CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1130461

Details

Other names	CRESCENT FURTHER EDUCATION LIMITED
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Company number	06774578
Registered	2009-07-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Crescent Purchasing Ltd Procurement House Unit 23 Leslie Hough Way Salford M6 6AJ
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Website	www.thecpc.ac.uk

Activities

Objects: 2 OBJECTS 2.1 THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED: A) TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CHARITIES AND THE EFFECTIVE USE OF CHARITABLE RESOURCES BY: (I) PROVIDING SERVICES FOR FURTHER EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION, SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL BODIES TO PROMOTE GOOD PRACTICE AND ENHANCE AND IMPROVE THEIR PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES; AND (II) ADVANCING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN PROCUREMENT PROVIDED THAT ALL THE USEFUL RESULTS OF SUCH RESEARCH ARE PUBLISHED; (B) TO PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF LEARNERS IN FURTHER EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION, SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL BODIES, INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR (BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION) BY ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND THE FUNDING OF PROJECTS FOR EDUCATION IN THOSE BODIES.

Activities: Provision of a purchasing frameworks and related support, resources and training for the further education sector.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, NATIONAL
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£6,181,902	£5,776,907	£7,658,253	86
2024-07-31	£6,036,761	£4,916,550	£7,184,258	80
2023-07-31	£5,204,750	£4,582,425	£6,848,047	80
2022-07-31	£4,660,485	£4,619,370	£5,729,722	74
2021-07-31	£3,945,508	£3,881,739	£2,524,607	66

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew John Comyn	Chair	2016-03-24
Aimee Williams		2024-05-01
Andrew James Woodford		2026-02-01
Fatima Bensihem		2020-11-11
John Charles Dowell		2026-02-01
Katherine Jarvis		2025-03-01
LAWRENCE JENKINS		2018-02-01
Lydia Roseann Sparrow		2024-05-01
Peter Kane		2019-06-05
Rehman Noormohamed		2025-03-01
Sapna Patel		2025-03-01
Simon Joshua Jacobs		2024-05-01

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1130461

Accounts

CRESCENT
Purchasing Consortium

CPC Annual Report

2024/25

We Give Back to the Education Sector

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Front cover photos, from left to right:

- CPC Supplier Excellence Awards 2024
- CPC staff members at the Schools & Academies Show 2024
- CPC staff volunteering day at Ladybarn Park in Withington
- Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College ‘Giving Back’ donation
- Hopwood Hall College ‘Giving Back’ project
- CPC Inclusion Cup 2025
- CPC staff members at the Education People Show 2024

Chair of Charity report

Dear Members and Stakeholders,

The year has been marked by significant achievements and progress, reflecting our unwavering commitment to our mission and values. The dedicated team at Crescent Purchasing Consortium have worked tirelessly to navigate any challenges and seize opportunities, ensuring that we continue to make a positive impact within the education sector.

We have seen continued growth in membership figures, our service offering, learning and development resources and our income, thanks to the support and collaboration of our members, suppliers, partners, and volunteer trustees. Together, we have made strides in advancing our goals and setting new benchmarks for success. This report highlights our key accomplishments, financial health, and strategic priorities for the coming year.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed to the charity's work. Your dedication and support have been instrumental in our success, and I look forward to continuing our work together to achieve even greater milestones.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and trust.

Sincerely,

Andy Comyn

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

The charity is extremely proud of the £2 million+ designated for reinvestment into the education sector.

Andy Comyn
Chair of Trustees

Who are CPC

About Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC)

We help educational institutions to buy products and services whilst making time and cost savings!

Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC) provide purchasing frameworks, dynamic purchasing systems (DPS) and procurement consultancy services for schools, academies, colleges, universities and other educational organisations.

CPC frameworks/DPS

Our purchasing agreements make procurement quicker, easier and safer as the lengthy tender process has already been done for you in compliance with the UK procurement law. You can get quotes from the fully-vetted suppliers by using our online quote tools and many of our frameworks are recommended by the Department for Education.

CPC procurement consultancy

If you need help running a tender or require a managed procurement service try our expert education sector procurement consultancy. Our dedicated team provide onsite and offsite procurement services.

A charity which invests in the education sector

Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC) is the trading name of Crescent Purchasing Limited a not-for-profit charitable organisation. CPC is here to support the education sector with its income being generated via a small percentage value of sales resulting from suppliers providing goods and services for CPC members utilising frameworks and consultancy services.

CPC is a registered charity and each year our Board of Trustees review the level of reserves our charity has and any surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. We have designated £2 million+ for a range of projects in the education sector through our 'Giving Back' initiative which provides funding for grants for student events and activities, CPD accredited procurement training and so much more.

You can rely on CPC suppliers

Each of our 1100+ framework suppliers has been fully vetted and has been through a full CPC tender process to gain a place on our frameworks.

Our people are here to help

We offer specialist advice on spending practices and provide support to help our educational institution members get the best value for money.

The CPC team is made up of over 80 experienced and dedicated professionals. Our procurement experts can provide support and guidance via our:

- Helpdesk for general enquiries
- Technical enquiries across our portfolio of 80+ frameworks
- Consultancy services offering support on tenders, remote and onsite support
- 1 to 1 support and guidance via our Regional Procurement Advisors by region
- Crescent Services Limited (CSL) a CPC subsidiary who provide frameworks and procurement consultancy services for the wider public sector

Collaboration

CPC works in collaboration with the Department for Education (DfE) and United Kingdom University Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC).

Constitution

Crescent Purchasing Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

10,500+ member community

80+ compliant frameworks

19 frameworks approved by the DfE

Over £2m reinvested into the education sector

£474m spend through CPC's frameworks

£123.2m spend through outsourced catering service agreement

Achieved £6m of income

£10.3m savings for our Managed Service customers

Online resources and templates via Crescent Learning

Launched CPC Inclusion Cup with Manchester United Foundation

Supported members with the launch of the Procurement Act 2023

Delivered 13 webinars that benefitted 931 members

2024-25 Highlights

A Year of Impact: Performance, Progress, and Key Achievements

Vision, Mission and Values

The Vision, Mission and Values of the Charity have been reviewed by the Trustees and Group Leadership Team (GLT) following consultation with all employees.

This was to ensure that these remain relevant to what the charity is aiming to achieve and how it currently operates.

These changes were approved by the Board of Trustees in July 2025 and will be reviewed again in 2027 for the launch of the new 5-year business plan.

Our vision

To be the first-choice procurement services charity that gives back to the education sector.

Our mission

We want our members to receive outstanding procurement services.

Our Values

PEOPLE FIRST

We provide a caring, inclusive, and supporting environment that focuses on individual needs to enable our people to be the best they can be.

CUSTOMERS ALWAYS

Everything we do is for the benefit of our customers, to help them provide the best service possible to their learners.

EXCELLENCE

We are 100% committed to delivering the highest-quality services that exceed expectations, with continuous improvement at the heart of what we do.

Report of the Trustees

CPL was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL) was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education (DfE) and shares frameworks with the United Kingdom University Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC).

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPC.

On 1 August 2024 Tenet merged into its parent company, CPL. All trade, assets and liabilities transferred into CPL after which Tenet ceased trading and was dissolved on 13 May 2025. On 2 August 2024 TPS changed its name to Crescent Services Limited (CSL).

The Board of Trustees consists of representatives of members colleges, Multi-Academy Trusts and the private sector.

Resignations

D Thornton resigned from the Board on 7th March 2025.

CPC are in the process of recruiting two additional Trustees from the Further Education sector which will bring the number of Trustees to 12, its maximum compliment. This will be ratified at the AGM in December. Andy Comyn, the current Chair of Trustees will step down as a Trustee at the AGM as he has fulfilled his 9-year maximum tenure. Steps will be taken to appoint a new chair at the AGM.

Trustee vacancies are advertised via social media channels and charityjob.co.uk. There is a bespoke induction pack and programme for all new Trustees. Trustees are not paid for their services.

The Board meets three times a year to determine strategy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPC is delegated to the Managing Director and his employees. The Group Leadership Team (GLT) is made up of four senior managers plus the Managing Director.

A new sub-committee, the Employment and Finance Committee (EFC) was created last year and met for the first time in October 2024. This committee comprises the Chair of Trustees plus two other Trustees with financial and employee relations expertise, the Managing Director and the Head of Finance and People. Voting rights are reserved for the Trustees only. This committee meets three times a year, one month in advance of each main Board meeting. Terms of reference for the EFC have been created with the focus for the committee being to scrutinise the financial statements and monthly management accounts in greater depth, review and approve the annual budget and review in detail all financial and employee related policies and procedures.

The pay and remuneration of employees is agreed annually as part of the budget setting process. Each post is benchmarked against similar roles within similar sized organisations. The pay and remuneration of members of the GLT and the Managing Director is reviewed every three years by an external consultant under the guidance of the EFC.

On 31 July 2025 CPC had 10,677 members, an increase in the year of 579. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. The ambition set out in the current 5-year business plan is to reach 15,000 members by 2027.

Although progress is currently behind schedule the completion of several planned initiatives should see significant member increase over the next two years.

Charitable objectives

The focus of the charity, both in its "Giving Back" initiative and the daily operational activities is on supporting our members in their quest to adequately help and support the following:

- Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- The physical and mental wellbeing of learners (with or without SEND)
- Absenteeism

The Board of Trustees, senior management and employees fully support this focus and the positive impact CPC, with their efforts will have on people's lives.

The Charity's objects have been reviewed to reflect this new focus with an additional object added (see (b) below). This was passed at the AGM in December 2024. The Charity's objects are stated below with progress made through the year covered:

a) to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:
(i). Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.
CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by consultancy teams providing a procurement managed service which has recorded £10.3M of savings this year on current contract terms across 43 customers and on-demand tendering services.

In February 2025 the new Procurement Act came into force. All CPC procurement technical employees completed the Cabinet Office Expert Practitioner training in preparation for the new Act and several colleagues have completed the further "deep-dive" sessions with peers from across the wider public sector.

This ensures that CPC are best placed to cascade knowledge and support members through the legislative process and ensure their procurement activities are compliant.

An increase in communications through newsletters, webinars and a dedicated Procurement Act page on the CPC website has raised members' awareness of the change in law. CPC has also spent a lot of time supporting Members and Clients with:

- Training for the Procurement Act 2023
- Training for all aspects of the procurement process as applied to the sector
- Development of new templates for compliance with the new Procurement Act 2023

CPC has been building relationships with key agencies, such as the Cabinet Office, Department for Education (DfE), Association of Colleges and Institute of School Business Leaders to further embed good practices within the sector.

CPC has also been supporting its suppliers to deliver procurement-related advice to their customers buying through CPC frameworks and supporting suppliers with their transition to tendering under the new Procurement Act.

(ii). Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

Crescent Learning is the flagship under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to advancing education and research activities in procurement.
The Charity continues to fulfil its commitment through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party training providers and webinars for CPC member employees. This includes online

It’s been another really strong year for CPC, not just on the balance sheet but in the culture and energy running through the organisation. The real win is that this isn’t a one off; we’re stacking successful years on top of each other, which feels like a double, if not triple, achievement. It’s an honour to be involved in something that keeps raising the bar and still feels like it’s just getting started.

Simon Jacobs
Trustee

webinars by CIPS and BIP Solutions and a wide range of webinars designed by CPC. These courses and webinars will ultimately be added into the Crescent Learning library. The ambition is to replicate this offer to framework suppliers by providing a resource area for their employees to advance their procurement knowledge.

During the year, 34 training courses were funded covering subjects such as writing a tender specification, ethical procurement and supply, evaluation techniques and developing and managing contracts. Many online webinars were attended covering advanced contract management, basic principles of contract law and an overview of the education sector. A total of 5,235 active engagements were recorded from member users gaining access to training development material to advance their knowledge in procurement.

In July 2024, to celebrate CPC reaching its 10,000th member landmark the Trustees approved £10,000 being designated from reserves to contribute towards a procurement training related initiative made available for CPC members to bid for. Four employees from within membership institutions were successful in securing funding for CIPS Level 4 training. The four students will be mentored through the course by CPC's Learning and Development Lead. The popularity of this initiative was such that CPC will be allocating the same level of funding each year.

CPC continues to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and the Further Education Facilities Management Network (FEFMN). These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on CPC services.

CPC is currently replacing the Further Education Library of Procurement (FELP) which is a free to access online learning resource portal for all members. This will merge into Crescent Learning with the new portal going live on the CPC website in September 2025. This will contain learning and template resources required by members to meet the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023. The ambition is for CPC to obtain CPD accreditation for the learning content it produces through this channel.

b) to promote the education of learners in further education, higher education, schools and other educational bodies, including in particular (but without limitation) assisting in the provision of facilities and the funding of projects for education in those bodies.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 £2.1Million has been identified as Designated and Restricted Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £1.044Million had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £576,780 spent during 24/25.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions, the second-round saw £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid during 2021/22 and in the third round during 2023/24 we paid £201k to 33 institutions.

During this financial year a fourth grant funding window was opened with £622k awarded to 96 institutions (several grants are yet to be paid as at 31st of July 2025). The grants awarded are supporting projects that are aligned with our charitable focus of supporting SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism.

This year CPC funded the 'CPC Inclusion Cup' in partnership with the Manchester United Foundation. The event involved the participation of several Greater Manchester college SEND learners, who came together for a football tournament at the iconic 'The Cliff' training ground, ending the day with a tour of the theatre of dreams - the Manchester United football ground. The team that won the tournament were treated to tickets for Manchester United's final home game of the 2024/25 season against Aston Villa.

The £1.6 million of reserves paid out to date has supported thousands of learners of all ages. Details of some of the fantastic initiatives we have supported can be found on the CPC website. The Trustees and CPC employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

Several Trustees work in educational institutions which are members of CPC and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no Trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid to an institution linked to a Trustee will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

The Trustees oversee the charitable objectives of the charity with due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

£1.6M OF RESERVES PAID OUT, SUPPORTING THOUSANDS OF LEARNERS.

FOURTH GRANT WINDOW OPENED, AWARDING £622K TO 96 INSTITUTIONS.

Kathleen Johnson, Contracts Manager and Louise Ashcroft, Regional Procurement Advisor

Governance and Leadership

Governance and Leadership

The Trustees are committed to the highest standards of Governance and recognise that this is only achieved through continual improvement.

The Charity Governance Code is used as guidance and support for future improvements. In the build up to and during each Board meeting over the last two years the Trustees have taken one of the seven principles included in the code and identified areas where further improvements can be made which will form part of the continual Board development process.

Five principles have been covered to date covering the following topics:

- Organisational purpose
- Board effectiveness
- Leadership
- Integrity
- Decision making, risk and control

The Trustees have completed an annual skills assessment for the last three years and these have identified skills gaps within the Board which have mostly been addressed with the appointment of three new Trustees in March. The charity is proud to have a Board that has the most diversity it has ever had with the greatest breadth of skills. This will only benefit the charity going forward. There are however some remaining knowledge gaps amongst the Trustees and a comprehensive learning and development programme has been created to address this over the next twelve months.

The Trustees have approved a Trustee Performance Review Process which will incorporate a Board Development Plan alongside collective Board performance reviews every three years and an annual individual Trustee performance review.

The Crescent Services Limited Board consists of three directors: the Chair of CPC, the Managing Director of CPC and the Head of Finance and People of CPC. This is to improve efficiency and governance with separate Board meetings being held in advance of the main Charity Board meetings.

The GLT acknowledge that the organisation requires effective leadership at every level to achieve the Group's Mission and Vision. A new training and development programme for all managers is in place. This involves all managers commencing on the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) level 3 accreditation course over the next two years, with some progressing to level 5. This is funded by the Apprenticeship Levy. CPC has several cash investments in line with its Treasury Management Policy. The Trustees require that all investments be carried out ethically and have agreed that for now the charity will refrain from equity investments.

The Head of Finance and People regularly monitors not only the credit ratings of institutions the charity invests its cash with but also the environmental sustainability performance of the listed institutions and reports on this through the Employment and Finance Committee. The environmental sustainability performance is measured using the Good Shopping Guide as reference and is based on several criteria incorporating environmental reporting, destruction, carbon disclosure & reduction, responsible investment, ethical accreditations, political donations and ethical innovation.

Looking ahead

CPC intends to continue its growth over the coming years in line with the 5-year strategy launched in 2022. New growth plans for all frontline business streams have been developed. A detailed and robust development training package for the company's procurement professionals and managers was launched in Autumn 2024. This follows the charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos which is aimed at ensuring CPC retains the best talent. The next year will see commencement on a similar development package for all non-procurement professionals and managers.

The Articles of Association have been reviewed to ensure they accurately reflect the work the charity is currently doing and its growth ambitions. A revised set was presented to voting members at the AGM in December 2024 for approval. This included an added charitable object to include the increasing focus on "Giving Back". The added objective was approved though the other changes within the new Articles were not approved. Feedback has been reviewed and adjustments made prior to an updated recommendation to be presented at the 2025 AGM in December.

CPC will shortly be publishing its second Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Annual Report for 2024/25 covering all its achievements through the year and future plans in furtherance of the EDI Strategy published last year.

CPC is looking to fund research into absenteeism which will be published and hopefully aid our members. A further grant funding round is planned for early 2026 and several exciting new ideas are being investigated for our "Giving Back" cause. A second CPC Inclusion Cup is also in the planning stage with the Manchester United Foundation which will be even better and involve members from around the country.

The lease on the current Head Office is due to end in 2028 and the search for new premises has begun. The financial strength of CPC ensures it can absorb any continued impact from rising inflation and the cost-of-living and with no long-term liabilities (loans) is not negatively impacted by fluctuations in interest rates.

Meet our Group Leadership Team (GLT)

Driven by expertise and a shared vision, our leadership team guides our organisation toward continued success, innovation, and impact.

DARREN LOWE
Managing Director

Darren is responsible for the strategic direction of Crescent Purchasing Consortium. He is an experienced Managing Director leading a nationwide team of procurement specialists and has over 30 years' experience in finance and procurement disciplines within the Further Education and private sector. Also a director of Crescent Services Ltd.

DAVE OWEN
Head of Finance & People

Dave is a qualified and customer focused management accountant with 17 years of experience working in large finance departments. Dave joined CPC from the Housing sector where he had demonstrated a track record in managing and developing a management accounts team within a constantly evolving company. Also a director of Crescent Services Ltd.

RANA HOLLAND
Head of Communication & Engagement

Rana joined CPC in October 2021 as the Head of Communications & Engagement following a 28-year career in the Housing sector. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) Rana has particular expertise in sectors that are highly regulated and complex whilst dealing with multiple stakeholders.

RACHEL TURNER
Head of Procurement MS North & On Demand

Rachel is a highly accomplished MCIPS, chartered procurement and supply professional with 18 years of public procurement experience acquired in the NHS and Education sector. Rachel is a skilled professional in varying disciplines such as strategic business planning, operations management, strategic sourcing and providing innovative solutions to maximise value for money through varying procurement procedures.

RAYMOND WIFFEN
Head of Procurement MS South

Ray is a procurement professional with 31 years' experience within Education and the NHS sectors. With a wealth of experience, expertise and knowledge of Public Contracting and procurement legislation, Ray leads by example, and provides to our organisation extensive understanding of the Public Contract Regulations and Procurement Act 2023.

Meet our Board of Trustees

Providing strategic guidance and strong governance, our trustees ensure we remain accountable, mission-focused, and positioned for long-term success.

ANDREW COMYN
Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College

Andrew is an experienced commercial strategic finance and business advisor, possessing particular expertise within the professional services sector. His specialities span commercial finance (including M&A and funding), restructuring, insolvency operations, credit control and the legal sector.

SIMON JACOBS
Freelance Marketing Consultant, Professional Weirdos

Simon is an entrepreneur and founded his own executive marketing business when he was studying marketing at university. Simon now runs his own business that is focused on bridging the gap between creativity and corporate culture.

LAWRENCE JENKINS
Deputy Chief Executive, North Kent College

Lawrence is a member of the Chartered Institute of Global Management Accountants and has worked in Further Education for the past 20 years. He has significant experience in financial and change management, as well as building and resource development. Lawrence has also worked in a number of other sectors, including time at the National Trust, the NHS and in media and advertising.

SAPNA PATEL
Head of Cyber Security, The King's Trust

A technology leader with a 25+ year career in technology in various business areas at global banks such as Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Bank and Bank of America. Currently employed in the charity sector as Head of Cyber Security at The King's Trust, a UK charity (previously known as The Prince's Trust). Expertise in strategic and commercial technology with strong skills in change, digital transformation, cyber risk and cost effectiveness.

PETER KANE
Head of Estates and FM, Belfast Metropolitan College

Peter possesses over 23 years' experience in Project and Assets Management across both the social housing and education sectors. His responsibilities include delivery of the college asset management strategy, plus contract management of the college's PFI/ PPP contracts and overall estate operations, including health and safety/sustainability.

REHMAN (REM) NOORMOHAMED
Partner, Fieldfisher LLP

An international lawyer and recognised as a leading UK expert in the field of technology. Current role is a Partner at Fieldfisher LLP. Extensive experience in technology and law, strategic and risk. Also, a visiting professor at several universities. Rem has held multiple positions as a non-executive director and trustee.

LYDIA SPARROW
Coach & Consultant, Coach Mentoring Ltd

Lydia has spent 18 years in the international development and humanitarian sector, leading operational teams, projects and funding both in the UK and across the world. Through this work she has developed a passion in working for social purpose, and using her experience to help both organisations and individuals explore their challenges.

