6,974	6,974
Kashmir Youth Project	–	1,200	1,200
Tesco Bags of Help	–	1,000	1,000
RMBC Covid funding	–	–	–
Riverside	–	–	–
	<u>42,777</u>	<u>207,635</u>	<u>250,412</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2021

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Room hire	345	345	16,662	16,662
Pantry subscriptions	6,750	6,750	6,076	6,076
Other income	—	—	36	36
	<u>7,095</u>	<u>7,095</u>	<u>22,774</u>	<u>22,774</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	<u>120</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>210</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Inspire Middleton	7,804	5,530	13,334
Lighthouse Project	3,892	126,325	130,217
Middleton Central Foodbank	13,294	5,630	18,924
Lighthouse Money Advice	942	27,699	28,641
Lighthouse Pantry	5,772	13,449	19,223
Support costs	—	444	442
	<u>31,704</u>	<u>179,077</u>	<u>210,781</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Inspire Middleton	—	4,112	4,112
Lighthouse Project	18,900	153,354	172,255
Middleton Central Foodbank	5,621	7,704	13,325
Lighthouse Money Advice	—	22,883	22,883
Lighthouse Pantry	4,053	7,028	11,081
Support costs	—	489	488
	<u>28,574</u>	<u>195,570</u>	<u>224,144</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2021 £	Total fund 2020 £
Inspire Middleton	13,334	–	13,334	4,112
Lighthouse Project	130,217	–	130,217	172,505
Middleton Central Foodbank	18,924	–	18,924	13,325
Lighthouse Money Advice	28,641	–	28,641	22,883
Lighthouse Pantry	19,223	–	19,223	11,081
Governance costs	–	442	442	238
	<u>210,339</u>	<u>442</u>	<u>210,781</u>	<u>224,144</u>

10. Management and overhead recharges

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Management charges	<u>(2,905)</u>	<u>(2,905)</u>	<u>(250)</u>	<u>(250)</u>

11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,000</u>	<u>–</u>

12. Independent examination fees

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>384</u>	<u>300</u>

13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	107,004	110,850
Social security costs	3,674	6,010
Employer contributions to pension plans	2,687	3,100
	<u>113,365</u>	<u>119,960</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

13. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2020: 6). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Number of support staff	5	3
Number of administrative staff	1	1
Number of management staff	2	2
	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year £28,636 (2020: £29,810) was paid to C.A. Roach a trustee of the charity for his employment as Development Manager. No monies were paid for any trustee duties undertaken.

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicle £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	—	—
Additions	4,000	4,000
At 31 March 2021	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2020	—	—
Charge for the year	1,000	1,000
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2021	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

16. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	748	3,583
Prepayments and accrued income	2,185	1,616
Other debtors	121	134
	<u>3,054</u>	<u>5,333</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,235	77
Accruals and deferred income	1,378	6,831
Social security and other taxes	2,197	1,945
Other creditors	10,806	889
	<u>15,616</u>	<u>9,742</u>

18. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £2,687 (2020: £3,100).

19. Covid 19

Inspire Middleton has been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic and this has resulted in a change to the way we have been able to deliver our services and activities during this year. Details of how our activities were affected are described in the trustees report. The funders confirmed our grant support would be unaffected and this gave us financial stability.

20. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General funds	185,108	93,287	(28,799)	249,596

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£
General funds	147,671	65,761	(28,324)	185,108

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31 March 2021

20. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
HMR Clinical Commissioning Group	–	–	4,265	4,265
Rochdale Boroughwide Housing	–	–	–	–
Rochdale Innovation Fund	2,686	15,000	(12,866)	4,820
Big Lottery	29,617	156,086	(158,569)	27,134
Santander Community Fund	–	–	–	–
Rochdale Township	–	–	–	–
Tesco Bags of Help	–	–	–	–
Action Together	500	5,999	(5,999)	500
Kashmir Youth Project	–	800	–	800
Trussell Trust	–	23,250	(3,908)	19,342
Riverside	–	2,000	(2,000)	–
	<u>32,803</u>	<u>203,135</u>	<u>(179,077)</u>	<u>56,861</u>

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£
HMR Clinical Commissioning Group	9,265	–	(9,265)	–
Rochdale Boroughwide Housing	423	–	(423)	–
Rochdale Innovation Fund	–	15,000	(12,314)	2,686
Big Lottery	6,829	182,461	(159,673)	29,617
Santander Community Fund	1,221	–	(1,221)	–
Rochdale Township	–	6,974	(6,974)	–
Tesco Bags of Help	3,000	1,000	(4,000)	–
Action Together	–	1,000	(500)	500
Kashmir Youth Project	–	1,200	(1,200)	–
Trussell Trust	–	–	–	–
Riverside	–	–	–	–
	<u>20,738</u>	<u>207,635</u>	<u>(195,570)</u>	<u>32,803</u>

Inspire Middleton
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*
Year ended 31 March 2021

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,000	–	3,000
Current assets	262,212	56,861	319,073
Creditors less than 1 year	(15,616)	–	(15,616)
Net assets	249,596	56,861	306,457

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	–	–	–
Current assets	194,850	32,803	227,653
Creditors less than 1 year	(9,742)	–	(9,742)
Net assets	185,108	32,803	217,911

22. Operating lease commitments

During the year a 10 year lease was signed with Middleton Shopping Centre with a breakclause exercisable by the charity at 5 years. No disclosure has been made due to the commercial confidentiality agreement in the lease.