AIMEE WILLIAMS
Director of School Improvement, Three Spires Trust

With more than 12 years' experience in education, Aimee has developed a robust knowledge and understanding of teaching and learning, supporting a number of schools both within the Trust and across the county to transform their educational experiences. As teaching and learning lead for 6 years, Aimee vehemently believes schools are the engine of social mobility; providing transformational educational opportunities which will prepare students for future endeavours.

FATIMA BENSIHEM
Finance & Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia

Fatima is the Board Sponsor for GDPR and adds her experience as a sales ledger, purchase ledger and general ledger, working with credit control, management accounts, procurement and insurance, as well as line managing the operational side of a business, with skills in computerised accounts.

KATHERINE JARVIS
Head of Procurement

Experienced strategic procurement professional. Proven ability to work in diverse, challenging environments. Tri-sector working experience (charity, private and public). Current role is Head of Procurement for a private group of fertility clinics. Katherine is also an actively engaged parent governors at a primary school.

Department Reviews

Regional Procurement Advisor (RPA)

The 2024/25 period was another year of exceptional engagement and growing visibility for the CPC.

This success is largely due to the efforts of the Regional Procurement Advisory (RPA) Team and the invaluable support received from colleagues across the organisation. Last year's engagement levels exceeded all expectations — with the past financial years results being doubled.

During the year, 435 members attended PAG meetings and 42 attended FEFMN network groups. 651 members attended the new "PAG presents" webinars which cover a variety of procurement related topics. An overall 13 webinars across both PAG presents and CPC Added Value series were completed within the year benefiting 931 members in total. The total number of engagements target for the year was set at 1,239 engagements, the team more than doubled this number with a year-end figure of 2,895 across all streams

PAG Presents Webinar Series

One of the key highlights of the year was the continued success of PAG Presents webinar series. Launched to take a more proactive approach to engagement, recognising the potential of virtual platforms to share best practice, insights, and guidance across the procurement landscape. Building on last year's success, with greater focus on marketing, tailored content and guest speakers for members, 651 registrations were achieved. PAG Presents remains a powerful extension of our regional Procurement Advisory Group meetings and continues to deliver strong value to our members.

Regional PAG Meetings

Across the year, 15 regional PAG meetings were held, including a special summer edition that provided members with an update on the Procurement Act. This session took the form of a live Q&A hosted by procurement and learning development experts to offer a broad range of perspectives and expertise.

Added Value Webinar Series

Added Value webinar series continued to perform strongly, attracting 280 attendees across eight events. Each webinar partnered with seven suppliers delivering thought leadership content and practical insights.

These sessions have proven to be an excellent platform for showcasing innovative approaches, promoting supplier partnerships, and providing additional value to our members. Plans are underway to expand this series further with more frequent, monthly events next year.

CPC Communicator Growth

The CPC's Communicator continues to grow in its value and use for members and is proving to be a strategic tool for engagement, for promoting events, sharing updates, and encouraging members to connect and learn from each other's procurement practices. Usage has increased significantly, with 159 interactions recorded over the year, along with a noticeable rise in member sign-ups.

Team Growth and Development

The RPA team itself grew in 2024/25 with the addition of Urfan Sabir, who joined as a dedicated RPA for the Yorkshire region. Urfan has settled into the role exceptionally well, and we're excited to see his continued development within the organisation.

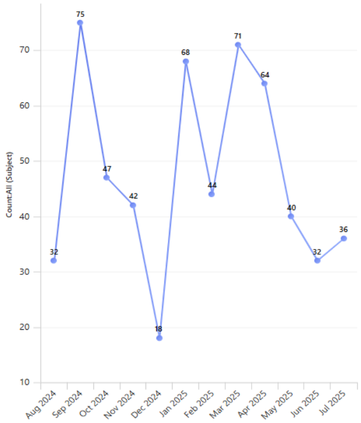
As membership continues to grow across the education sector, investment into this free service, dedicated to support members will continue to evolve being an enabler for strategic focus, whilst geographically strengthening regional coverage.

The team will increase strategic engagement and support the ongoing growth of Crescent Services the subsidiary of the CPC which services the wider public sector.

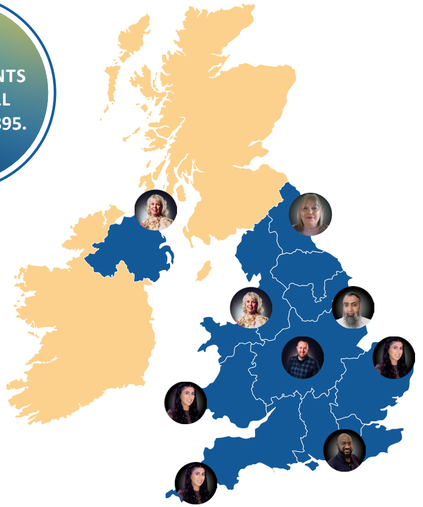
Individual Member Engagement

Throughout the year, the team facilitated 569 individual appointments with members — an increase of 52 from the previous year. A detailed monthly breakdown is shown in the next page. In addition, the team raised the profile of the CPC's portfolio of services at several key sector events, including the Schools and Academies Show, Schools North East, and Procurex.

The exceptional work of the RPA Team has resulted in exponential growth in engagement, exceeding KPI targets set at the start of the year — a fantastic achievement for the team and the wider organisation.



TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS ACROSS ALL STREAMS 2,895.



The RPA Team

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The total number of engagements target for the year was set at 1,239 engagements, the team more than doubled this number with a year-end figure of 2,895 across all streams.

Jack Horton
Customer Engagement Manager

Frameworks

CPC member engagement and spend through our frameworks have shown consistent long-term growth, despite fluctuations in individual years.

Since 2018/19, total member spend has almost doubled, increasing from £240 million to £474 million in 2024/25 — an overall rise of 97% across the six-year period. This strong upward trend highlights the continued confidence of our members in CPC's frameworks and the increasing value they deliver.

In 2023/24, spend dipped slightly (-1.9%) after two record years, which aligns with broader market stabilisation and cyclical purchasing patterns. However, the most recent year, 2024/25, shows renewed growth of 9.3%, reaching an all-time high spend of nearly £474 million.

Member participation has also grown steadily — from 4,728 members transacting in 2018/19 to 6,293 in 2024/25, a 33% increase. This growth demonstrates the widening reach of CPC frameworks and the value members place on collaborative procurement. Average spend per member has similarly increased over time, rising from £50,761 to £75,319, a 48% increase, reinforcing the greater utilisation of CPC frameworks across our membership base.

Overall, these figures reflect a strong and sustained pattern of growth, highlighting CPC's and the Contracting Team's success in supporting members to achieve best value and compliance in their procurement activities. The steady increase in both total and average spend per member demonstrates the strength of our frameworks and the continued trust members place in CPC.

CPC's top ten frameworks continue to represent the core of member activity, collectively accounting for a significant proportion of total spend in 2024/25. Outsourced Catering Services remains the leading framework by a substantial margin, generating £123.2 million in member spend — 26% of total framework activity. This reflects strong engagement from institutions seeking value and quality in outsourced catering provision, an area that continues to see high demand across the education sector.

Overall, the top 10 frameworks account for over 85% of total annual spend, demonstrating the strength and relevance of CPC's key contracts in delivering trusted, high-value solutions for the education and public sectors.

Framework Pipeline

The key change affecting the Contracting Team this year has undoubtedly been the introduction of the Procurement Act 2023, which replaced the previous Public Contract Regulations 2015. The new rules came into effect on 24th February 2025 and given the significant number of changes to the way we undertake procurements moving forward, the contracting pipeline for the year was deliberately designed to allow time and space for transition between the old and new regulations. We awarded a significant number of agreements before the rules changed, eager to capitalise on certain flexibilities afforded by the old regs, for instance Dynamic Purchasing Systems and the flexibility offered around awards under threshold.

Every year, the Contracting Team undertake a gap analysis of the framework portfolio and the services we provide to members, to ensure the portfolio caters for the wide variety of requirements they have. This year we identified several gaps which we have progressed into tender opportunities, namely Construction & Capital Works and Education Professional Services. We are also actively developing options for Digital Marketplaces and a solution to meet the unique procurement needs of land based colleges.

Elsewhere, some significant renewals of expiring frameworks included Library Resources, ICT Hardware, ICT Network, Storage and Service Solutions, Electric Vehicle Charging Points, Insurance and Associated Services, and Staff Absence Protection and Reimbursement Services.

We have also begun the process of bringing agreements previously managed by framework partners in-house.

Kathleen Johnson, Contracts Manager and Katherine Rose Orme, Procurement Manager

The most significant agreement to date has been the MFD framework. Kathleen has been instrumental in delivering early successes through that framework. Legal Services, Cashless Payments and HR, Payroll and Employee Screening will all be brought in-house in FY25/26.

We have recently published our first procurements under the new regulations, capitalising on some of the new options available to deliver more bespoke outcomes for end users, for instance, we are utilising the competitive flexible procedure for our Construction & Capital Works framework to allow for a period of negotiation with suppliers on framework and contractual terms.

Finally, as part of our ongoing collaboration with the UKUPC consortia, we have introduced some new agreements to our portfolio including Medical Simulation & Training Equipment, Laboratory Furniture and Laboratory Gases.

Rank	Framework Name	Spend Total	Percentage
1	Outsourced Catering Services	£123,211,825.62	25.99%
2	Building Cleaning	£70,698,517.20	14.92%
3	Utilities Supplies & Services	£64,313,475.63	13.57%
4	Multifunctional Devices and Digital Transformation Solutions	£32,990,738.00	6.96%
5	Insurance and Associated Services for Colleges	£26,416,214.86	5.57%
6	ICT Hardware and Peripherals Equipment	£23,413,822.84	4.94%
7	Temporary and Permanent Staffing	£21,725,217.95	4.58%
8	TUCO Catering Supplies	£21,124,622.46	4.46%
9	Building Materials, Tools and Hardware Supplies	£12,433,186.49	2.62%
10	Audit Services	£10,085,111.74	2.13%

Academic Year	Total Spend	Growth	Total members transacting	Growth	Average spend per member	Growth
2018/2019	£240,252,719.92	-	4728	-	£50,761.42	-
2019/2020	£214,051,014.38	-12.15%	5128	7.8%	£41,731.67	-21.64%
2020/2021	£244,041,489.24	12.30%	5365	4.42%	£45,479.96	8.24%
2021/2022	£322,665,218.51	24.22%	5903	9.11%	£54,548.53	16.62%
2022/2023	£441,464,281.40	26.98%	6212	4.97%	£70,991.63	23.16%
2023/2024	£433,415,540.48	-1.9%	6131	-1.4%	£70,624.69	-0.52%
2024/2025	£473,984,531.20	9.3%	6293	2.64%	£75,319.32	6.64%

Crescent Consultancy & On Demand Services

Over the past year, our Consultancy Services have demonstrated consistent development, effectively responding to evolving requirements within the education sector.

Through a combination of strategic insight, dedicated support, and a commitment to sector-leading service, we have maintained and established strong partnerships and delivered value to our customers. By actively engaging with both long-standing and new customers, our teams have successfully delivered many complex procurement projects while maintaining high standards of compliancy, professionalism and efficiency. This work has been completed whilst leading our customers through the legislative changes introduced by the Procurement Act 2023.

Compliance with the Procurement Act has been paramount in the minds of both our consultants and those of our customers. To ensure our knowledge was as up to date as possible our teams participated in all government run training on the Act, including completion of 10 x 1-hour learning modules, attending Transforming Public Procurement Knowledge Drops, Transforming Public Procurement Deep Dives and participating in many other discussions and webinars on the subject. Our customers will continue to benefit from our knowledge, continuing development, and experience in this area in the coming year.

This year we have completed over 350 tenders for Crescent Consultancy customers which means that public sector contracts to the value of £128,147,997 have been compliantly and transparently awarded to suppliers taking into consideration ability, quality, price, value for money and social value, promoting timely and cost-effective delivery of quality goods and services.

A total of 35% of these processes were via CPC frameworks or DPS.

We have supported 142 customers consisting of 71 Colleges, 64 Schools and MATs, 5 Universities, 1 Housing Association and 1 other.

Managed Services

The Managed Procurement Team have supported 43 different educational establishments during the year.

- 31 placements are Further Education customers; this represents a 13% market share in this sector
- 8 placements are Multi Academy Trust customers
- 4 placements are Higher Education customers

A total of 237 tenders were completed by Crescent Consultancy's managed services during the year influencing £59,637,100 of non-pay public sector spend. Savings of £10.3m have been generated within the combined duration of all placement customer contracts.

On Demand

The On Demand Team have supported 114 different educational establishments during the year.

A total of 114 tenders were completed by Crescent Consultancy's On Demand team during the year influencing £68,510,896 of non-pay public sector spend.

- 63% of On Demand customers chose to award contracts via CPC Frameworks
- 28% of On Demand tenders completed were for building cleaning services
- 25% of On Demand tenders completed were for outsourced catering services

WE HAVE WORKED WITH ALMOST HALF OF THE 225 COLLEGES IN ENGLAND

£10.3 MILLIONS SAVINGS FOR OUR MANAGED SERVICE CUSTOMERS.

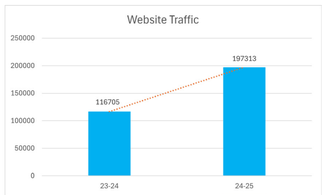
Communications & Engagement

The Communication and Engagement teams have enjoyed another successful year, delivering outcomes for the organisation and introducing a range of enhancements to elevate the experience of its members, suppliers and wider stakeholders.

CPC's visibility and influence within the education sector have continued to flourish, thanks to the dedicated efforts of its Communications and Engagement professionals. This report will highlight the key milestones reached, which have played a vital role in supporting our business growth.

Both CPC and Crescent Learning have further solidified their reputations, with successful **trademark registrations** safeguarding these respected brands as we continue to strengthen our position within the education and broader public sectors.

Since uniting under a single brand, our members have reported that accessing our services has become a smoother, more intuitive process in their day-to-day procurement activities. The consolidated website reflects this improvement, with data showing a consistent increase in year-on-year traffic, as outlined in the following chart.



Launched in 2024, CPC's annual **customer profiling initiative** will continue to ensure GDPR compliance while enabling timely communication with members, the sharing of best practice and sector updates.

Access to reliable member data has improved the accuracy of our internal reporting and allows us to tailor communications to suit members' specific needs. In addition, the introduction of a year-round member survey—replacing the previous annual spring survey—allows us to gather member insights continuously, facilitating ongoing service improvements.

Our ongoing commitment to data and systems security is demonstrated by achieving **Cyber Essentials Plus** certification for the fourth consecutive year, offering reassurance to both members and suppliers that we take robust measures to protect our IT infrastructure against cyber threats.

This achievement was complemented by a comprehensive penetration test of all core business tools, ensuring our security controls are reviewed and configured in line with industry best practices.

In June 2025, CPC hosted the second annual **Supplier Excellence Awards**, celebrating outstanding contributions from its network of over 1,100 suppliers. As a procurement charity, CPC is dedicated to fostering long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships and recognising excellence in quality, innovation, service, competitiveness, equality, and diversity. The awards also acknowledge suppliers' social responsibility and sustainability initiatives.

The awards evening supported our 'Giving Back' charity initiative, achieving a record fundraising total that adds to the £2 million already distributed to members to support SEND, wellbeing, and absenteeism projects. In 2026, CPC aims to expand the celebration to include members, recognising the invaluable impact of their work within the education sector. To learn more, visit cpcexcellenceawards.co.uk.

In spring 2025, CPC introduced an innovative marketplace across its supply chain, known as **B2E (Business 2 Education)**. This platform allows suppliers to purchase goods and services from one another, with each transaction encouraging a donation to CPC's 'Giving Back' initiative. While this project will require time to become fully established and deliver measurable benefits, it represents a promising new avenue to further our charitable aims.

Following the launch of B2E, suppliers have begun exploring several initiatives designed to benefit the education sector. Notably, an IT recycling scheme is being developed for launch in 2026, in direct response to member feedback and demand. Under this scheme, suppliers will be invited to donate their surplus technology, which will be refurbished and made available for educational institutions to apply for via the CPC website. This initiative is set to provide much-needed resources to our members, supporting the advancement of education and learning.

Additionally, CPC has launched its inaugural **supplier newsletter**, aimed at providing timely information and industry updates to our network of over 1,100 suppliers. This new communication channel will enable CPC to effectively share members' needs and priorities with suppliers throughout the academic year, strengthening the connection between the supply chain and the education community.

Looking ahead, in early 2026, CPC will **integrate the Crescent Services Limited website into the main CPC site**, streamlining access for education and public sector customers by providing a single, comprehensive platform. This merger represents another significant enhancement to our service offering.

Finance & People

2024/25 saw progression through year 3 of the charity's 5-year business plan.

The three main strategies within the business plan are:

- To deliver outstanding procurement services.
- To support the development of its people (employees and members).
- To enable a sustainable future (financial, environmental and economic/social).

Total group income for the year ended 31 July 2025 is £6,181,523 (2024: £6,036,761) which is in line with the business plan target to reach £7 million in 2027. Net income for the year was £404,995 (2024: £1,120,211).

Marketing premium income from framework usage has increased by £104k from the previous year. Total spend reported through the frameworks exceeded £473 million (2024: £433 million) providing real value for money for CPC members.

19 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Income from managed services increased by £209k during the year to a record total of £1,806,460. Two contracts ended during the year and four new contracts were secured with several short-term contracts started and completed. 43 customers are currently receiving 91 days of managed consultancy service per week.

Income from the on-demand tendering service was lower than expected at £585k (2024: £745k). This was predominantly due to the following;

- The DfE providing free tender support to larger MATs. It is estimated that tenders have reduced by 25% this year as a direct result of this.
- Covid legacy – new tenders were delayed with many customers extending contracts to 2025. Catering suppliers on the framework have commented that it is quieter than usual at suppliers' events, backed up by the number of catering tenders published.
- Delaying effect of the new Procurement Act 2023.

Crescent Services Limited which services the wider public sector has seen its most active year to date with significant increase in CPC framework usage (£7.4 million, 2024: £4.8 million) and the renewal of a 3-year managed service contract with a Housing Association. Income for the year is £153,196 (2024: £110,219) and profit for the year is £6,815 (2024: £17,372). All profits are gift-aided to the charity.

Fundraising - the charity does not generate a regular income from fundraising and therefore does not use the services of fundraisers either on a paid or voluntary basis. CPC received several corporate donations during the year totalling £9,959 (2024: £12,182) which is placed in restricted reserves and is used as contribution toward "Giving Back" initiatives.

Employee wellbeing is at the forefront of the charity's values with continued investment in a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to support mental health alongside other wellness benefits. The total benefits package offered to employees is one of the best in the country and confirms our value of putting people first. The Charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with employees having the option of participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme value on 31 July 2025 continues to show the company as having a pension asset. This has increased to £2,381,000 (2024: £1,293,000). In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be unrecognisable on the basis that the company has no expectation of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2024 a gift aid payment of £17,372 (2024: £28,769) was received from Crescent Services Limited. All gift aid received into the charity is transferred to the restricted reserves for use in its Giving Back initiatives.

Reserves policy

CPC maintains a reserves policy that is available on its website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. The level of reserves stated within these financial statements will exceed the amount required as stated in the policy. The excess reserve will be transferred into designated reserves once approved at the next Board meeting in December 2025. Designated and Restricted reserves are those reserves that the Board of Trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving Back" to the education sector.

Environmental management

At the start of 2022 a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across CPC. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team (GLT) and has a Board sponsor. The aim of the group is to ensure the objectives set out in the 5-year strategy are achieved, not least setting out and completing the detailed plan to achieve ISO14001 – Environmental Management accreditation. Progress is reported at each monthly GLT meeting and at each Board meeting.

In 2022/23 an Environment Management System (EMS) template and the Charity's first Environmental and sustainability policy was produced. This year the focus has been on collecting carbon emission data generated by our activities from 2021/22 to the present. This will continue into 2025/26 when we expect to use the data to track our progress and to produce our first Carbon Management Plan (CMP) to manage and ultimately reduce our footprint over the next five years. This will be published on the website.

Business travel across the organisation is forecast to reduce year-on-year as management encourage more efficient and effective means of consulting with customers, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members which are, in the main held virtually.

A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Some managed service contract customers are willing for CPC employees to work on a hybrid basis to reflect their own working practices.

This year £1,000 was donated to Street Trees for Living, a charity which works with schools, many of which are CPC members, to plant trees and orchards in the Lewisham area of London. Each year, a similar type of charity in a different part of the country will be chosen to receive a similar donation.

CPC employees can take a volunteering day each year to volunteer at a charity of their choice. Many employees, particularly those based at the head office have used this day to litter pick at the local park.

Social Impact

CPC continues its agile working policy which allows employees to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and employee wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the company.

CPC was very pleased to maintain its "Great Place to Work" accreditation for its fifth year which runs alongside its current accreditations for "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Development", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing", "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace" and "UK's Best Workplace for medium organisations".

The 5-year business plan supports the Charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos by incorporating the recruitment of local graduates into planned positions across several areas of the business. The latest procurement graduate started on 4th August 2025 working in the Contracting team on the production and maintenance of frameworks. Graduate programmes last approximately 2 years. The management and distribution of restricted and designated reserves to member institutions in the form of grants is led by the "Giving Back" Group who ensure that the projects funded are servicing

CPC is proud to maintain its Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing accreditation for another year with 97% of employees feeling that CPC is a physically safe place to work.

Dave Owen
Head of Finance & People

Great Place To Work.® Certified MAY 2025-MAY 2026 UK™

our charitable focus.

£552k of grant funding was distributed during the year with further funding commissioned for 2025/26. Feedback from institutions that have received funding has been extremely positive and demonstrates the direct and positive impact CPC is having on the lives of young learners.

The charity's social impact from "Giving Back" can be easily measured with the results available on the CPC website. Measuring the impact from the day-to-day operational activities is more challenging and 2025/26 will see progress being made to address this with the results published on the website. The impact will focus on the Charity's main stakeholders:

- Members and customers
- Framework suppliers
- Employees
- The community

In July 2025 CPC held its second Supplier Excellence Awards Night at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester. This was to celebrate the achievements of framework suppliers in supporting the education sector over the year and to involve suppliers in the Charity's focus of supporting SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism for its members. The event was a success with £9,230 of donations being received for "Giving Back" as well as several leads being generated from suppliers and attendees for increased support toward the new **SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism** initiatives on a longer-term basis.

CPC uses local trades for the maintenance of its head office and supply of goods. This not only assists the local economy but reduces our carbon footprint.

Equality diversity and inclusion (EDI)

A 5-year EDI strategy was launched in November 2023. The Trustees recognise that EDI is key to helping deliver a public benefit and continually reappraise a full and comprehensive policy of diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities.

CPC produces an EDI Annual Report which is published on its website detailing the ambitions and continual progress being made by the EDI working group, which was formed in 2022 and is chaired by an employee. The group works on various initiatives throughout the year to support the development of employees, one of CPC's main strategic objectives.

The EDI working group overseas the great work being carried out by the Women's, Men's and the new carer's support groups with further inclusive groups (such as a neurodiversity group) and activities planned. This year we launched our Carers Passport which allows additional working adjustments (such as working from home) and time off for employees who are also carers to attend relevant appointments. Any employee who thinks they may be neurodiverse can have a free occupational health assessment which management will use to ensure adequate reasonable adjustments are made.

In support of EDI initiatives outside of the charity, CPC donated £1,000 to Just Like Us, who empower LGBTQ+ young people through education and ensures schools have access to LGBTQ+ educational resources. Similar donations will be committed each year.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has a dedicated Health, Safety and Wellness Lead who prepared the current health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this. The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance Check.

In February 2024 CPC was awarded its first ISO accreditation, ISO 45001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management). In February 2025 the accreditation was extended for a further 3-years. This achieves one of the main business aims within the 2022-27 Business Plan.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. The actions specified in the Health & Safety strategy have been completed. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders and an exercise to identify the causes of work-related stress highlighted specific areas which are being targeted.

The Health, Safety and Wellness Lead is currently working towards a diploma in Mental Health and Wellbeing Culture Change. This will result in a strategy being developed to specifically address this. An Employee Value Proposition (EVP) has been implemented which followed detailed consultations with all employees as to what CPC could do better as an employer. All points have been addressed or are in the pipeline.A small working group oversees activities, often aligning with various awareness days throughout the year. Weekly online office chair yoga sessions and seasonal coffee and connections have been particularly well received.

CPC is proud to maintain its Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing accreditation for another year with 97% of employees feeling that CPC is a physically safe place to work, 80% of employees feeling that CPC is a psychologically and emotionally safe place to work and 89% feeling that CPC encourages work-life balance. 96% of employees are proud to tell others they work for CPC. Management is in the process of analysing these results to make improvements.

Ebenezer Akinlabi Procurement Consultant

Extracts from the 2024/25 Financial Statements

Income and expenditure account

		As restated		As restated
	Group	Group	**Charity**	Charity
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Income from:	9,959	12,182	27,331	43,778
Donations and legacies	5,963,906	5,834,220	5,932,198	3,727,166
Charitable activities	208,037	190,359	207,655	183,435
Investments				
Total income	6,181,902	6,036,761	6,167,184	3,954,379
Expenditure on:	5,776,907	4,916,550	5,769,004	2,740,743
Charitable activities				
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources	404,995	1,120,211	398,180	1,213,636
Other recognised gains and losses				
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension schemes	(41,000)	(784,000)	(41,000)	(784,000)
Net movement in funds	363,995	366,211	357,180	429,636
Fund balances at 1 August 2024	7,294,258	6,958,047	8,224,701	7,795,065
Tenet merger (hive-up) to CPL	-	-	(959, 363)	-
Fund balances at 31 July 2025	7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701

Balance sheet

		As restated		As restated
	Group	Group	**Charity**	Charity
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Fixed assets	12,370	27,480	12,370	27,480
Intangible assets	23,178	24,907	23,178	13,995
Tangible assets	-	-	10,000	1,377,962
Investments				
	35,548	52,387	45,548	1,419,437
Current assets	1,939,400	1,359,822	1,911,816	1,026,885
Debtors	6,672,073	6,762,682	6,647,005	6,492,782
Cash at bank and in hand				
	8,611,473	8,122,504	8,558,821	7,509,667
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(988,768)	(880,633)	(981,851)	(714,403)
Net current assets	7,622,705	7,241,871	7,576,970	6,805,264
Net assets excluding pension liability	7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	-	-	-	-
Net assets	7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701
Income funds				
Unrestricted funds – designated	458,584	520,993	458,584	520,993
Unrestricted funds – general	7,179,628	6,755,555	7,143,893	7,695,998
Unrestricted funds – pension	-	-	-	-
Restricted Funds – 'Giving Back'	20,041	7,710	20,041	7,710
	7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701

Crescent Services Limited (CSL)

Crescent Services Limited (CSL) experienced a number of positive changes and growth this year.

The utilisation of frameworks has significantly grown within this period reporting an impressive £7,403,100, up from the previous year of £4,780.170. The growth in framework spend across the wider public sector over the past 4 years has risen from £2.6m in 21/22 to £7.4m in 24/25.

A subsidiary of CPC, Crescent Services has seen consistent growth in membership numbers which has nearly doubled compared to last year, due to active engagement through various channels. As a corollary, this has contributed to the increase in our turnovers/profit and consequently the contribution to the charity.

Crescent services have exhibited at numerous events this year, enabling a prominent presence capturing the attention of the sector. These events have built on the successes of previous years which have provided a positive impact on growth and visibility.

Year on year increase in spend across the range of frameworks and number of returning members is a key highlight for the service, with the website merge acting as a key milestone to streamline services.

THIS YEAR THE TOTAL SPEND THROUGH OUR FRAMEWORK WAS £ 7,403,100.

FRAMEWORK SPEND GREW FROM £2.6M TO £7.4M IN FOUR YEARS.

Sharia Rahman, Procurement Customer Engagement Advisor

Conclusion

Managing Director closing comments

Thank you for taking the time to read through the 2024/25 Annual Report.

I want to provide you with an insight into our wonderful charity, an organisation passionate about continuous improvement and helping others. I want to reflect on the past year, and I hope as I do, you can acknowledge the education sector's 'crown jewel' that is the CPC.

Procurement Services

The CPC will never forget the reason it was established back in 1999. Procurement services are our core business and are what allows the CPC to do so many other things which positively benefit the education sector. The procurement services are the commercial entity which fund the inspiring charity projects and events that we are now involved in.

Without the support of our 10,500+ members whose loyalty is truly appreciated, and the enthusiasm of the supply chain who pro-actively bid for new opportunities presented via CPC, we would not be able to generate the level of social value that is being created. It is the social impact within the education sector that drives our passion to do more.

Charity Work

Highlights of the charity work undertaken by CPC in 2024 include the £622k of grant funding that was 'given back' to support SEND learners, the wellbeing of all learners and reducing absenteeism.

The inaugural CPC Inclusion Cup which in partnership with the Manchester United Foundation provided a day of lifetime memories for SEND learners from Greater Manchester FE colleges. The experience allowed leaners the opportunity to represent their college in a 5-a-side football tournament at the historic Cliff training ground, visit Old Trafford stadium and not only go pitch side, but be gifted the opportunity to be photographed in football shirts and boots worn by past and present Manchester United legends. The overall winners also returned to Old Trafford to watch a men's first team league game, rounding off a heartening event.

The second CPC Supplier Excellence Awards night was a repeat success, with more entries being submitted and the well-deserved recognition being awarded to all nominations. On the evening, the generosity in the room raised a staggering £9,230 in donations which will be designated for future 'Giving Back' initiatives.

Already, grander plans for 2025/26 are in motion and they promise to be something very special for all involved. The CPC Inclusion Cup will be more inclusive in terms of geography and gender with a special treat for the top 8 teams. We also have a new fun-packed project for primary schools, which delivered in partnership with Tree of Knowledge, will support the wellbeing of Year 6 learners and help them take bold and confident steps during their transition to 'big school'.

Living Our Values

We took the opportunity to review the charity's Mission, Vision and Values in 2025. This project involved every member of staff and trustees, because it is important to us that we all live the values of the charity and firmly believe in our mission and vision.

The combined efforts resulted in a new set of values being launched. I personally think the 3 values of People First, Customers Always and Excellence summarise CPC perfectly.

I have the privilege to be employed by a wonderful caring charity which demonstrates frequently our values to look after our biggest asset, our people. Who care about the levels of service we provide to our customers and want to support them in achieving their goals. Finally, we strive for excellence. Every 1% improvement we make brings us closer to achieving our vision which is 'to be the first-choice procurement services charity that gives back to the education sector.'

2025/26 Aspirations

My aspiration for the CPC is to build a legacy which leaves a positive long-lasting impact on as many learners as we can reach. Whilst procurement services are the core business, I want CPC to be recognised for doing much more. So, whether it is procurement services, football tournaments, grant funding, big school, awards nights or speaking to our team at events and conferences, I hope the lasting impression is one of admiration, appreciation and profound.

Thank you to everyone who has supported CPC's continuous progression. I appreciate you.

Darren Lowe

MANAGING DIRECTOR

I’m delighted CPC will be working with the Foundation on this project, with our three-year plan to make it a nationwide event for SEND learners across the UK.

John Shiels
Chief Executive at Manchester United Foundation

Registered Office

Procurement House, 23 Leslie Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ

Auditors

DJH Audit Limited, St. Georges House, Peter Street, Manchester M2 2NQ

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 5HD

Solicitors

Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester, M3 3EB

CRESCENT
Purchasing Consortium

Contact us

0800 066 2188

helpdesk@thecpc.ac.uk

thecpc.ac.uk

#YourProcurementPartnerofChoice

Charity Registration No. 1130461

Company Registration No. 06774578 (England and Wales)

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

DJH Audit Limited
Accountants and Statutory Auditors
St Georges House
Peter Street
Manchester
M2 2NQ

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINSTRATIVE INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. CPL trades as Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC). The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The Directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

F Bensihem
A J Comyn (Chair)
S J Jacobs
L Jenkins
P Kane
L R Sparrow
A Williams (Deputy Chair)
K A Jarvis (Appointed 1st March 2025)
R Noormohamed (Appointed 1st March 2025)
S Patel (Appointed 1st March 2025)

Registered Office

Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ.

Auditors

DJH Audit Limited, St Georges House, Peter Street, Manchester M2 3NQ.

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD.
Close Brothers Savings, 10 Crown Place, London EC2A 4FT.
Lloyds Bank plc, 1st Floor (East), 10 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7AE.
Nationwide Building Society, Kings Park Road, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 6NW.
Virgin Money, Jubilee House, Gosforth, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE3 6NW.
Flagstone Group Limited (Charity Aid Foundation), 1st Floor, Clareville House, 26-27 Oxenden Street, London SW1Y 4EL.

Solicitors

Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

Website

www.thecpc.ac.uk

The Trustees present their report together with the consolidated financial statements for the Charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for the Directors' report for Companies House purposes.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Vision, Mission and Values

The vision, mission and values of the Charity have been reviewed by the Trustees and Group Leadership Team (GLT) following consultation with all employees. This was to ensure that these remain relevant to what the charity is aiming to achieve and how it currently operates.

The updated **vision** of the Charity is to be the first-choice procurement services charity that gives back to the education sector. The **mission** of the Charity is we want our members to receive outstanding procurement services.

The **values** of the Charity are;

1. **People First** – we provide a caring, inclusive and supporting environment that focuses on individual needs to enable our people to be the best that they can be.
2. **Customers Always** – everything we do is for the benefit of our customers (to help them provide the best service possible to their learners).
3. **Excellence** – we are 100% committed to delivering the highest-quality services that exceed expectations, with continuous improvement at the heart of what we do.

These changes were approved by the Board of Trustees in July 2025 and will be reviewed again in 2027 for the launch of the new 5-year business plan.

Report of the Trustees

CPL was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education and shares frameworks with the United Kingdom University Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC).

CPL also works in partnership with Dukefield Procurement on joint frameworks though notice was served on this partnership last year. The parties continue to work together through the remaining period of current frameworks.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPC. On 1 August 2024 Tenet merged into its parent company, CPL. All trade, assets and liabilities transferred into CPL after which Tenet ceased trading and was dissolved on 13 May 2025. On 2 August 2024 TPS changed its name to Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

The Board of Trustees consist of representatives of members colleges, Multi-Academy Trusts and the private sector.

Resignations
D Thornton resigned from the Board on 7th March 2025.

CPC are in the process of recruiting two additional Trustees from the Further Education sector which will bring the number of Trustees to 12, its maximum compliment. This will be ratified at the AGM in December. Andy Comyn, the current Chair of Trustees will step down as a Trustee at the AGM as he has fulfilled his 9-year maximum tenure. Steps will be taken to appoint a new chair at the AGM.

Trustee vacancies are advertised via social media channels and charityjob.co.uk. There is a bespoke induction pack and programme for all new Trustees. Trustees are not paid for their services.

The Board meets three times a year to determine strategy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPC is delegated to the Managing Director and his employees. The Group Leadership Team (GLT) is made up of four senior managers plus the Managing Director.

A new sub-committee, the Employment and Finance Committee (EFC) was created last year and met for the first time in October 2024. This committee comprises the Chair of Trustees plus two other Trustees with financial and employee relations expertise, the Managing Director and the Head of Finance and People. Voting rights are reserved for the Trustees only. This committee meets three times a year, one month in advance of each main Board meeting. Terms of reference for the EFC has been created with the focus for the committee being to scrutinise the financial statements and monthly management accounts in greater depth, review and approve the annual budget and review in detail all financial and employee related policies and procedures.

The pay and remuneration of employees is agreed annually as part of the budget setting process. Each post is benchmarked against similar roles within similar sized organisations. The pay and remuneration of members of the GLT and the Managing Director is reviewed every three years by an external consultant under the guidance of the EFC.

On 31 July 2025 CPC had 10,597 members, an increase in the year of 499. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. The ambition set out in the current 5-year business plan is to reach 15,000 members by 2027. Although progress is

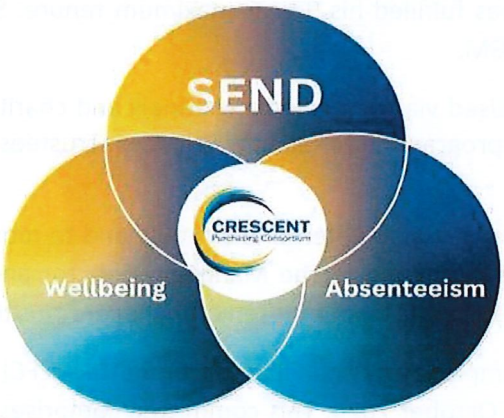
currently behind schedule the completion of several planned initiatives should see significant member increase over the next two years.

Charitable objectives

The focus of the charity, both in its "Giving Back" initiative and the daily operational activities is on supporting our members in their quest to adequately help and support the following.

- Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- The physical and mental wellbeing of learners (with or without SEND).
- Absenteeism.

The Board of Trustees, senior management and employees fully support this focus and the positive impact CPC, with their efforts will have on people's lives.



The Charity's objects have been reviewed to reflect this new focus with an additional object added (see (b) below). This was passed at the AGM in December 2024.

The Charity's objects are stated below with progress made through the year covered:

a) to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

(i). Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.

CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by consultancy teams providing a procurement managed service which has recorded £10.3M of savings this year on current contract terms across 43 customers and on-demand tendering services.

In February 2025 the new Procurement Act came into force. All CPC procurement technical employees completed the Cabinet Office Expert Practitioner training in preparation for the new Act and several colleagues have completed the further "deep-dive" sessions with peers from across the wider public sector. This ensures that CPC are best placed to cascade knowledge and support members through the legislative process and ensure their procurement activities are compliant.

An increase in communications through newsletters, webinars and a dedicated Procurement Act page on the CPC website has raised members' awareness of the change in law. CPC has also spent a lot of time supporting Members and Clients with:

- Training for the Procurement Act 2023.
- Training for all aspects of the procurement process as applied to the sector.
- Development of new templates for compliance with the new Procurement Act which went live in September 2025.

CPC has been building relationships with key agencies, such as the Cabinet Office, Department for Education (DfE), Association of Colleges and Institute of School Business Leaders to further embed good practices within the sector.

CPC has also been supporting its suppliers to deliver procurement-related advice to their customers buying through CPC frameworks and supporting suppliers with their transition to tendering under the new Procurement Act.

(ii). Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

Crescent Learning is the flagship under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to advancing education and research activities in procurement.

The Charity continues to fulfil its commitment through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party training providers and webinars for CPC member employees. This includes online webinars by CIPS and BIP Solutions and a wide range of webinars designed by CPC. These courses and webinars will ultimately be added into the Crescent Learning library. The ambition is to replicate this offer to framework suppliers by providing a resource area for their employees to advance their procurement knowledge.

During the year, 34 training courses were funded covering subjects such as writing a tender specification, ethical procurement and supply, evaluation techniques and developing and managing contracts. Many online webinars were attended covering advanced contract management, basic principles of contract law and an overview of the education sector. A total of 5,235 active engagements were recorded from member users gaining access to training development material to advance their knowledge in procurement.

In July 2024, to celebrate CPC reaching its 10,000th member landmark the Trustees approved £10,000 being designated from reserves to contribute towards a procurement training related initiative made available for CPC members to bid for. Four employees from within membership institutions were successful in securing funding for CIPS Level 4 training. The four students will be mentored through the course by CPC's Learning and Development Lead. The popularity of this initiative was such that CPC will be allocating the same level of funding each year.

CPC continues to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and the Further Education Facilities Management Network (FEFMN). These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on CPC services. During the year, 435 members attended PAG meetings and 42 attended FEFMN network groups. 651 members attended the new "PAG presents" webinars which cover a variety of procurement related topics.

CPC is currently replacing the Further Education Library of Procurement (FELP) which is a free to access online learning resource portal for all members. This will merge into Crescent Learning with the new portal going live on the CPC website in September 2025. This will contain learning and template resources required by members to meet the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023. The ambition is for CPC to obtain CPD accreditation for the learning content it produces through this channel.

b) to promote the education of learner in further education, higher education, schools and other educational bodies, including in particular (but without limitation) assisting in the provision of facilities and the funding of projects for education in those bodies.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 £2.1Million has been identified as Designated and Restricted Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £1.044Million had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £576,780 spent during 24/25.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions, the second-round saw £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid during 2021/22 and in the third round during 2023/24 we paid £201k to 33 institutions.

During this financial year a fourth grant funding window was opened with £622k awarded to 96 institutions (several grants are yet to be paid as at 31st of July 2025). The grants awarded are supporting projects that are aligned with our charitable focus of supporting SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism.

This year CPC funded the 'CPC Inclusion Cup' in partnership with the Manchester United Foundation. The event involved the participation of several Greater Manchester college SEND learners, who came together for a football tournament at the iconic 'The Cliff' training

ground, ending the day with a tour of the theatre of dreams - the Manchester United Football ground. The team that won the tournament were treated to tickets for Manchester United's final home game of the 2024/25 season against Aston Villa.

The £1.6Million of reserves paid out to date has supported thousands of learners of all ages. Details of some of the fantastic initiatives we have supported can be found on the CPC website. The Trustees and CPC employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

Several Trustees work in educational institutions which are members of CPC and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no Trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid to an institution linked to a Trustee will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

The Trustees oversee the charitable objectives of the charity with due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Financial and business review.

2024/25 saw progression through year 3 of the charity's 5-year business plan. The three main strategies within the business plan are:

- To deliver outstanding procurement services.
- To support the development of its people (employees and members).
- To enable a sustainable future (financial, environmental and economic/social).

Total group income for the year ended 31 July 2025 is £6,181,902 (2024: £6,036,761) which is in line with the business plan target to reach £7 million in 2027. Net income for the year was £404,995 (2024: £1,120,211).

Marketing premium income from framework usage has increased by £104k from the previous year. Total spend reported through the frameworks exceeded £473 million (2024: £433 million) providing real value for money for CPC members.

19 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Income from managed services increased by £209k during the year to a record total of £1,806,460. Two contracts ended during the year and four new contracts were secured with several short-term contracts started and completed. 43 customers are currently receiving 91 days of managed consultancy service per week.

Income from the on-demand tendering service was lower than expected at £585k (2024: £745k). This was predominantly due to the following.

- The DfE providing free tender support to larger MATs. It is estimated that tenders have reduced by 25% this year as a direct result of this.
- Covid legacy – new tenders were delayed with many customers extending contracts to 2025. Catering suppliers on the framework have commented that it is quieter than usual at suppliers' events, backed up by the number of catering tenders published.

- Delaying effect of the new Procurement Act 2023.

Crescent Services (TPS) Limited which services the wider public sector has seen its most active year to date with significant increase in CPC framework usage (£7.4 million, 2024: £4.8 million) and the renewal of a 3-year managed service contract with a Housing Association. Income for the year is £153,196 (2024: £110,219) and profit for the year is £24,187 (2024: £46,141). All profits are gift-aided to the charity.

Fundraising – the charity does not generate a regular income from fundraising and therefore does not use the services of fundraisers either on a paid or voluntary basis. CPC received several corporate donations during the year totalling £9,959 (2024: £12,182) which is placed in restricted reserves and is used as contribution toward "giving back" initiatives.

Employee wellbeing is at the forefront of the charity's values with continued investment in a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to support mental health alongside other wellness benefits. The total benefits package offered to employees is one of the best in the country and confirms our value of putting people first.

The Charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with employees having the option of participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme value on 31 July 2025 continues to show the company as having a pension asset. This has increased to £2,381,000 (2024: £1,293,000). In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be unrecognisable on the basis that the company has no expectation of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2024 a gift aid payment of £17,372 (2024: £28,769) was received from Crescent Services (TPS) Limited. All gift aid received into the charity is transferred to the restricted reserves for use in its Giving Back initiatives.

Reserves policy

CPC maintains a reserves policy that is available on its website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why.

The level of reserves stated within these financial statements will exceed the amount required as stated in the policy. The excess reserve will be transferred into designated reserves once approved at the next Board meeting in December 2025. Designated and Restricted reserves are those reserves that the Board of Trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving back" to the education sector.

Environmental management

At the start of 2022 a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across CPC. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team (GLT) and has a

Board sponsor. The aim of the group is to ensure the objectives set out in the 5-year strategy are achieved, not least setting out and completing the detailed plan to achieve ISO14001 – Environmental Management accreditation. Progress is reported at each monthly GLT meeting and at each Board meeting.

In 2022/23 an Environment Management System (EMS) template and the Charity's first Environmental and sustainability policy was produced. This year the focus has been on collecting carbon emission data generated by our activities from 2021/22 to the present. This will continue into 2025/26 when we expect to use the data to track our progress and to produce our first Carbon Management Plan (CMP) to manage and ultimately reduce our footprint over the next five years. This will be published on the website.

Business travel across the organisation is forecast to reduce year-on-year as management encourage more efficient and effective means of consulting with customers, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members which are, in the main held virtually.

A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Some managed service contract customers are willing for CPC employees to work on a hybrid basis to reflect their own working practices.

This year £1,000 was donated to Street trees for Living, a charity which works with schools, many of which are CPC members to plant trees and orchards in the Lewisham area of London. Each year, a similar type of charity in a different part of the country will be chosen to receive a similar donation.

CPC employees can take a volunteering day each year to volunteer at a charity of their choice. Many employees, particularly those based at the head office have used this day to litter pick at the local park.

Social Impact

CPC continues its agile working policy which allows employees to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and employee wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the company.

CPC was very pleased to maintain its "Great Place to Work" accreditation for its fifth year which runs alongside its current accreditations for "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Development", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing", "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace" and "UK's Best Workplace for medium organisations".

The 5-year business plan supports the Charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos by incorporating the recruitment of local graduates into planned positions across several areas of the business. The latest procurement graduate started on 4th August 2025 working in the Contracting team

on the production and maintenance of frameworks. Graduate programmes last approximately 2 years.

The management and distribution of restricted and designated reserves to member institutions in the form of grants is led by the "Giving Back" Group who ensure that the projects funded are servicing our charitable focus.
£552k of grant funding was distributed during the year with further funding commissioned for 2025/26.

Feedback from institutions that have received funding have been extremely positive and demonstrate the direct and positive impact CPC is having on the lives of young learners.

The charity's social impact from "Giving Back" can be easily measured with the results available on the CPC website. Measuring the impact from the day-to-day operational activities is more challenging and 2025/26 will see progress being made to address this with the results published on the website. The impact will focus on the Charity's main stakeholders:

- Members and customers.
- Framework suppliers.
- Employees.
- The community.

In July 2025 CPC held its second Supplier Excellence Awards Night at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester. This was to celebrate the achievements of framework suppliers in supporting the education sector over the year and to involve suppliers in the Charity's focus of supporting SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism for its members.

The event was a success with £9,230 of donations being received for "Giving Back" as well as several leads being generated from suppliers and attendees for increased support toward the new SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism initiatives on a longer-term basis.

CPC uses local trades for the maintenance of its head office and supply of goods. This not only assists the local economy but reduces our carbon footprint.

Equality diversity and inclusion (EDI)

A 5-year EDI strategy was launched in November 2023. The Trustees recognise that EDI is key to helping deliver a public benefit and continually reappraise a full and comprehensive policy of diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities.

CPC produces an EDI Annual Report which is published on its website detailing the ambitions and continual progress being made by the EDI working group, which was formed in 2022 and is chaired by an employee. The group works on various initiatives throughout the year to support the development of employees, one of CPC's main strategic objectives.

The EDI working group overseas the great work being carried out by the Women's, Men's and the new carer's support groups with further inclusive groups (such as a neurodiversity group) and activities planned. This year we launched our Carers Passport which allows additional working adjustments (such as working from home) and time off for employees who are also carers to attend relevant appointments.

Any employee who thinks they may be neurodiverse can have a free occupational health assessment which management will use to ensure adequate reasonable adjustments are made.

In support of EDI initiatives outside of the charity, CPC donated £1,000 to Just Like Us, who empower LGBTQ+ young people through education and ensuring schools have access to LGBTQ+ educational resources. Similar donations will be committed each year.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has a dedicated health, safety and wellness Lead who prepared the current health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

In February 2024 CPC was awarded its first ISO accreditation, ISO 45001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management). In February 2025 the accreditation was extended for a further 3-years. This achieves one of the main business aims within the 2022-27 Business Plan.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. The actions specified in the Health & Safety strategy have been completed. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders and an exercise to identify the causes of work-related stress highlighted specific areas which are being targeted.

The Health, Safety and Wellness Lead is currently working towards a diploma in Mental Health and Wellbeing Culture Change. This will result in a strategy being developed to specifically address this.

An Employee Value Proposition (EVP) has been implemented which followed detailed consultations with all employees as to what CPC could do better as an employer. All points have been addressed or are in the pipeline.

A small working group oversees activities, often aligning with various awareness days throughout the year. Weekly online office chair yoga sessions and seasonal coffee and connections have been particularly well received.

CPC is proud to maintain its Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing accreditation for another year with 97% of employees feeling that CPC is a physically safe place to work, 80% of employees feeling that CPC is a psychologically and emotionally safe place to work and 89% feeling that CPC encourages work-life balance. 96% of employees are proud to tell others they work for CPC. Management is in the process of analysing these results to make improvements.

Governance

The Trustees are committed to the highest standards of Governance and recognise that this is only achieved through continual improvement. The Charity Governance Code is used as guidance and support for future improvements. In the build up to and during each Board meeting over the last two years the Trustees have taken one of the seven principles included in the code and identified areas where further improvements can be made which will form part of the continual Board development process. Five principles have been covered to date covering the following topics.

- Organisational purpose.
- Board effectiveness.
- Leadership.
- Integrity.
- Decision making, risk and control.

The Trustees have completed an annual skills assessment for the last three years and these have identified skills gaps within the Board which have mostly been addressed with the appointment of three new trustees in March. The charity is proud to have a Board that has the most diversity it has ever had with the greatest breadth of skills. This will only benefit the charity going forward.

There are however some remaining knowledge gaps amongst the Trustees and a comprehensive learning and development programme has been created to address this over the next twelve months.

The Trustees have approved a Trustee Performance Review Process which will incorporate a Board Development Plan alongside collective Board performance reviews every three years and annual individual trustee performance review.

The Crescent Services (TPS) Limited Board consists of three directors: the Chair of CPC, the Managing Director of CPC and the Head of Finance and People of CPC. This is to improve efficiency and governance with separate Board meetings being held in advance of the main Charity Board meetings.

The GLT acknowledge that the organisation requires effective leadership at every level to achieve the Group's Mission and Vision. A new training and development programme for all managers is in place. This involves all managers commencing on the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) level 3 accreditation course over the next two years, with some progressing to level 5. This is funded by the Apprenticeship Levy.

CPC has several cash investments in line with its Treasury Management Policy. The Trustees require that all investments be carried out ethically and have agreed that for now the charity will refrain from equity investments.

The Head of Finance and People regularly monitors not only the credit ratings of institutions the charity invests its cash with but also the environmental sustainability performance of the listed institutions and reports on this through the Employment and Finance Committee.

The environmental sustainability performance is measured using the Good Shopping Guide as reference and is based on several criteria incorporating environmental reporting, destruction, carbon disclosure & reduction, responsible investment, ethical accreditations, political donations and ethical innovation.

Internal controls assurance

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that the Charity's assets and money are safeguarded and properly accounted for, and that they are being used economically and effectively.

A wide range of internal control mechanisms are in place and being operated to help CPC meet its strategic objectives, to operate within the law, to make effective use of the Charity's money and to report activities accurately. These bring together information from all significant parts of the business and provide assurance to the Trustees that an effective system of internal controls is in place.

The most significant sources are through:

- The external auditors.
- Financial and non-financial performance monitoring and management.
- Appropriate communications structures.
- Effective strategies, policies and procedures.
- External stakeholders, including the Charity Commission and accreditation bodies.

The main forms of assurance are:

Operational controls

- Effective recruitment and selection process is in place to ensure suitable people are employed (including the completion of Disclosure and Barring Service checks for employees working in educational institutions) with senior managers responsible for ensuring that standards of conduct and behaviour are maintained to the highest levels.
- Annual appraisals (based around the Charity's vision and values) and half year interim reviews, with regular team and one-to-one meetings undertaken to maintain high standards of performance. People Development processes are in place to address any gaps or failings.
- Formal Financial and People related policies and procedures, IT and Communications Access Policy, Data Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Treasury Management Policy.

- Appropriate separations of duties are in place across key operational functions e.g., a purchase order process to mitigate risks around fraud.
- Role based access controls are in place to ensure that employees only have access to systems and data that is pertinent to their requirements.
- Financial forecasts and budgets are in place which allow the GLT to monitor spend in terms of achieving budgets in the short, medium and long term.

In July 2024 the Board of Trustees approved the formation of an Employment and Finance Committee (EFC) which meets three times a year, a month prior to each main Board meeting. Its remit will be to review and evidence that operational controls are effective. The EFC comprises three Trustees, two of whom are accountants and one who is a Coach and Consultant alongside the Managing Director and Head of Finance and People.

Risk management and compliance checks

The GLT maintain a comprehensive risk register. Risks are collated under four main headings:

- Financial, assets, premises, H&S and charitable status.
- Suppliers, partners, competition, frameworks and all Group procurement services.
- Group operational, legal and regulatory matters.
- Membership, customers, reputational issues and the marketplace.

The risk register (and in particular the "top 5" risks identified below) is reported to Trustees at every Board meeting, supplemented by detailed reviews throughout the year by the GLT. The risk appetite is reviewed during this process.

Risk	Nature of Risk and Risk Appetite	Mitigation
Significant loss of income	Severe reduction in income due to increased competition and loss of market share poses a risk to the business plan. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Robust financial management processes are in place with action plans identified should trigger points be met. Reserves policy ensures adequate reserves are maintained. New growth plans for all service areas have been produced to ensure income is maintained and alternative income streams are identified.
Compliance with Data Protection legislation	Secure and resilient technology and processes are fundamental in building a more resilient business. *Risk Appetite – avoid*	External penetration testing of systems is carried out each year. Internal tests are carried out on employees at random times throughout the year. Annual mandatory training is completed by all employees. The servers are cloud-

		based with daily routine backups taking place.
Compliance with health and safety legislation	Failure to reduce or remove threats to employee, customer and supplier health and safety leads to harm and reputational damage. *Risk Appetite - avoid*	A health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy is in place with mandatory training for all employees. A wellness group is tasked with maintaining an employee wellbeing and engagement programme. CPC has invested in an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) and other health benefits. CPC has achieved ISO 45001 accreditation.
Business continuity in the event of a major disruption	Impact of major disruption such as Covid-19 pandemic, cyber-attack or major IT outage on the continuing operations of the business. *Risk Appetite – moderate*	A Business Continuity Plan provides guidance and support in the event of a major no-notice event. This is tested throughout the year.
Recruiting and retaining talent	Recruitment and retention of talent is essential to the delivery of business objectives and the loss of skills and knowledge poses a challenge to maintaining performance. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Although retention is improving it is recognised that complacency must not set in. Competitive terms and conditions including a generous bonus and pension scheme. Regular feedback is received from employees via surveys, 1-2-1s and exit interviews. Our Employee Value Proposition (EVP) strategy focuses on improving all areas of people development, culture, work environment and total rewards.

In July 2025 the Board of Trustees approved the formation of a working group to focus on risks in greater depth. This group will provide continual and detailed reviews of all risks with recommendations being presented to each Board meeting. The group will be headed by a Trustee and the Managing Director and may evolve into a formal sub-committee in the future.

A range of surveys are undertaken of customer and employee satisfaction. The GLT conduct detailed analysis of the results with actions taken to address areas of concern.

There is appropriate independent oversight of compliance within specific areas of the business such as Health & Safety and Data Protection.

- CPC continues to progress its 5-year strategy in relation to health, safety and employee wellbeing which is sponsored by a board member. CPC has achieved ISO 45001 – Occupational Health & Safety accreditation.
- CPC maintains its "Great Place to Work" accreditation, "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Development", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing", "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace" and "UK's Best Workplace for medium organisations".
- CPC maintains Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation. CPC commissions external consultants to perform penetration testing on its systems each year. This forms part of the Charity's work toward achieving ISO 27001 – Information Security Management accreditation.
- A Trustee sponsors a working group set up to ensure CPC maintains full compliance with UK GDPR focussing on continual improvement.

Internal controls assurance conclusion

The Trustees can take assurance that the CPC is reacting appropriately to the challenges it faces and has acted proactively to identify, investigate and communicate issues and management actions in an accessible, transparent manner.

The Trustees can confirm that the CPC has suitable internal controls for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. They also confirm that no weaknesses have been identified from the external audit which would have resulted in material misstatement or loss and which would have required disclosure in the financial statements.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 10th of December 2025. The event will be hybrid, online via Microsoft Teams and in person.

External auditors

DJH Audit Limited were appointed as the external auditors for the next three years following a re-tendering exercise conducted through the CPC Audit Services framework and open to all suppliers on that framework.

Looking ahead

CPC intends to continue its growth over the coming years in line with the 5-year strategy launched in 2022. New growth plans for all frontline business streams have been developed.

A detailed and robust development training package for the company's procurement professionals and managers was launched in Autumn 2024. This follows the charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos which is aimed at ensuring CPC retains the best talent. The next year will

see commencement on a similar development package for all non-procurement professionals and managers.

The Articles of Association have been reviewed to ensure it accurately reflects the work the charity is currently doing and its growth ambitions. A revised set was presented to voting members at the AGM in December 2024 for approval. This included an added charitable object to include the increasing focus on "Giving Back". The added objective was approved though the other changes within the new Articles were not approved. Feedback has been reviewed and adjustments made prior to an updated recommendation to be presented at the 2025 AGM in December.

CPC will shortly be publishing its second Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Annual Report for 2024/25 covering all its achievements through the year and future plans in furtherance of the EDI Strategy published last year.

CPC is looking to fund research into absenteeism which will be published and hopefully aid our members. A further grant funding round is planned for early 2026 and several exciting new ideas are being investigated for our "giving back" cause. A second CPC Inclusive Cup is also in the planning stage with the Manchester United Foundation which will be even better and involve members from around the country.

The lease on the current Head Office is due to end in 2028 and the search for new premises has begun.

The financial strength of CPC ensures it can absorb any continued impact from rising inflation and the cost-of-living and with no long-term liabilities (loans) is not negatively impacted by fluctuations in interest rates.

Statement of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of recommended Practices (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK accounting standard have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as each Trustee is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report of the Trustees was approved by the Board on 10th of December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

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A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (the parent 'charity') and its subsidiaries "the group" for the year ended 31 July 2025 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the consolidated balance sheet, the charity balance sheet, the consolidated statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2025 and the group's incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's or charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial

statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' / directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, the trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
We have been appointed as auditor under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance

but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the group and charity through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our previous knowledge and experience of the client and businesses in similar sectors;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified through making enquiries of management and inspecting any available legal correspondence; and
- the audit team were in regular communication in relation to laws and regulations and potential instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the groups and charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of trustees and management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the Internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions; and
- performed walkthrough tests on major transaction cycles.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of Trustees and management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing legal and professional expenses for potential ongoing litigation work; review of board meeting minutes; and

- enquiry of those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.

Despite appropriate planning and performing our work in accordance with International Auditing Standards, there are always inherent limitations that non-compliance is not detected. Non-compliance with laws and regulations is often further removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements and material misstatements due to fraud can be deliberately concealed from auditors, for example through misrepresentation, forgery or collusion.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to the member in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DJH Audit Limited

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Chris Abbott FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of DJH Audit Limited

Date: 15/12/2025

Accountants and Statutory Auditors
St Georges House
Peter Street
Manchester
M2 3NQ

DJH Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Notes	Group 2025 £	As restated Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	As restated Charity 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		9,959	12,182	27,331	43,778
Charitable activities	3	5,963,906	5,834,220	5,932,198	3,727,166
Investments	4	208,037	190,359	207,655	183,435
Total income		6,181,902	6,036,761	6,167,184	3,954,379
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	5,776,907	4,916,550	5,769,004	2,740,743
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources		404,995	1,120,211	398,180	1,213,636
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension schemes		(41,000)	(784,000)	(41,000)	(784,000)
Net movement in funds		363,995	336,211	357,180	429,636
Fund balances at 1 August 2024	23	7,294,258	6,958,047	8,224,701	7,795,065
Tenet merger (hive-up) to CPL	26	-	-	(959,363)	-
Fund balances at 31 July 2025		7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2025

	Notes	Group 2025 £	As restated Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	As restated Charity 2024 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	**13**	12,370	27,480	12,370	27,480
Tangible assets	**14**	23,178	24,907	23,178	13,995
Investments	**15**	-	-	10,000	1,377,962
		35,548	52,387	45,548	1,419,437
Current assets					
Debtors	**17**	1,939,400	1,359,822	1,911,816	1,026,885
Cash at bank and in hand		6,672,073	6,762,682	6,647,005	6,492,782
		8,611,473	8,122,504	8,558,821	7,519,667
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**18**	(988,768)	(880,633)	(981,851)	(714,403)
Net current assets		7,622,705	7,241,871	7,576,970	6,805,264
Net assets excluding pension liability		7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	**19**	-	-	-	-
Net assets		7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds – designated	**21**	458,584	520,993	458,584	520,993
Unrestricted funds – general	**23**	7,179,628	6,765,555	7,143,893	7,695,998
Unrestricted funds – pension		-	-	-	-
Restricted Funds – "Giving Back"		20,041	7,710	20,041	7,710
		7,658,253	7,294,258	7,622,518	8,224,701

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2025, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of those financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 10th of December 2025

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A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration No. 06774578

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (used) / generated from operations	**27**		(282,865)		916,505
Investing activities					
Purchasing of tangible fixed assets		(15,781)		(18,122)	
Sale of fixed assets		-		634	
Interest received		208,037		190,359	
Net cash generated			192,256		172,871
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents			(90,609)		1,089,376
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			6,762,682		5,673,306
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			6,672,073		6,762,682

1. Accounting policies

Charity information

Crescent Purchasing Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Procurement House, Leslie Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ.

The Crescent Group consists of Crescent Purchasing Limited and Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in that UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

This charity is a qualifying entity for the purpose of FRS 102 and the Charity SORP, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements which are intended to give a true and fair view (of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss) and that member is included in the consolidation. The charity has therefore taken the advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements.

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows': Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures': Compensation for key management personnel.

1.2 Going concern

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

1. Accounting policies (Continued)

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purpose and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amounts is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is included within the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT has been charged as a cost against the activity in which the expenditure was incurred. All expenditure is solely for the purpose of achieving the charities objectives and has been disclosed within those cost categories.

Governance costs are recognised when, and to the extent that, the charity can identify activities in which are associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to being directly associated with its charitable activities.

Support costs are recognised when the charity can identify centralised services that benefit all area of the charity's operations.

1. Accounting policies (Continued)

1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of unincorporated businesses over the fair value of net assets acquired. Its it initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill shall be considered to have a finite useful life and shall be amortised on a systematic basis over its life.

1.7 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Customer relationship	up to 8 years
Brand	up to 8 years
Cloud-based server	Over 5 years

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual value over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	Between 3 and 6 years
Fixtures and fittings	Over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

1.10 Fixed assets investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other shirt-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.12 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS102 to all of its financial instruments.

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year not amortised.

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

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

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

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

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

1.14 Retirement benefits
Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee cost. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Re-measurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1.15 Basis of consolidation

In the parent company financial statements, the cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill. The cost of the combination includes the estimated amount of contingent consideration after the acquisition date. Provisional fair values recognised for business combinations in the previous periods are adjusted retrospectively for final fair values determined in the 12 months following the acquisition date. Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are accounted for at costs less impairment.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Crescent Purchasing Limited and all of its subsidiaries (ie entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up 31 July 2025. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used in line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Crescent Services (TPS) Limited have been included in the group financial statements using the purchasing method of accounting. Accordingly, the group statements of financial activities and statement of cash flows include the results and cash flows of Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

During the current or preceding financial statements, no critical judgements or estimates were used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3. Charitable activities

	Group 2025	Group 2024	**Charity 2025**	Charity 2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Marketing premiums	3,464,649	3,360,311	3,367,513	3,288,091
Services rendered	2,391,396	2,342,724	2,345,067	-
Other income	107,861	131,185	219,618	439,075
	5,963,906	5,834,220	5,932,198	3,727,166

4. Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Interest receivable	208,037	190,359

The majority, £207,276 (2024: £183,435) of the Group's investment income of £208,037 (2024: £190,359) arises in Crescent Purchasing Limited from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

5. Charitable activities

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	**Charity 2025** £	Charity 2024 £
Employee costs	3,345,825	2,874,547	3,345,825	914,924
Occupancy costs	61,763	69,591	61,763	69,591
Telephone	38,272	29,439	38,272	19,795
Postage and stationery	5,785	5,753	5,785	4,910
Insurance	65,326	63,269	65,326	63,269
Legal costs	28,359	(12,229)	28,359	6,170
Travel costs	77,466	78,789	77,466	24,639
Recruitment and training	96,671	54,752	96,671	49,577
Marketing and advertising	164,415	187,176	148,395	187,124
Crescent learning	3,268	4,378	3,268	4,378
Procurement partner and member shared income	6,382	10,939	15,729	10,939
Health, safety and employee wellbeing	26,862	17,221	26,862	15,898
Consultancy fees	8,860	12,210	8,860	750
Provision for bad debts	4,225	(4,512)	4,225	(251)
Bank charges	2,560	2,484	2,439	1,608
Other expenditure	13,663	8,983	13,663	8,353
Donations to Charity	3,000	2,000	3,000	2,000
ICT costs	88,390	73,394	88,390	52,172
	4,041,092	3,478,184	4,034,298	1,435,846
Giving Back Activities (see note 6)	576,780	231,366	576,780	231,366
Share of support costs (see note 7)	1,131,903	1,179,061	1,131,903	1,055,723
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	27,132	27,939	26,023	17,808
	5,776,907	4,916,550	5,769,004	2,740,743
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds – general	5,200,127	4,685,184	5,192,224	2,509,377
Unrestricted funds – designated	561,780	226,394	561,780	226,394
Restricted funds – "Giving Back"	15,000	4,972	15,000	4,972
	5,776,907	4,916,550	5,769,004	2,740,743

6. Giving Back activities

Reinvestment activities payable into the education sector is expenditure made from the charity's designated and restricted funds towards agreed projects detailed in the Trustees report and note 22.

This expenditure falls outside of standard operational costs and may lead to deficits in some years. The operational surplus that would have been stated had this reinvestment into the sector not happened is shown.

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	**Charity 2025 £**	Charity 2024 £
Net income for the year	404,995	1,120,211	398,180	1,213,636
Giving Back activities	576,780	231,366	576,780	231,366
Operational surplus	981,775	1,351,577	974,960	1,445,002

7. Group support costs

	Support Cost £	**Governance costs £**	**2025 £**	2024 £	**Basis of allocation**
Employee costs	1,099,283	-	1,099,283	1,019,434	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	32,620	-	32,620	159,627	Support
Audit fees	-	8000	8,000	8,260	Governance
Legal and professional	-	11,081	11,081	11,572	Governance
Accounting services	-	8,051	8,051	8,107	Governance
	1,131,903	27,132	1,159,035	1,207,000	
Analysed between Charitable activities	1,131,903	27,132	1,159,035	1,207,000	

Governance costs include payments to the auditors of £8,000 (2024: £8,260) for audit fees.

Charity	Support Cost £	Governance costs £	2025 £	2024 £	Basis of allocation
Employee costs	1,099,283	-	1,099,283	1,019,434	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	32,620	-	32,620	36,289	Support
Audit fees	-	7,000	7,000	5,100	Governance
Legal and professional	-	11,047	11,047	7,986	Governance
Accounting services	-	7,976	7,976	4,722	Governance
	1,131,903	26,023	1,157,926	1,073,531	
Analysed between Charitable activities	1,131,903	26,023	1,157,926	1,073,531	

Governance costs include payments to the auditors of £7,000 (2024: £5,100) for audit fees.

8. Net Movement in funds

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Fees payable to the company's auditors for the audit of the company's financial statements	8,000	8,260	7,000	5,100
Operating lease costs	2,517	32,269	2,517	32,269
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	17,510	29,517	17,510	21,179
Amortisation of intangible assets	15,110	130,110	15,110	15,110

9. Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them), except for the Managing Director, received any remuneration during the year. Eight trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses in the year of £1,090 (2024: £121).

10. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year were:

	Group 2025 Number	Group 2024 Number	**Charity 2025 Number**	Charity 2024 Number
Professional and administrative	86	80	86	40

Employment costs	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Wages and salaries	3,654,537	3,254,180	3,654,537	1,463,914
Social security costs	423,682	342,553	423,682	230,235
Other pension costs	366,889	297,248	366,889	240,209
	4,445,108	3,893,981	4,445,108	1,934,358

Included within employment costs of the charity are employee restructuring payments (both contractual and non-contractual) totalling £43,887 (2024: nil) which are fully paid within the year.

Included within other pension costs are current services costs and associated interest expense on defined benefit pension plans. During the year, the company recognised current service costs and interest expenses from defined benefit pension plans of £41,000 credit (2024: £6,000).

Included within support costs are wages to the value of £1,099,283 for the Human Resources, Finance and Communications departments through virtue of shared service to all the charitable activities.

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	Group 2025 Number	Group 2024 Number	**Charity 2025 Number**	Charity 2024 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	8	5	8	3
£70,001 - £80,000	1	3	1	1
£80,001 - £90,000	4	1	4	1
Above £90,000	1	1	1	1

The Managing Director is the highest paid employee within the charity. The Managing Director was paid a total renumeration of £134,979 (2024: £132,030). The remuneration

was provided in his capacity of Managing Director of the charitable activities. Included within total remuneration were pension contributions totalling £13,596 (2024: £12,600).

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12. Group intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill	Customer relationship	Brand	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2024	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Eliminated cost on dissolution of Tenet	(554,474)	(69,003)	(366,523)	(990,000)
At 31 July 2025	1,250,000	-	-	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 August 2024	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Eliminated charge on dissolution of Tenet	(554,474)	(69,003)	(366,523)	(990,000)
At 31 July 2025	1,250,000	-	-	1,250,000
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2025	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2024	-	-	-	-

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2024	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2024	1,250,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2025	-
At 31 July 2024	-

13. Group other intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2024	56,129	5,383	61,512
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2025	69,539	7,083	76,622
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2025	10,953	1,417	12,370
At 31 July 2024	24,363	3,117	27,480

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2024	56,129	5,383	61,512
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2025	69,539	7,083	76,622
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2025	10,953	1,417	12,370
At 31 July 2024	24,363	3,117	27,480

14. Group tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2024	58,757	70,129	29,417	158,303
Additions	-	15,781	-	15,781
At 31 July 2025	58,757	85,910	29,417	174,084
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2024	58,757	45,530	29,109	133,396
Depreciation charged in the year	-	17,202	308	17,510
At 31 July 2025	58,757	62,732	29,417	150,906
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2025	-	23,178	-	23,178
At 31 July 2024	-	24,599	308	24,907

Charity tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2024	58,757	41,355	29,417	129,529
Additions	-	15,781	-	15,781
Additions (transfer from Tenet)	-	10,913	-	10,913
At 31 July 2025	58,757	68,049	29,417	156,223
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2024	58,757	27,669	29,109	115,535
Depreciation charged in the year	-	17,202	308	17,510
At 31 July 2025	58,757	44,871	29,417	133,045
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2025	-	23,178	-	23,178
At 31 July 2024	-	13,687	308	13,995

15. Charity fixed asset investments

	Other Investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 August 2024	1,377,962
Derecognition – merger of Tenet Education Services into the charity	(1,367,962)
At 31 July 2025	10,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2024	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2025 – Crescent Services (TPS) Limited	10,000
At 31 July 2024	1,377,962

	2025	2024
Other investments comprise:	£	£
Investments in subsidiaries	10,000	1,377,962

16. Financial instruments

	Group 2025 £	As restated (note 23) Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	As restated (note 23) Charity 2024 £
Carrying amount of financial assets				
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	1,743,588	1,237,178	1,716,003	904,241
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost	678,503	577,561	683,164	565,967

17. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2025 £	As restated (note 23) Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	As restated (note 23) Charity 2024 £
Trade debtors	454,192	399,360	404,260	72,725
Amounts owed by subsidiaries	-	-	38,162	6,613
Other debtors	439,995	2,871	439,995	2,871
Prepayments and accrued income	1,045,213	957,591	1,029,399	944,676
	1,939,400	1,359,822	1,911,816	1,026,885

Included within other debtors is an amount of £424,824 representing cash previously held by the company's dissolved subsidiary, Tenet Education Services Limited. The balance is currently held by the banking institution pending completion of administrative processes following the dissolution. The group is in the process of actively resolving these matters and expects no material impact on the financial position of the group.

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Other taxation and social security	364,316	334,020	352,738	200,904
Trade creditors	113,856	104,706	113,856	97,970
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	-	-	5,986	-
Other creditors	7,112	11,955	7,112	11,291
Accruals and deferred income	503,484	429,952	502,159	404,238
	988,768	880,633	981,851	714,403

Deferred income within the charity relates to suppliers' sponsorship of the CPL village within external exhibitions (£12,750), namely the Schools and Academies Show (SAAS) which will be fully utilised in the November 2025 SAAS. £25,000 relates to a potential misreported spend from a framework supplier which may result in a credit being raised. Consultancy days have been purchased where completion of the works has been delayed into next year (£3,675).

Deferred income

	Group £	Charity £
Balance at 1 August 2024	50,170	28,650
Released from previous years	(25,170)	(3,650)
Resources deferred in the year	16,425	16,425
Balance at 31 July 2025	41,425	41,425

19. Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities

The WYPF pension scheme value as at 31 July 2025 and show the company as having no pension asset. The latest actuarial valuation for the pension scheme related to the period ended 31 March 2025 and valued the asset at £2,381,000 (2024: £1,293,000). In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be unrecognisable on the basis that the company has no expectation of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

20. Retirement benefit schemes

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

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined benefit schemes was £294,000 (2024: £243,000).

Defined benefit schemes
Key assumptions

	2025 %	2024 %
Discount rate	5.80	4.90
Expected rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.50	2.50
Expected rate of salary increases	3.75	3.75
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.50	2.50
Pension accounts revaluations rate	2.50	2.50

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2025 Years	2024 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.9	20.8
- Females	24.1	24.0
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.8	21.7
- Females	24.8	24.7

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	439,000	318,000
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	221,000	198,000
Other costs and income	(294,000)	(243,000)
Total costs	366,000	273,000

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2025 £	2024 £
Actual return on scheme assets	136,000	312,000
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	136,000	312,000
Actuarial changes related to obligations	177,000	(1,096,000)

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Present value of defined benefit obligations	6,788,000	5,647,000
Fair value of plan assets	(6,788,000)	(5,647,000)
Surplus in scheme	-	-

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Liabilities at 1 August 2024	5,647,000	4,027,000
Current service cost	439,000	318,000
Benefits paid	95,000	(135,000)
Contributions from scheme members	209,000	143,000
Actuarial gains and losses	177,000	1,096,000
Interest cost	221,000	198,000
At 31 July 2025	6,788,000	5,647,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.
Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fair value of assets at 1 August 2024	5,647,000	4,817,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net)	136,000	312,000
Benefits	95,000	(135,000)
Contributions by the employer	407,000	267,000
Contributions by scheme members	209,000	143,000
Other	294,000	243,000
At 31 July 2025	6,788,000	5,647,000

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Equity instruments	5,362,000	4,479,000
Debt instruments	951,000	723,000
Property	183,000	152,000
Cash	122,000	152,000
Other	170,000	141,000
	6,788,000	5,647,000

21. Designated and Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 01 August 2024	Incoming Resources	Transfers	Resources expended	Balance at 31 July 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Other education sector charity donations	19,100	-	-	-	19,100
Sponsorship of Student Events/Activities	488,793	499,371	(450)	551,680	436,034
Procurement Training	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)	4,720	-	(4,620)	100	-
Facilitate Estates Group	2,640	-	(2,640)	-	-
Marketing and materials	3,450	-	-	-	3,450
Manchester United Foundation (CPC Cup)	-	27,331	7,710	15,000	20,041
	528,703	526,702	-	576,780	478,625

Restricted funds relate to all donations including gift aid received from the charity's subsidiary company for use solely for the Giving Back (reinvestment) initiative. During the year £9,959 of donations and £17,372 of gift aid was received and £15,000 expended.

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2025	Designated 2025	Restricted 2025	Total 2025	As restated Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets - other	12,370	-	-	12,370	27,480
Tangible assets	23,178	-	-	23,178	24,907
Current assets	7,144,080	458,584	20,041	7,622,705	7,241,871
Pensions and Provisions	-	-	-	-	-
	7,179,628	458,584	20,041	7,658,253	7,294,258

23. Prior year adjustment – unrestricted funds

During the current financial year, management conducted a review of the timing of income recognition relating to marketing premiums earned from suppliers. These premiums are calculated based on the net spend of members under framework agreements. It was identified that certain suppliers reported member spend amounts after the reporting cut-off date for previous periods, resulting in the understatement of marketing premium income in those periods.

To correct this, a prior period adjustment has been made to restate the comparative figures in the Balance Sheet. The Statement of Financial Activities has not been restated as the impact of correcting the cut off adjustment with the movement in accrued income is immaterial.

The impact of this adjustment is as follows:

Charity

	As previously stated	Adjustment	As restated
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 1 August 2024	8,114,701	110,000	8,224,701
Unrestricted funds-general	7,585,998	110,000	7,695,998
Prepayments and Accrued income	834,676	110,000	944,676
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	794,241	110,000	904,241

Group

	As previously stated	Adjustment	As restated
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 1 August 2024	7,184,258	110,000	7,294,258
Unrestricted funds-general	6,655,555	110,000	6,765,555
Prepayments and Accrued income	935,213	110,000	1,045,213
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	1,127,178	110,000	1,237,178

The adjustment has no impact on cash flows for either the current or prior periods.

24. Operating lease commitments

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

	Group 2025	Group 2024	**Charity 2025**	Charity 2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Within one year	19,039	2,517	19,039	2,517
Between two and five years	74,568	93,607	74,568	93,607
In over five years	-	-	-	-
	93,607	96,124	93,607	96,124

25. Related party transactions

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption available in Section 33.1A of FRS 102 whereby it has not disclosed transactions with the ultimate parent company or any wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of the group.

The Trustees are employed by institutions that are also members of CPC and benefit from the usage of its frameworks and Crescent Learning activities.

Grants payable from designated funds are available to all member institutions that pass the relevant criteria. This is therefore open to institutions which employ the trustees of the charity. No Trustees are involved in the review and approval of grant applications.

S Jacobs, a Trustee is the Chief Executive Officer of Professional Wierdos. This company was paid £1,600 to facilitate an employee workshop during the charity's annual summer event held in June. The venue for the event was The Black Country Living Museum in Dudley. The Chair of Trustees, A Comyn is the Chair of the Audit Committee for this charity and this has been declared in the register of interests. A Comyn was not involved in the decision for the venue. The venue cost was £4,664.

26. Subsidiaries

Consolidated financial statements for parent charitable companies are required under the Charity SORP (FRS102)

Details of the Charity's subsidiaries on 31 July 2025 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	**Registered office**	**Nature of business**	**Class of shares held**	**% Held Direct**
Crescent Services (TPS) Limited (No. 10021398)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00

All investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less provision for impairment and are eliminated upon consolidation.

During the year, the company completed a hive-up of its subsidiary, Tenet Education Services Limited, into the company. As part of this restructuring, the trade and net assets of the subsidiary were transferred to the company at book value.

As a result of the hive-up, the company's reserves changed as follows:

- Subsidiary's net assets amounting to £408,599 were transferred to the company.
- Investments in subsidiary amounting to £1,367,962 were written off.
- Net amount of £959,363 was written off against fund balances of the company.
- The cost and accumulated amortisation of the goodwill and brand recognised at acquisition of the subsidiary were eliminated upon its dissolution (see note 12).

27. Cash generated from operations

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the year	404,995	1,120,211
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(208,037)	(190,359)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	15,110	130,110
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	17,510	29,517
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	(41,000)	6,000
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(579,578)	(242,142)
Increase in creditors	108,135	63,168
Cash generated from operations	(282,865)	916,505

Management letter

Prepared for the board of trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited and its subsidiaries

For the year ended 31 July 2025

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1. Introduction

We are pleased to set out in this document our report to the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries ("the group") for the year ended 31 July 2025.

Our responsibilities as auditors are set out in the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) ("ISAs"). We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We have carried out our audit in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 April 2024 in order to express an audit opinion for UK statutory purposes on the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2025. We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and all threats to our independence, as identified to you in our audit plan letter dated 4 September 2025, have been properly addressed through appropriate safeguards. No additional facts or matters have arisen during the course of the audit that we wish to draw to your attention and we confirm that we are independent and able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

In this report, we present the key findings from our audit, together with a commentary on the significant matters arising. The matters that have been reported are limited to those deficiencies identified during the audit which we have concluded are of sufficient importance to bring to the attention of those charged with governance. This report has been discussed comprehensively and agreed with Dave Owen.

This report has been prepared for the sole use of the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries. No reports may be provided to third parties without our prior consent. Consent is, and will only be, granted on the basis that such reports are not prepared with the interests of anyone other than the group in mind and that we accept no duty or responsibility to any other party. No responsibilities are accepted by DJH Audit Limited towards any party acting or refraining from action as a result of this report.

We would like to express our thanks to all members of the company's staff who assisted us in carrying out our work.

2. Statutory audit communication

2.1 Objectivity and independence

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and the Ethical Standards published by the United Kingdom Auditing Practices Board. We have considered our independence and objectivity in respect to the audit for the year ended 31 July 2025.

In addition to auditing the financial statements we also provided, through other individuals, non-audit services to Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2025. We have outlined below the safeguards that we have put in place to ensure that these services provided do not cause any breaches in our independence and objectivity in relation to the audit.

Non audit service provided	Safeguards put in place to reduce the threat to our integrity, independence and objectivity
Corporation tax advisory and compliance services	This service is provided by a separate team from those who have audited the financial statements.

To maintain our independence as auditors we can also confirm that:

- DJH Audit Limited, its trustees and the audit team have no family, financial, employment, investment or business relationship with the group; and

- Audit and non-audit fees paid by the group do not represent a significant proportion of total fee income for either the firm or office.

We confirm that, in our professional judgement, the firm is independent within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff is not impaired.

Legal and regulatory requirements

In undertaking our audit work we considered compliance with the following legal and regulatory requirements, where relevant:

- Companies Act 2006.
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.
- Applicable accounting standards.

2.2 Audit approach and materiality

Our audit planning has taken account of the issues highlighted through discussions with Dave Owen, together with our knowledge and understanding of the group.

We confirm that there were no restrictions on the scope of our audit procedures and we have been able to undertake our work as set out in our planning meeting.

In our planning we have taken account of the results of our risk assessments made in accordance with the guidance set by the ISAs. Our consideration of high-risk areas is documented in full within section 3 of this report.

Based on this rigorous process we have used our professional judgement and formed a materiality level. A matter is material if its omission or misstatement would reasonably influence the economic decisions of a user of the financial statements and the value at which if errors, on their own or in aggregate, were uncorrected would result in a potential qualified audit opinion. The audit materiality of the financial statements as a whole has been set at 2% of income.

We have considered this level of materiality based on the draft accounts for the year ended 31 July 2025 and are satisfied that it continues to be appropriate.

Underpinning materiality is a level of triviality, £6,000, at which any error or omission in excess of this value is recorded and reported to management.

In planning and carrying out our work, we applied a group materiality level to Crescent Purchasing Limited of £123,000 based on 2% of income. For its subsidiary Crescent Services (TPS) Limited we applied a materiality level of £3,000 based on 2% of income.

2.3 Accounting policies

In preparing the financial statements of the group, trustees are required under FRS 102 to review the accounting policies on an annual basis to ensure they remain appropriate to the circumstances of the group and are properly applied.

We have reviewed the accounting policies selected and operated by the group and are satisfied that they are acceptable.

2.4 Significant findings

There were no significant findings that we feel need bringing to the attention of the trustees.

2.5 Accounting estimates and judgements

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on the cost of tangible fixed assets, to write them down to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives.

The principal annual rates used were as follows:

Customer relationships & brands	8 years straight line
Cloud-based server	8 years straight line
Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	3 – 6 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	5 years straight line

2.6 Reconciliation of audited consolidated Net income for the year

The profit/(loss) per the financial statements has been derived as follows:

	Balance sheet		Statement of financial activities	
	Dr (£)	**Cr (£)**	**Dr (£)**	**Cr (£)**
Net income per the draft financial statements				363,995
DR Other debtors (CPC)	424,824	-	-	-
CR Cash (CPC)	-	424,824	-	-
Being reclassification of cash frozen by the bank				
DR Accrued income (CPC)	110,000	-	-	-
CR Unrestricted funds (CPC)	-	110,000	-	-
Being prior year cut off adjustment for accrued income on late spends				
Total	**534,824**	**534,824**	**-**	**-**
Impact on Net income for the year			**-**	**-**
Net income for the year per financial statements				**363,995**

2.7 Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We did not encounter any significant difficulties during the audit.

2.8 Accounting and financial control systems

During our audit we examined the design and implementation of the internal controls relevant to the accounting systems and procedures.

The review of internal controls was carried out with a view to expressing an opinion on the financial statements for the year and was not directed primarily towards discovering weaknesses or towards the detection of fraud. Therefore our comments on these systems include only those matters that have come to our attention as a result of our normal audit procedures, and consequently our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all weaknesses that may exist or of all improvements that might be made. Please refer to section 4 of this report.

2.9 Management representations

We include a copy of the draft management representation letter. There are certain specific representations which we are required by auditing standards to obtain from management as part of our audit procedures. In addition, we are required to obtain other representations on matters material to the financial statements where other sufficient appropriate audit evidence cannot be reasonably expected to exist.

2.10 Audit opinion

Based upon the findings and conclusions of our work, we expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements.

3. Significant risk audit areas

Our review of the high-risk audit areas as noted in our audit planning letter dated 4 September 2025 is as follows:

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Results and conclusion
Revenue recognition in respect of ensuring that all income received by the group is recognised in the correct period. The cut off on income needs to be established correctly to ensure that income is not over or understated. Completeness of income is to be established to ensure all income receivable in the year has been recognised appropriately.	Income not being recognised in accordance with FRS 102 recognition criteria and per any underlying agreements.	The accounting policies adopted by the group were reviewed, considering the guidance available in FRS 102 and the recognition criteria of entitlement, certainty and measurement. A review of cut off has been performed in line with the accounting policies mentioned above. Income was traced from source documents to its recording in the nominal ledger and recalculated based on underlying agreements' to confirm its completeness and accuracy.	A prior period adjustment of £110k was raised against accrued income and opening reserves to account for a cumulative cut off adjustment for income related to late spends. Income is fairly stated with regards to cut off, accuracy and completeness assertions.

3. Significant risk audit areas (Continued)

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Results and conclusion
Management override of internal controls	Potential risk of management override of internal controls (this being a presumed risk inherent within current auditing standards).	A suitable level of professional scepticism was applied throughout all areas of audit testing. We reviewed manual journals and accounting estimates such as accruals and provisions and consider any pressures on management to achieve results.	No evidence of management override of the system of internal control was found throughout our audit procedures.
Valuation of defined benefit pension scheme	Valuation of defined benefit pension obligations depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis and underpinned by a series of assumptions. There is risk that inaccurate information may be provided to the actuary and/ or that assumptions used are not appropriate.	We reviewed the actuary's competences and capabilities to determine the reliability of their work. We reviewed the accuracy of information provided by management to the actuary by comparing it to underlying payroll records. We benchmarked assumptions used to other similar valuations performed for different companies.	No issues were noted.

3. Significant risk audit areas (Continued)

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Results and conclusion
Accounting for Tenet Education Services Limited hive-up and disposal	During the year, Tenet Education Services Limited was hived up and dissolved. Goodwill and intangible assets, recognised at its acquisition, which amounted to £1million were fully amortised at the time of the hive-up and dissolution. In addition, the company was dissolved when it still had about £425k in its bank accounts. Due to multiple financial statement areas being affected by these transactions, there is risk that journal entries and disclosure adjustments were not accounted for properly. There is also the risk that the cash reverted to the Crown under bona vacantia rules when Tenet Education Services Limited was struck off.	We confirmed whether the balances transferred to the company were accurate. We confirmed whether goodwill and other intangible assets recognised at acquisition of the subsidiary were derecognised when the subsidiary was dissolved. Reviewed whether the company had rights to the cash frozen by the bank that belonged to the subsidiary prior to its dissolution.	Frozen cash balances were reclassified to other debtors as they are not cash and cash equivalents as defined. Financial statements are fairly stated with regards to presentation and disclosure, rights, existence and valuation assertions in relation to accounting for the hive-up.

4. Review of systems and internal controls

4.1 Introduction

During our audit we have reviewed the group's systems in relation to accounting and internal control. Our review was solely for the purpose of the audit and our responsibilities under International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). If you wished us to carry out a comprehensive review for weaknesses of systems in order to present detailed recommendations for improvement, we would need to carry out a more extensive review under a separate engagement.

The following issues were identified:

	Audit finding	Potential effect and recommendations
1	The declaration of interest form of A Williams did not include interests identified from Companies House.	It is best practice for trustees to complete detailed forms when their pecuniary interests change to ensure there is transparency over the charity's operations, to avoid conflicts of interests and to ensure party transactions are adequately disclosed in the financial statements.
2	Gift aid donations made by Crescent Services (TPS) Limited to Crescent Purchasing Limited were initially accounted for as expenses rather than distributions.	There is risk that the company may breach the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 requirements as "distributions" are being paid without confirmation that the company has sufficient reserves.
3	Accrued income on late spends reported was not being adjusted in the financial statements.	Although the impact of the movement in accrued income on the statement of financial activities is usually not material year on year, the accrued income balance not recognised in prior years was material and was proposed to be adjusted. Management should estimate the income related to late spends at year end based on past experience and best information available. Necessary adjustments should be made to ensure that income is not materially misstated.

Appendix 1 Schedule of uncorrected misstatements

	Balance sheet		Statement of financial activities	
	Dr (£)	Cr (£)	Dr (£)	Cr (£)
Net income per the financial statements				363,995
DR Other debtors (CPC)	55,000	-	-	-
CR Unrestricted funds (CPC)	-	55,000	-	-
Judgemental adjustment for prior year income on late spends received and recognised in current year.				
Total	**55,000**	**55,000**	**-**	**-**
Impact on Net income for the year			**-**	**-**
Net income for the year per financial statements				**363,995**

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1130461

Accounts

CRESCENT
Purchasing Consortium

ANNUAL REPORT
2023/24

(From left to right: Viviana Di Miceli - Graphic Designer, Rachel Burley - Content Designer, and Ellie Griffiths - Event Coordinator)

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Chair of the Charity Report

As the Chair of Trustees, it is my pleasure to present the charity's annual report for the year 2023/24. I hope you find the report an informative read, providing you with a detailed overview of the charity's activities and confidence that the charity is being responsible with the funds we use to deliver the objectives for our members.

Vision and Mission

The year 2023/24 was the second year of our current 5-year strategic plan and contained within this report is a strategic update of the progress we are making towards delivering our mission and achieving our vision statement, both of which are shown below.

- **Vision**: to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through our work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning.
- **Mission**: to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Key Activities and Achievements

The charity is consistently looking to improve the way in which we work and the services we provide to the members who choose to utilise our offering.

In April 2024 we transferred 42 employees into the charity from the wholly owned subsidiary company Tenet Education Services. This formed part of a year-long consolidation project to operate under one single brand, that being Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC).

I wish to thank the leadership team for the smooth transition and to thank the affected employees, all of whom were fully supportive of the strategic decision.

Further investment into the charity's workforce came in the form of a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme and other health benefits which affirm the charity's value of being people oriented.

The charity ended the year with a membership of 10,098, an increase of 473 members from the previous year. As always, our aspiration is to reach out to more educational establishments and in the year, we have been successful in increasing the levels of engagement with both existing customers and new.

The range of procurement services have continued to provide significant value for money through frameworks, a procurement managed service, and on-demand tendering services. The charity achieved £6m of income for the first time in the year, with year-end surplus before pension costs of £1.1m. This is an increase of £498k on the previous year. The charity's portfolio of frameworks & dynamic purchasing systems continued to be a popular choice for our members with £433m being channelled through them over the year.

The charity is extremely proud of the £1.5m designated for reinvestment into the education sector since 2019, with £231,366 grants, all spent in 2023/24 on various projects and all of which were focused on enhancing teaching and learning. At the inaugural CPC Supplier Excellence Awards which took place in July, the charity announced our new commitment to supporting members with their individual projects focused on SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism. The positive response we have received from members and suppliers has confirmed our decision is the right one, and we look forward to distributing more grant funding early in 2025. Advancing education is a charity objective and we were pleased to fund 33 training courses and deliver 75 webinars that benefitted 108 members.

Governance and Management

2023/24 saw some changes to the charity's Board of Trustees. Three long-term trustees stepped down and were replaced with four new trustees. I wish to thank David Pullein, Joanne Bentley and Noel Cassidy for the many years of support they have provided to the charity, overseeing many changes during their tenure all of which have assisted in making the charity what it is today. I also want to publicly welcome Simon Jacobs, Aimee Williams, Lydia Sparrow and David Thornton, all of whom have different skills which will add to those already held by trustees. I am looking forward to working alongside each trustee in the forthcoming year.

Future Plans

Within the Key Achievements section, I started by saying that the charity is continually looking to improve our services and to support this desire we start 2024/25 with a set of new growth plans for all frontline business streams. A new grant funding window to open in early January 2025, focusing on supporting learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), physical and mental wellbeing, and absenteeism, which is much needed across all areas of the education sector, and we are proud to commit all future grant funding to be used on these important subjects.

Conclusion

The Trustees are confident in the charity's ability to continue delivering outstanding procurement services and supporting the education sector. The financial strength and strategic initiatives position CPC well for future growth and impact.

Andrew Comyn
CHAIR OF THE CHARITY

(Andrew Comyn, Chair of the CPC Charity)

Vision, Mission, Charity Objectives, History and Values

Our Vision

The vision of the charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through our work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning.

Our Mission

The mission of the charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Our Objectives

Our objectives are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

- Providing services for further education, higher education, schools, and other educational bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.
- Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

History of the Group

Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC) is a registered charity, not-for-profit, public sector buying authority.

On April 2nd, 2024, CPC merged with its subsidiary brands CPL Group and Tenet Education Services under one united single brand and are now known solely as Crescent Purchasing Consortium

PEOPLE ORIENTED

Our greatest strength is our people. They are at the heart of all that we do. We provide a caring environment that focuses on individual needs so that our people play an active role in developing the charitable objectives of CPC.

SUPPORTIVE

Supporting our staff and customers is important to us. We listen to customer views and staff ideas and work together to provide an exceptional service. We heavily invest in the principles of training for all, sharing knowledge and guidance.

COLLABORATIVE

Working together achieves more. We share best practice and knowledge through teamwork and strive to develop innovative approaches through strong partnerships.

PROFESSIONAL

Acting with honesty, integrity and treating everyone with respect, we strive to deliver the highest standards to achieve strong working relationships.

CUSTOMER FOCUSED

Everything we do is for the benefit of our customers. We are 100% committed to delivering the highest-quality service and support that exceeds expectations.

Meet our Board of Trustees

ANDREW COMYN
Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College

Andrew is an experienced commercial strategic finance and business advisor, possessing particular expertise within the professional services sector. His specialities span commercial finance (including M&A and funding), restructuring, insolvency operations, credit control and the legal sector.

LAWRENCE JENKINS
Deputy Chief Executive, North Kent College

Lawrence is a member of the Chartered Institute of Global Management Accountants and has worked in Further Education for the past 20 years. He has significant experience in financial and change management, as well as building and resource development. Lawrence has also worked in a number of other sectors, including time at the National Trust, the NHS and in media and advertising.

PETER KANE
Head of Estates and FM, Belfast Metropolitan College

Peter possesses over 23 years' experience in Project and Assets Management across both the social housing and education sectors. His responsibilities include delivery of the college asset management strategy, plus contract management of the college's PFI/PPP contracts and overall estate operations, including health and safety/ sustainability.

FATIMA BENSIHEM
Finance & Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia

Fatima is the Board Sponsor for GDPR and adds her experience as a sales ledger, purchase ledger and general ledger, working with credit control, management accounts, procurement and insurance, as well as line managing the operational side of a business, with skills in computerised accounts.

AIMEE WILLIAMS
Director of School Improvement, Three Spires Trust

With more than 12 years' experience in education, Aimee has developed a robust knowledge and understanding of teaching and learning, supporting a number of schools both within the Trust and across the county to transform their educational experiences. As teaching and learning lead for 6 years, Aimee vehemently believes schools are the engine of social mobility; providing transformational educational opportunities which will prepare students for future endeavours. Aimee joined the CPC on the 1st May 2024.

LYDIA SPARROW
Coach & Consultant, Coach Mentoring Ltd

Lydia has spent 18 years in the international development and humanitarian sector, leading operational teams, projects and funding both in the UK and across the world. Through this work she has developed a passion in working for social purpose, and using her experience to help both organisations and individuals explore their challenges. Lydia joined the CPC on the 1st May 2024.

SIMON JACOBS
Freelance Marketing Consultant, Professional Weirdos

Simon is an entrepreneur and founded his own executive marketing business when he was studying marketing at university. Simon now runs his own business that is focused on bridging the gap between creativity and corporate culture. Simon joined the CPC on the 1st May 2024.

DAVID THORNTON
Founder & MD, Thornton & Lowe

With a background in procurement, managing and evaluating housing bids, Dave started working with public sector suppliers in 2009, which led to the formation of Thornton & Lowe. Over the years both the team and services offered by Thornton & Lowe have grown significantly, but the focus is still driving innovation, quality and social value across the supply chain. Dave has a particular interest in data analysis and performance management. David joined the CPC on the 1st May 2024.

NOEL CASSIDY
Procurement Manager at Cambridge Regional College

Noel brings 32 years' experience of procurement, accumulated from his time spent working with the NHS, as well as within the education and private sectors. He has spent 15 years in procurement in the realm of Further Education and, as well as developing a personal passion for procurement itself, Noel is actively involved in mentoring, developing and sharing good procurement practice. Noel resigned on the 1st June 2024.

JO BENTLEY
Executive Director of Finance, Estates & Risk at Hopwood Hall College

Jo has worked at Hopwood Hall College & University Centre for the past six years, initially arriving as Head of Finance. For the last four years, she has served as Executive Director of Finance, Estates & Risk for Hopwood Hall, where she is a senior postholder. Jo started her career as a graduate trainee accountant in local government, gaining experience in internal audit and accounting departments. Jo resigned on the 12th July 2024.

DAVID PULLEIN
Vice Principal at Leeds College of Building, Finance & Resources

David is passionate about the education sector, a passion reflected by the longevity of his working contributions, spanning almost four full decades. To date, David has accrued more than 38 years of educational finance experience, with 33 of those spent within the sphere of Further Education. David resigned on the 12th July 2024.

Meet our Group Leadership Team

DARREN LOWE

Managing Director

Darren is responsible for the strategic direction of Crescent Purchasing Consortium. He is an experienced Managing Director leading a nationwide team of procurement specialists and has over 30 years' experience in finance and procurement disciplines within the Further Education and private sector.

RANA HOLLAND

Head of Communications & Engagement

Rana joined CPC in October 2021 as the Head of Communications & Engagement following a 28-year career in the Housing sector. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) Rana has particular expertise in sectors that are highly regulated and complex whilst dealing with multiple stakeholders.

DAVE OWEN

Financial Controller

Dave is a qualified and customer focused management accountant with 17 years of experience working in large finance departments. Dave joined CPC from the Housing sector where he had demonstrated a track record in managing and developing a management accounts team within a constantly evolving company.

RACHEL TURNER

Head of Procurement (North)

Rachel is a highly accomplished MCIPS, chartered procurement and supply professional with 18 years of public procurement experience acquired in the NHS and Education sector.

RAYMOND WIFFEN

Head of Procurement (South)

Ray is a procurement professional with 31 years' experience within Education and the NHS sectors. With a wealth of experience, expertise and knowledge of Public Contracting and procurement legislation, Ray leads by example, and provides to our organisation extensive understanding of the Public Contract Regulations.

Governance

The Role of the Board

The Board of Directors are responsible for providing direction and overseeing the governance of the charity. The Directors of the charity are known as Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The duties of the Board are delivered within scheduled Board meetings which allow for constructive debate and challenge, provide independent external perspective and contribute a broad range of experience and expertise.

The Board has core responsibilities including setting the charity's strategic direction, overseeing the delivery of the strategy, and managing risk. All matters below the financial limit set by the Board are delegated to the Group Leadership Team. The Board Trustees operate on an open and constructive debate basis.

Role of the Chair

The Chair leads the Board and ensures it operates effectively, whilst maintaining a culture of openness and debate, ensuring effective dialogue between the Board and its members.

The term of the Chair shall be three consecutive years after which they can offer themselves up for re-election. A voting process will be undertaken by the Board to elect the next Chair. The Chair reviews the composition of the Board and will assess whether the balance of skills, experience and knowledge is appropriate to enable them to operate effectively.

Role of the Managing Director

Day-to-day management of the CPC and implementation of strategy.

Board Meetings

The Board agenda is agreed by the Chair, in conjunction with the Managing Director. Each scheduled meeting includes an update from the various areas of the charity, along with financial reports and update reports from committees. Discussions on strategic proposals, legal and governance matters are also covered.
The Board has a strong focus on financial performance, risk management, data protection, health, safety and wellbeing and sustainability.

Division of Responsibilities

There is a clear division of responsibilities between the Chair (who is responsible for the leadership and effectiveness of the Board) and the Managing Director (who is responsible for managing the charity's business). The Board has delegated authority for the day-to-day management of the CPC to the Managing Director, with specific areas of business being managed by the other members of the Group Leadership Team. The Group Leadership Team are involved in, or aware of, all major activities and are therefore extremely well placed to ensure that all decisions align with the charity's agreed strategy. The Group Leadership Team are given delegated authority from the Board to make decisions within specific parameters. Decision outside of these parameters are reserved for the Board, although the Group Leadership Team are encouraged to bring decisions and/or proposals within their delegated authority to the Board for scrutiny and challenge.

Conflict of Interest

Trustees are required to avoid situations in which they have, or can have, a direct or indirect conflict with the interests of the charity. The charity has a procedure to record new outside interests and actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may affect them in their roles as Directors and Trustees of the CPC.

(From left to right: Dave Owen - Financial Controller, Darren Lowe - Managing Director, Raymond Wiffen - Head of Procurement, Rachel Turner - Head of Procurement, Rana Holland - Head of Communications and Engagement)

Governance

Director and Trustees

The Trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Nominated Chair Andy J Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College Governance

Fatima Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia

Lawrence Jenkins, Deputy Chief Executive, North Kent College

Peter Kane, Head of Estates and FM, Belfast Metropolitan College (co-opted with voting rights)

Aimee Williams, Director of School Improvement, Three Spires Trust

Lydia Sparrow, Coach & Consultant, Coach Mentoring Ltd

David Thornton, Founder & MD, Thornton & Lowe

Simon Jacobs, Freelance Marketing Consultant, Professional Weirdos

Role of the Group Leadership Team (GLT)

The GLT is responsible for the ongoing management of CPC. It considers the day-to-day operational matters for running the charity and reviews performance of the CPC, in line with the strategic plan. The GLT meet on a monthly basis and the meeting is chaired by the Managing Director, who then reports to the Board and is responsible for the development and implementation of the strategy.

GLT are responsible for:

- Development and delivery of business plans and budgets.
- Approval of procedures and policies, delegated from the Board.
- Monitoring of operating and financial performance.
- Health, safety, and wellbeing management.
- Data protection management.
- Sustainability management.

Sub-Committees of the Board

Giving Back Group

With Trustee representation, the Group advises on the appropriate distribution of free reserves held by the CPC.

Employment and Finance Committee

In July 2024, the Board of Trustees approved the formation of an Employment and Finance Committee (EFC) which meets three times a year. Its remit is to review and evidence that operational controls are effective. The EFC comprises of three trustees, two of whom are accountants and one a HR consultant, along with the managing director and financial controller.

Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)

Represented by National and Regional Groups. Each group consists of representation from member organisations. Chairs from each regional group form the national group and cascade information to regional meetings.

(Darren Lowe, CPC Managing Director)

Financial Review & Details

Another record-breaking year.

Income over £6 million for the first time – operating surplus over £1 million.

Income from all business streams achieved their best ever results:

Framework income: £3.2 million
Managed service income: £1.5 million
On-demand tenders and consultancy income: £0.7 million

Total spend reported through the frameworks exceeded £433 million (2023: £441 million) providing real value for money for CPC members. This is supported by a procurement managed service (which has recorded £11.3M of savings on current contract terms for 40 customers) and on-demand tendering services.

15 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

2023/24 saw the largest investment in employees in the history of the charity led by the final elements of the harmonisation of terms, conditions and benefits for employees working in the subsidiary companies. In April 2024, all Tenet Education Services Limited employees were transferred under TUPE regulations into CPC. This coincided with a major rebrand of the charity and launch of a new website.

The charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with employees having the option of participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme value on 31 July 2024 continues to show the company as having a pension asset. This has increased to £1,293,000 (2023: £790,000) and follows on from asset value determined by the actuary in 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be unrecognisable on the basis that the company has no expectation of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 over £1.5Million has been identified as Designated and Restricted Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £813,415 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £231,366 spent during 23/24.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/ activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions.

The national lockdowns during the global pandemic meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding “window” was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid during 2021/22.

During this financial year a third grant funding window was opened with £201k paid to 33 institutions. The grants awarded are having an amazing impact on learners and enabling institutions to utilise their own resources elsewhere.

This year the focus on future reinvestment was defined more clearly and is covered in more detail later.

INCOME OVER £6 MILLION

OPERATING SURPLUS OVER £1M

TOTAL SPEND REPORTED THROUGH THE FRAMEWORKS EXCEEDED £433M

15 FRAMEWORKS SIGNPOSTED BY

Department for Education

MANAGED PROCUREMENT RECORDED £11.3M OF SAVINGS

(David Owen, Financial Controller)

Financial Review & Details

Extracts from the 2023/24 Financial Statements CPC

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities including income and expenditure account.

	Group	Group	**Charity**	Charity
	2024	2023	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Income from:	12,182	500	43,778	19,068
Donations and legacies	5,834,220	5,127,590	3,727,166	3,214,309
Charitable activities	190,359	76,660	183,435	56,787
Investment				
Total income	6,036,761	5,204,750	3,954,379	3,290,164
Expenditure on:	4,916,550	4,582,425	2,740,743	2,552,664
Charitable activities				
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources	1,120,211	622,325	1,213,636	737,500
Other recognised gains and losses	(784,000)	496,000	(784,000)	496,000
Actuarial (loss) gain on defined benefit pension schemes				
Net movement in funds	366,211	1,118,325	429,636	1,233,500
Fund balances at 1 August 2023	6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565
Fund balances at 31 July 2024	7,184,258	6,848,047	8,114,701	7,685,065

Consolidated Balance Sheet

	Group	Group	Charity	Charity
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Goodwill	-	115,000	-	-
Intangible assets	27,480	42,590	27,480	42,590
Tangible assets	24,907	36,936	13,995	26,110
Investments	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
	52,387	194,526	1,419,437	1,446,662
Current assets	1,249,822	1,007,680	916,885	779,331
Debtors	6,762,682	5,673,306	6,492,782	5,191,669
Cash at bank and in hand				
	8,012,504	6,680,986	7,409,667	5,971,000
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(880,633)	(817,465)	(714,403)	(522,597)
Net current assets	7,131,871	5,863,521	6,695,264	5,448,403
Net assets excluding pension liability	7,184,258	6,058,047	8,114,701	6,895,065
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	-	790,000	-	790,000
Net assets	7,184,258	6,848,047	8,114,701	7,685,065
Income funds				
Unrestricted funds – designated	520,993	347,387	520,993	347,387
Unrestricted funds – general	6,655,555	5,710,160	7,585,998	6,547,178
Unrestricted funds – pension	-	790,000	-	790,000
Restricted Funds – 'Giving Back'	7,710	500	7,710	500
	7,184,258	6,848,047	8,114,701	7,685,065

Financial Review & Details

Looking ahead

CPC intends to continue its growth over the coming years in line with the 5-year strategy launched in 2022. New growth plans for all frontline business streams have been developed.

A new detailed and robust development training package for the company's procurement professionals and all managers was launched in autumn 2024. This follows the charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos which is aimed at ensuring CPC retains and recruits the best talent.

The Articles of Association have been reviewed to ensure they accurately reflect the work the charity is currently doing and its growth ambitions. A revised set were scheduled be presented to voting members at the AGM in December 2024 for approval. This also included an added charitable objective to include the increasing focus on 'Giving Back'.

Reserves policy

CPC maintains a reserves policy that is available on our website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. Designated and Restricted reserves are those reserves that the Board of Trustees have approved for the purpose of 'Giving Back' to the education sector.

Post balance sheet events

Tenet Education Services Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of CPC merged into the parent company following the financial year end audit.

Employees transferred into the charity on 1 April 2024. Tenet Procurement Services will continue trading as a subsidiary of CPC though with effect from 2 August 2024 will be renamed to Crescent Services (TPS) Limited. These changes will not have a significant effect on the charity's financial position.

Giving Back

The management and distribution of restricted and designated reserves to member institutions in the form of grants is led by the 'Giving Back' Group who ensure that three main criteria are met. These have recently been changed as detailed below.

£201k of grant funding was distributed during the year with further funding commissioned for 2024/25. Feedback from institutions that have received funding has been extremely positive and demonstrates the direct social impact CPC is having on the lives of young learners.

In July 2024 CPC held its first Supplier Excellence Awards Night at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester. This was to celebrate the achievements of framework suppliers in supporting the education sector over the year and to involve suppliers in the charity's revised focus of supporting SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism for its members.

The event was a success with £7,595 of donations being received for 'Giving Back' as well as several leads being generated from suppliers and attendees for increased support toward the new SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism initiative on a longer-term basis. The aim is to make this an annual event. A new grant funding window to open in January 2025. Previously grants have funded a variety of projects and events aimed at:

- Enhancing teaching and learning.
- Improving a learner's experience of education.
- Supporting the learning of economically disadvantaged learners and minority groups.

The focus of future grants and the daily operational activities of the charity will now be on supporting our members in their quest to adequately help and support the following:

- Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- The physical and mental wellbeing of learners (with or without SEND).
- Absenteeism.

The Board of Trustees, senior management and employees fully support this focus and the positive impact CPC will have on people's lives.

The Trustees and CPC employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

The financial strength of CPC ensures it can absorb any continued impact from the cost-of-living crisis and with no long-term liabilities (loans) CPC is not negatively impacted by rises in interest rates.

To celebrate CPC reaching its 10,000th member landmark the Trustees approved £10,000 being designated from reserves to contribute towards a procurement training related initiative which will be made available to CPC members to bid for.

£201K OF GRANT FUNDING WAS DISTRIBUTED DURING THE YEAR

£7,595 OF DONATIONS BEING RECEIVED FOR "GIVING BACK"

NEW GRANT FUNDING WINDOW OPENED IN JAN 2025

Financial Review & Details

Health, Safety & Wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The charity has a dedicated health, safety and wellness lead who prepared the current health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

In February 2024 CPC was awarded its first ISO accreditation, ISO 45001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management). This achieved one of the main business aims within the 2022-27 Business Plan.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. The actions specified in the Health & Safety strategy have been completed. A Wellness Plan has been developed and awaits approval. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders. A new Men's group was started in the year to run alongside the Women's group formed last year and has been warmly received by participants.

Workshops are currently in progress with all employees to collate thoughts and suggestions prior to the development and implementation of an Employee Value Proposition (EVP).

Several workshops, posted articles and tips were delivered throughout the year covering topics requested by employees such as: Work Life Balance, Menopause, Women and Men's Health and Neurodiversity. Weekly online office chair yoga sessions and seasonal coffee and connections have been particularly well received.

CPC is proud to maintain its Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing accreditation for another year with 99% of employees feeling that CPC is a physically safe place to work, 87% of employees feeling that CPC is a psychologically and emotionally safe place to work and 91% feeling that CPC encourages work-life balance. The new Wellness Plan aims to improve these results.

Employee wellbeing is at the forefront of the charity's values with new investment in a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to support mental health alongside other health and medical benefits.

Social Impact

The charity's social impact from "Giving Back" can be easily measured with the results available on the CPC website. Measuring the impact from the day-to-day operational activities is more challenging and 2024/25 will see progress being made to address this with the results published on the website. The impact will focus on the charity's main stakeholders:

- CPC Members.
- Customers outside of membership.
- CPC framework suppliers.
- Employees.

CPC continues its agile working policy which allows employees to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and employee wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the company.
CPC was very pleased to maintain its "Great Place to Work" accreditation for its fourth year which runs alongside its current accreditations for "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's Best Workplace". It also gained accreditation for UK's Best Workplace for Development and UK's Best Workplace for Charities and Not for Profit Organisations.

The 5-year business plan supports the Charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos by incorporating the recruitment of local graduates into planned positions across several areas of the business.

Sustainability Matters

At the start of 2022 a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across CPC. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team (GLT) and has a Board sponsor. The aim of the group is to ensure the objectives set out in the 5-year strategy are achieved, not least setting out and completing the detailed plan to achieve ISO14001 – Environmental Management accreditation. Progress is reported at each monthly GLT meeting and at each Board meeting.

In 2022/23 an Environment Management System (EMS) template and the charity's first Environmental and Sustainability Policy was produced. This year the focus has been to embed the objectives and key actions set out in the policy as well as introducing processes to collate and record the charity's carbon emissions and calculate its carbon footprint.

During 2024/25 a Carbon Management Plan (CMP) will be created to manage and ultimately reduce the footprint over the next five years. This will be published on the website.

Business travel across the organisation is forecast to reduce year-on-year as management encourage more efficient and effective means of consulting with customers, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members which are, in the main held virtually.

A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Some managed service contract customers are willing for CPC employees to work on a hybrid basis to reflect their own working practices.

This year £1,000 was donated to City of Trees, a charity which plant trees and restore woods and green spaces in the Greater Manchester area. Each year, a similar type of charity in a different part of the country will be chosen to receive a similar donation.

CPC has committed to making available one day per year for employees to volunteer their time to local good causes. During the year employees took part in various activities including:

- Litter picking and minor maintenance work at a local park.
- Helping at a local homelessness charity.
- Working at a local dogs' home.
- Decorating and minor grounds maintenance of a charity's head office.

£1,000 WAS DONATED TO CITY OF TREES

City of Trees

(Brandon Cox, volunteering at Ladybarn Park during CPC Summer event 2024)

Communications & Engagement

The Communication and Engagement teams have successfully completed several key milestone projects to support the organisation's harmonisation of brands by successfully streamlining and harmonising our portfolio of services for members, suppliers and key stakeholders.

On April the 2nd we saw the consolidation of brands CPL Group, Crescent Purchasing Consortium and Tenet Education Services harmonised into one united single brand, solely being known as 'Crescent Purchasing Consortium' (CPC), with the physical consolidation of functions and assets taking place on the 1st of August 2024.

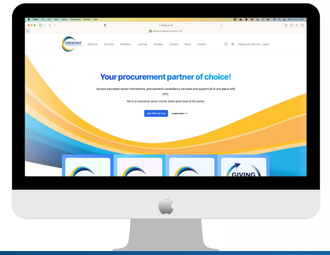
The harmonisation of brands will build on the existing strengths of each organisation as we continue to evolve an already impressive portfolio of services, whilst eradicating any brand confusion for our members, suppliers and wider stakeholders.

We also saw the rebrand of Tenet Procurement Services, which provides procurement frameworks and consultancy services for the wider public sector harmonised under the Crescent brand now known as 'Crescent Services'.

The rebrand coincided with the 25th anniversary of CPC being established and not only did we unveil our fresh new brand but we also launched our new harmonised website. The new website is providing our members with a one stop procurement shop for all their day-to-day buying, consultancy, and training needs.

On the back of the website going live, a penetration test was conducted which saw only two vulnerabilities, which is a testament to the successes of the build. Penetration testing is a core business tool for analysing the security of our IT systems and to ensure that our security controls are assessed and configured in accordance with best practice.

Our new single brand website will continue to play a key role in supporting our members and suppliers with all their procurement and reporting needs whilst having the additional benefits of accessing our FREE 'Crescent Learning' platform and 'Giving Back' funding. Our new website will stand the CPC in good stead for many years to come with positive feedback being received from our members and suppliers who utilise the website on a daily basis.



In our ongoing commitment to protect our data and systems we successfully attained Cyber Essentials Plus certification to reassure our members and suppliers that we continue to work to secure our IT against cyber-attack.

SINGLE BRAND WEBSITE PROVIDING A ONE STOP PROCUREMENT SHOP

WE HAVE ACHIEVED *CYBER ESSENTIALS PLUS CERTIFICATION* FOR THE THIRD YEAR RUNNING

CYBER ESSENTIALS CERTIFIED

(Rana Holland, Head of Communications and Engagement)

Communications & Engagement

Supplier Excellence Awards

In July 2024, CPC saw its first 'Supplier Excellence Awards' unveiled, where we took the opportunity to celebrate the outstanding performance, innovation, and collaboration of our valued suppliers across our supply chain whilst dedicating the evening to our 'Giving Back' initiative.

As a procurement charity, we are committed to building long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with our suppliers across our impressive supply chain of 1,000+ suppliers.

We were proud to recognise suppliers who have driven quality, innovation, service, competitiveness, diversity and equality through incredible collaboration and leadership for our member community, whilst considering their social and sustainable impact as organisations.

Suppliers are critical to CPC's operational and strategic delivery and play an integral part in our vision of being the procurement partner of choice for the education sector and, through our work, helping the sector enhance teaching and learning. In the past year alone £433m has passed through our supply chain which places us as one of the leading consortia in the UK.

Every year we will come together to recognise an elite group of outstanding suppliers whose performance has consistently exceeded our educational community expectations, the awards will serve as an enabler for suppliers to commit to continuous improvement whilst fostering strong partnerships.

Find out more at cpcexcellenceawards.co.uk

Regional Procurement Advisory Services

2023/24 was a year of incredible engagement and growth in visibility for CPC, and this was and a huge part of this was down to the Regional Procurement Advisory (RPA) team and the support received from colleagues around the group.

The first major success of this year was the introduction of the 'PAG Presents' webinar series. Acknowledging the need for a more proactive approach to engagement, we believed there was an opportunity in this digital age to have a virtual webinar series that we could utilise to share best practice, advice and guidance.

'PAG Presents' is a spin-off of the successful Procurement Advisory Group (PAG) we run on a regional basis and with 7 webinars to date with different topics, 519 registrations, and 5 different guest speakers, it has been everything we wanted the webinar series to be and more.

In relation to the regional PAG meetings, there were 17 of these over the course of the year, with one of these being a special summer edition giving members an overview of the Procurement Act and what they need to do to be ready for the changes ahead.

We have a plethora of webinars in the pipeline going into the next academic year, and we envisage 'PAG Presents' and its sister 'Added Value' streams will grow from strength to strength.

It has been extremely encouraging to also see the growth of the CPC Communicator. This year we have utilised it as a tool for engagement through sharing our events and encouraging our members to use it to gain insight into how other members do their procurement. We have seen a huge increase of usages and an increase in members signed up to use it. This year we saw 196 usages, which was 41 more than last year!

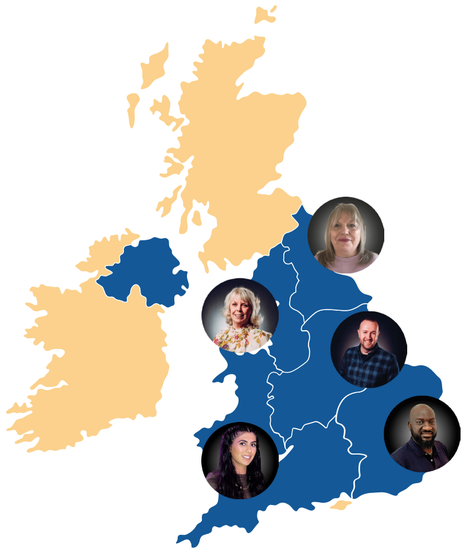
This year we also welcomed two new RPA's to the team in the form of Olamide Ojuri, who looks after the London and South East regions, and Roshni Popat who has taken on East Anglia, South West and Wales, with Daniel Kinder now looking after Yorkshire and the Midlands. So far these changes have been widely acclaimed by our members and the group as a whole.

The team facilitated 517 individual appointments with members over the course of the year, and we attended various events including the Schools and Academies Show, Schools North East and Procurex. This growth in engagements has meant that we have absolutely smashed through the KPI given to us at the start of the year.

517 INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS WITH MEMBERS

196 USAGES OF CPC COMMUNICATOR

FREE UK-WIDE PROCUREMENT ADVISORY SERVICE



JACK HORTON
Customer Engagement Manager

TRACEY HINDMARSH
Regional Procurement Advisor
(North East & North Yorkshire)

LOUISE ASHCROFT
Regional Procurement Advisor
(North West)

OLAMIDE OJURI
Regional Procurement Advisor
(London & South East)

DANIEL KINDER
Regional Procurement Advisor
(Midlands, Yorkshire & Humberside)

ROSHNI POPAT
Regional Procurement Advisor
(East, Wales & South West)

(Jack Horton, Customer Engagement Manager)

Our People & Culture

The charity's values start with People Oriented because our people are our product. It is imperative to us that we support and develop them to become the very best they can be, because the simple fact is we become better as a result. The remaining values of being supportive, collaborative and professional ensure we achieve our fifth and final value of customer focused.

2023/24 was one of the most challenging labour market environments we have operated in. The year of the 'Great Resignation' with a National labour market turnover rate of 22.5%, high rates of inflation, increases in the average pay growth which resulted in a war of talent.

Here are just a few of the team's highlights for the year:

1. Ranked 80th Best Workplaces (medium sized companies) - March 2024
2. Cycle to work scheme launched – May 2024
3. Fourth consecutive year as a certified Great Place to Work – May 2024
4. Ranked 56th Best (medium sized) Workplaces for Development - May 2024
5. Best Workplaces for Wellbeing - June 2024
6. Absence levels below the national average.
7. Robust monitoring of reasons for absence so we can support employees better and react to emerging trends.
8. Commencement of a training programme for the Management Team to provide them with the tools and knowledge to be confident in their role and support others.
9. Continuous promotion of the charity's wellbeing options which include the Employee Assistance Programme, a team of mental health first aiders, occupational health and access to work.
10. Supporting employees with managing a work/life balance by providing training of effective homeworking and wellbeing.
11. A staggering reduction in labour turnover from 20.25% to 9.88%. This reflects the changes nationwide which were 22.5% and 14.4% (Source: Brightmine XpertHR) in 22/23. The charity/not-for-profit sector average for the year was 16.4%.
12. Exit interview feedback has been collated and reviewed to ensure we learn for the information being provided to us.
13. We launched our first Equality, Diversity and Inclusion report and we were extremely proud of the progress we are making in that important space.

A major project completed by the People Development team, as part of a year-long plan to consolidate the charity and a subsidiary company into one single brand, Crescent Purchasing Consortium, was the transfer of employment of 42 employees from Tenet Education Services (wholly owned subsidiary company) into the charity. Part of this process required consultation meetings with all employees, including those not directly affected, and financial investment to ensure terms of employment were equal across the whole workforce. We are pleased to report that the transfers were conducted smoothly and feedback from employees has been positive.

The achievements are testament to the combined effort of the People Development team, the workforce and trustees' contribution to making CPC an inclusive and caring workplace.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

This year has been an exciting year in relation to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), with the development and launch of our 5-year Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. The EDI Working Group have identified three areas of strategic focus and objectives that will drive our EDI action plan. We have made an excellent start in laying the foundations of the new strategy and have begun to work through several actions. This has highlighted the importance of sharing equality monitoring data to increase knowledge and awareness, and how we need to fully understand the diverse needs of our workforce to make more informed decisions.

We know that creating a supportive culture is key in our approach to EDI activity, which is why, this year, we have created the Men's and Women's Support Networks, and we have plans to set up a Carers Support Network shortly. We have been accredited with the Disability Confident Employer and we have implemented more flexible and inclusive ways of working through our Hybrid and Flexible Working processes and Family Friendly policy.

Figures from our recent employee survey suggests that CPC is doing a great job in being inclusive, however we still have a considerable way to go to meet the objectives of our 5-year EDI strategy. However, this year we have demonstrated positive progress and have clearly identified our areas of focus to move beyond compliance and forward in progressing our EDI agenda. For more information on our progress, we have developed an EDI annual report for 23/24 which provides a detailed report on the EDI activities undertaken within the last 12 months and includes a section on monitoring and reporting on our EDI data, which informs our people-led approach to equality and inclusion. A copy of the 2023/24 EDI annual report is available on the CPC website. We care about equality, diversity and inclusion, because it's the right thing to do. We'll continue to listen to our employees and welcome everyone's feedback. We acknowledge that, while we continue to make progress, we still have work to do.

Employee Value Proposition (EVP)

EVP is what makes CPC unique. It is our offering to our employees in return for their skills, experience and commitment to the charity. An EVP is about putting people first and aligning with the charity's values and strategies. It helps us to attract, engage and retain talented employees. Four pillars have been identified that represents the culture of the charity:

- People Development
- Culture
- Work Environment
- Total Rewards

To ensure we get EVP right, the People and Culture Advisor and the Health, Safety and Wellness Lead hosted 10 workshops covering all the departments within CPC to help identify what is important to our employees within these four pillars.

These workshops provided an opportunity for employees to voice their opinions to help identify areas which they felt could be improved and feed into our culture. Following the feedback from these workshops, the aspiration for the next 12 months is to identify the common themes and focus areas CPC can work on and implement in the next 12 months, and to develop an EVP Framework and strategy that represents our true culture.

(From left to right: Smita Chauhan, People and Culture Advisor, and Helena Fearnley-Brown, People Advisor)

Crescent Learning

CPC has a strategic objective for the period 2022-27 which is to advance procurement education and research within the sector. It continues to achieve that objective by developing our stakeholders (colleagues, members, clients, and suppliers) to be the best that they can be in this field.

Crescent Learning is the arm of the charity which delivers and supports learning and development to our stakeholders, improving their ability to succeed in their roles. During the year, this investment was cemented by the creation of a new role, Learning & Development Lead, and the appointment of Mark Pearson from within the business to bring together the various strands of this activity and to grow the capacity of CPC to deliver its charitable aim. Our ethos of 'giving back' to invest part of our surplus to promote good practice and enhance & improve procurement activity in the sector. This activity has been of increased significance during the year, as the wider public sector prepared for a once-in-a-generation change in procurement regulation under the Procurement Act 2023. As in previous years, this activity has been delivered by CPC at no cost to our stakeholders.

Seminars

Over the year, seminars have been delivered under the auspices of PAG Presents to reach out to our members and colleagues on issues of procurement best practice. The learning from these seminars, together with published FAQs and templates, has received positive feedback from the sector and will be built on in coming years. We have been able to bring in external support from within our wider stakeholder base, further strengthening the offer and relevance to our members and colleagues.

Supporting Umbrella Organisations

We have delivered learning sessions to other umbrella organisations including the Association of Colleges and the Department for Education, whose own membership is from within the education sector. This has raised the profile of CPC within the sector and increased requests for support from institutions, who can see the benefit of our broad range of procurement services and wish to access the knowledge and expertise that CPC possesses.

Procurement Act 2023

We continue to strive to be the sector leader in education-related public procurement and this has meant enabling and empowering our colleagues to be trained in the art of procurement under the new Act. We are proud that all procurement colleagues across our Contracting, Consultancy and Customer Engagement teams are Transforming Public Procurement Expert Practitioner certified and several have been supported to take the further step of becoming Advance Practitioner qualified, in strategic roles across our business.

We have signposted the learning that has been rolled-out from the UK Government's Cabinet Office to all our stakeholders and encouraged their uptake of this free-to-access training and guidance support in conjunction with the Department for Education. When the Act comes into force in 2025, CPC will be fully prepared and will have enabled wider stakeholders to become equally prepared for this shift in procurement regulation.

Funded Training Courses

Where suitable, high quality, external training courses and CPD is available at a fee, we have fully funded our stakeholders to access and benefit from that training. This includes supporting colleagues with their professional examinations on their own journeys to achieve Chartered Procurement Professional status through the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS). We have also funded courses for members to access, to improve their procurement colleagues' knowledge and technical expertise, promoting the raising of procurement standards in the sector. We are proud that our stakeholders proactively ask for this funded provision, itself demonstrating that our efforts to enhance and improve procurement activity is growing organically.

To celebrate reaching 10,000 members, the charity has provided £10,000 which has been designated for training purposes. The ambition for these funds is to fund a level 4 CIPS qualification for three employees within our membership. This will effectively start people off on their procurement career.

Self Help Networks

We continue to support education sector self-help networks and encourage our stakeholders to participate in national and regional support groups to learn from each other and as a vehicle for delivering best practice advice and tuition to those groups.

Procurement Advisory Group

The Procurement Advisory Group (PAG) at both a national level and across the nine regions into which it is split. PAG has continued to benefit from our stewardship over the year with members forming support groups and looking to CPC to provide learning and development in the core functionality of procurement within the sector.

(Mark Pearson, Learning and Development Lead, exhibiting at Schools and Academies Show 2024)

Crescent Frameworks

The Contracting Team have delivered a good set of results for 2023/24, building on the successes detailed in last year's report, with CPC continuing to be the chosen route to market for many educational institutions. It has been a year characterised by change and challenges, but the team have demonstrated excellent resilience and adaptability.

Framework Performance

Spend through CPC's various frameworks has continued to impress with £433m reported for 23/24. Whilst we were slightly disappointed not to improve on last year's figure of £441m, we understand that this drop in total spend is in part, a result of spend for a significant agreement (Utilities) being reported late for the last 2 financial quarters. Had this spend been reported on time, the total framework spend figure for the year would have been £462m, representing growth of 4.7%. However, as these figures were reported late, they will instead be rolled into the next financial year.

Whilst we have seen a slight downward trend in the number of members transacting through our agreements (1.4% less than 2022/23) and the average spend per member has decreased (0.52% less than 2022/23), we should take confidence from the fact the annual results are still above the 5 year average.

A sample of framework highlights for the year is provided below:

- Our best performing framework agreement, Outsourced Catering Services, has seen excellent results for the last financial year. Total spend through this agreement surpassed £112m representing a 15% increase on the previous financial year. Credit should be given to our On Demand consultancy team who have been strong advocates for the agreement with around 50% of their catering consultancy requirements being put through the framework.
- Our Top 5 frameworks (from a revenue perspective) all performed excellently this year with an average growth rate of 24% based on the previous year's total revenue. These frameworks accounted for 62% of all framework revenue for FY2023/24.
- Hair, Beauty & Wigs (subsequently replaced with Salon Equipment & Products on expiry) saw a 128% upturn in usage by members, with spend jumping from £1.269m to £2.899m
- Photographic Equipment and Consumables saw a remarkable increase in total spend, up 1557% on the previous year, taking spend from £72k to £1.193m
- Outsourced ICT delivered a 177% increase in revenue, with total spend for the year at £577k.
- Sports, Fitness and Play Equipment saw an 848% increase in revenue, with total spend for the year at £528k
- Security Systems enjoyed a good year with spend jumping from just £7k in 2022/23 up to £359k in 2023/24, an increase of 4932%.

Academic Year	Total Spend	Growth	Total Members Transacting	Growth	Average Spend per Member	Growth
2018/19	£ 240,000,000.00	-	4,728	-	50,761.42	-
2019/20	£ 214,000,000.00	-12.15%	5,128	7.80%	41,731.67	-21.64%
2020/21	£ 244,000,000.00	12.30%	5,365	4.42%	45,479.96	8.24%
2021/22	£ 322,000,000.00	24.22%	5,903	9.11%	54,548.53	16.62%
2022/23	£ 441,000,000.00	26.98%	6,212	4.97%	70,991.63	23.16%
2023/24*	£ 433,000,000.00	-1.9%	6,131	-1.4%	70,624.69	-0.52%

Fig 1. – 2018-2024 Headline CPC Framework Spend Analysis

**Readers should note that this years figure is lower than last years due to the late reporting of related Utility framework spend by Dukefield Energy for Q3 and Q4. The spend for this period has subsequently been reported at £29million. This spend will be reflected in the end of year figures of FY2024/25.*

Framework Pipeline

It has been a busy year from a tendering perspective with several agreements reaching expiry and the imminent deployment of new procurement regulations under Procurement Act 2023. We were keen to accelerate certain procurements to deliver them under the existing PCR2015 regulations, as there will be no established best practice. A summary of agreements awarded in

(Raymond Wiffen, Head of Procurement)

Crescent Frameworks

FY2023/24 is provided below:-

- Security Staffing and Associated Services
- Supply and Distribution of Drinking Water Dispensers and Related Services
- Salon Equipment
- Student Transport DPS
- Mechanical, Electrical and Building Fabric Maintenance
- Utilities Supplies & Services
- Library Resources
- ICT Hardware
- Fire Safety (NEUPC)
- Supply, Installation and Management of Data Centre Equipment and Infrastructure (NEUPC)
- Sports, Fitness and Play Equipment
- Photographic Equipment and Consumables (NWUPC)
- Audio Visual Equipment and Installation Services (NWUPC)
- Signs and Wayfinding Solutions
- Occupational Health Services (LUPC)
- Facilities Services (NWUPC)
- Convenience Retail Products and Services (TUCO)
- Hot Beverage (TUCO)
- Audit & Financial Services

In addition, we are currently tendering new framework agreements for Insurance for Colleges & Academies, as well as Grounds Maintenance, and will be soon embarking on a tender process for the creation of a CPC-led MFD agreement. The team also received approval from the Department for Education (DfE) for several agreements from our portfolio to be signposted to the wider education sector as "Recommended Deals" including our Temporary & Permanent Staffing and Stationery & Educational Supplies frameworks.

Staffing and Structure

During FY2023/24, the team underwent a restructure to better reflect modern approaches within the profession and the needs of our members and suppliers. The portfolio of agreements has been split into 3 workstreams: People, Product and Place. Each category workstream is supported by a Procurement Manager, Contracts Manager and Senior Procurement Officer, who work together to ensure appropriate support and resource is available to ensure the agreements within the portfolio are appropriately maintained, monitored and managed. The changes have been received positively inside and outside of the team and have resulted in high levels of collaboration within the team.

Continuous Improvement

As was the case last year, one of the key focus areas for the team over the last 12 months has been process and procedure improvement. This review has been far reaching and we have made significant progress in a number of key areas to ensure all processes are delivered to a consistently high standard. Projects undertaken have included:

- A comprehensive review and update to our Contract Management Procedures.
- Creation of an online Direct Award tool within our website to ensure the business, members and suppliers have full transparency and an audit trail of all direct awards undertaken through our agreements, an increasingly common route to market for our members.
- Ground-up redesign and rebranding of all Contracting documentation including ITT's, User Guides, etc.
- Introduction of new call-off terms and conditions for all new framework agreements which have been simplified for ease of use by members.

The team continue to use a multitude of approaches to engage and support our membership. Working with the Regional Procurement Advisory team, the Contracting Team now attends regional Procurement Advisory Group (PAG) meetings, where the focus of discussion is around providing updates on the team's activity and more recently the looming introduction of wide ranging public procurement reform. These meetings also provide a good opportunity to undertake pre-market engagement with members prior to the launch of a tender process, they present an excellent opportunity to seek feedback on proposals and to highlight common issues in the procurement of relevant goods and services. We also regularly deliver educational content to our members via various other communication channels including webinars, case studies and newsletter articles.

Collaboration

The CPC Contracting team continue to collaborate wherever possible, working with a range of internal and external stakeholders to continue delivering best in class solutions to our members.

We continue to work in close partnership with the Department for Education (DfE), meeting on a monthly basis with their senior commercial leaders to discuss ongoing issues and strategic priorities. We have also engaged with the DfE extensively around the "Recommended Deals" process, providing feedback to the Department on issues with their process and providing recommendations for improvement. CPC continue to grow our portfolio of Department for Education recommended deals and now have 15 agreements approved for use across the education sector, the most of any PSBO. CPC were recently invited to present at a MAT Summit hosted by the DfE at their offices in Manchester to provide key stakeholders with updates on the Procurement Act, the DfE have also begun to signpost our Procurement Act guidance webpage to all institutions within the sector.

One of the most fundamental changes in the team over the last 12 months has been the decision not to renew the contractual relationship with Dukefield Procurement. The agreement formally ended on 31st July 2024 and both parties agreed that the remaining DP managed agreements would be allowed to continue up until their expiry or up until we have replaced the agreement with a CPC led one. Additionally, we also took the difficult decision to terminate our relationship with Dukefield Energy (this agreement ended on 8th September 2024), for the provision of Energy Consultancy services to our members and subsequently appointed Sustainable Energy First to provide these services following a tender process. From our initial implementation meetings, we are assured and confident that the next iteration of the agreement will offer significantly improved outcomes for members.

Department for Education

15 AGREEMENTS APPROVED FOR USE ACROSS THE EDUCATION SECTOR

(Keeley Blackburn, Procurement Manager)

Crescent Consultancy

Managed Service teams have tackled some interesting times in the year with the challenge of supporting their customers during budget constraints and fast changing education reforms as well as being on top of becoming more prepared for the procurement legislation changes in the form of the Procurement Act 2023.

This year has been rewarding for both the North and South regions with a great deal of praise and thanks received across our customers for achieving the savings targets and achieving excellent results. The team's performance hasn't gone unnoticed either from our customers or from within the CPC, so well done all.

Our teams have been strengthened by staff and management development, with stronger plans to continue the skills growth into 2024/25 now we have our dedicated Learning and Development Lead, Mark Pearson, in our People Development team.

Our customers continue to benefit from the wide range of experience and knowledge our staff have and with the management support, the value proposition we offer existing and new customers grows each year.

Customers

The Managed Procurement Service Team have supported 43 different educational establishments during the year.

- 31 placements are Further Education customers, this represents a 13% market share in this sector.
- 9 placements are Multi Academy Trust customers
- 3 placements are Higher Education customers

A total of 247 tenders were completed by Crescent Consultancy during the year influencing £142,379,322 of non-pay public sector spend.

Savings of £11.4m have been generated within the combined duration of all placement customer contracts.

Consultancy Services

The top 10 categories of spend are shown below:

Rank	CPV Code	Awarded Value	% of overall spend
1	Catering	£ 65,576,368.73	46.06%
2	Cleaning	£ 28,069,560.19	19.71%
3	Student Transport	£ 8,226,130.99	5.78%
4	Software	£ 7,668,754.82	5.39%
5	Agency	£ 5,999,995.00	4.21%
6	Printed Stationery	£ 5,459,891.32	3.83%
7	M&E	£ 3,244,813.91	2.28%
8	Works	£ 3,049,499.22	2.14%
9	Security	£ 2,646,834.61	1.86%
10	Consultancy	£ 2,556,839.79	1.80%

Consultancy Team

Between August 2023 and July 2024, the ManagedProcurement Service Team consisted of 33 employees, split almost equally across the northern and southern teams.

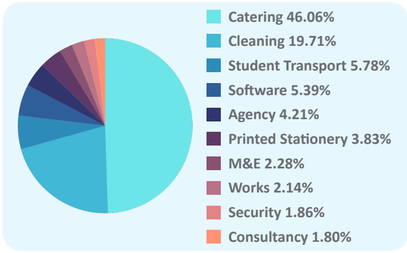
The gender split across both north and south teams was 49% male / 51% female.

SAVINGS OF £11.4M HAVE BEEN GENERATED

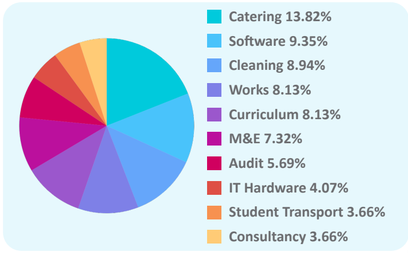
247 TENDERS WERE COMPLETED BY CRESCENT CONSULTANCY

THE TEAMS HAVE SUPPORTED 43 DIFFERENT EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS DURING THE YEAR

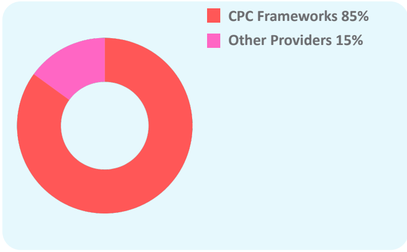
THE TOP 10 CATEGORIES BY SPEND REPRESENT 93% OF AWARDED CONTRACT VALUE



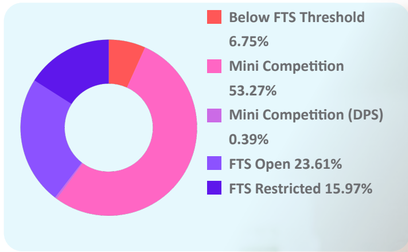
THE TOP 10 CATEGORIES BY NUMBER OF AWARDED CONTRACTS

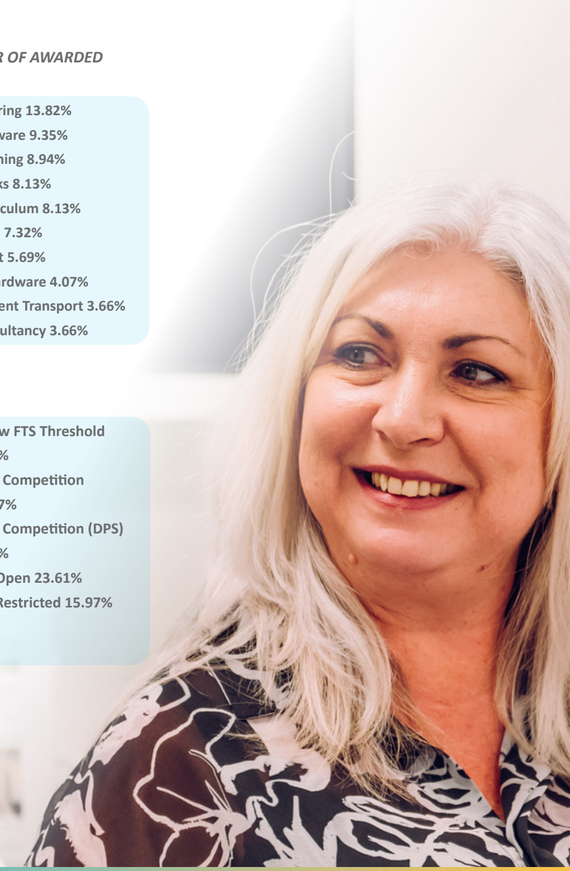


BREAKDOWN BY FRAMEWORK PROVIDER



BREAKDOWN BY TENDER PROCESS





(Rachel Turner, Head of Procurement)

On Demand

Financial Year 2023/24 was the best in the history of the On Demand service. The team completed tenders for customers awarding £123m of business. This has allowed customers to maximise opportunities for making savings and achieved compliancy with procurement regulations through robust tender processes, undertaken by our best-in-class procurement experts.

CPC	87	48.3%
Open	32	17.8%
R-FTS	30	16.7%
RFQ	13	7.2%
Other Frameworks (OF)	9	5.0%
TBC (tendering as you go)	4	2.2%
Review	4	2.2%
Direct award	1	0.6%
	180	**100.0%**

We are particularly pleased with the support we are able to offer the Contracting Team in utilising our frameworks as much as possible.

Our customer base remains quite well balanced across our sectors with the following client base using our services:

Schools	59	32.8%
MATS	58	32.2%
Colleges	51	28.3%
Universities	12	6.7%
	180	**100.0%**

The top 5 spend categories out of the 23 undertaken by the On Demand Team where as follows:

1	Catering	42
2	Cleaning	37
3	IT Services	15
4	FM	11
5	Audit	10

The On Demand team are hosting 2 supplier events in the first quarter of the new financial year, with Catering and Cleaning suppliers being invited to attend on separate occasions. Forging good supplier relationships is a key objective for the team as this can be a valuable source of future leads.

In the last 12 months 2 in-person team days have been held looking at how the team can streamline our services and make us more efficient by better utilising existing software programmes, improvements are working well.

The team are now well established and performing at a high level. Customer satisfaction with our service remains strong. 70% customers rated the service as outstanding with 30% rating the service as good. 87% said the service received was as expected with no areas to be improved. 100% would recommend CPC to other educational establishments.

THE TEAM UNDERTOOK 180 TENDERS FOR OUR CLIENTS

70% CUSTOMERS RATED THE SERVICE AS OUTSTANDING

100% CUSTOMERS WOULD RECOMMEND CPC

(Jonathan Whittle, Head of On Demand Services)

Crescent Services

Crescent Services have experienced some positive change and growth this year. Sharia Rahman (Procurement Customer Engagement Advisor) joined Crescent Services this year and has been progressing its course to expansion. One of the first positive changes to highlight is the change of name as part of our brand harmonisation strategy. The brand now appears in cohesion with CPC and avoids ambiguity when talking to external stakeholders.

The sister arm of CPC has seen growth in membership numbers which have nearly doubled compared to last year. The growth in numbers happened due to active engagement through various channels. As a corollary, this has contributed to the increase in our turnover, profit and consequently the contribution to the CPC charity.

We have carried out 61 visits with Crescent Services members. This new engagement has made Crescent Services more apparent to its existing and new members and has received positive feedback. Members and suppliers are more aware of Crescent Services and its offerings to the wider public sector, and we have also exhibited in several exhibitions this year for the first time, which have made us a prominent presence in the sector.

With £2.4m worth of confirmed contract awards and over £10m in the pipeline, we expect to deliver many more positive results and much more success. There are some fantastic ideas in the pipeline to be explored and implemented which will exacerbate Crescent Services' expansion to become a ubiquitous brand in the UK public sector.
The Board of Directors for Crescent Services agree that the subsidiary organisation has a clear rationale for its existence and have discussed the benefits and risks attached to the company. The charity Board of Trustees are updated on the progress of Crescent Services at each board meeting to ensure all directors and trustees are content that the arrangement continues to best serve CPC's charitable purposes.

EXHIBITED AT SEVERAL EXHIBITIONS AND TRADE SHOWS

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE

£2.4M WORTH OF CONFIRMED CONTRACT AWARD

OVER £10M CONTRACT AWARD IN THE PIPELINE

61 VISITS WITH MEMBERS

(From left to right: Jack Horton - Customer Engagement Manager, Jack Buckley - Procurement Manager, Sharia Rahman - Procurement Customer Engagement Advisor, and Nigel Dexter - Procurement Manager, exhibiting at Procurex National on 16th May 2024 at The Exhibition Centre, Liverpool)

Partnerships

CPC has a long history of working in collaboration and partnership with external partners.

We believe that strong partnerships will generate benefits that will positively impact our customers. We continued to build on our existing partnerships throughout 2023/24 with new ones in the pipeline.

Department for Education (DfE) www.gov.uk

We continued our collaboration in partnership with the Department for Education with the sole purpose of progressing the mutual goals and benefits of improving procurement within the education sector.
As of the 31st of July 2024, the Department for Education were recommending 15 CPC frameworks.

Risk 2 Value www.risk2value.com

Framework partners to CPC, Risk 2 Value provide expertise on insurance matters. Risk 2 Value support the work associated to insurance frameworks provided by CPC and also lead on any insurance tenders for Crescent Consultancy customers.

Managing Director Closing Comments

The 2023/24 financial year will conclude my third year as Managing Director. Those three years have passed by very quickly not least due to the volume of activity and achievements CPC has undertaken in that period.

This report details many of the achievements we have gained over the past year, and I am proud of each one. But I want to use the opportunity within the closing comments to reflect on the past three years, focusing on the growth we have made.

Income - Our income has seen a 30% growth from £4.6m in 2021/22 to £6m in 2023/24. This is the highest income that the CPC has achieved in our 25-year history.

Framework Spend - Spend via our portfolio of purchasing frameworks has increased by 34%, with spend increasing from £322m to £433m. This pleasing outcome reflects the trust that our members place in our extensive offering.

Membership - Growth in membership has increased by 12%, from 9,000 to 10,098. Growth has been slower than we anticipated as a direct result of a competing procurement service by the Department of Education called Get Help Buying For Schools, which launched in February 2022. Their ability to offer all of their services free, because of being funded by the Treasury, has proven to be attractive to schools and academies.

Progress requires continuous progression, and I intend for CPC to continue that path. Our current 5-year plan will reach the mid-point in January 2025, meaning we still have 2.5 years of collaborative innovation in order achieve the key results we set back in 2022.

Those key results will not be achieved by the work of individuals or even teams working in isolation. To achieve our vision, we will continue to have a shared goal and live our 'values' by being **People Oriented** because our people are our product. We will do this by being **Supportive** towards each other and work in **Collaboration** to ensure we are inclusive in our knowledge sharing thus helping everyone in the charity to develop to become the very best they can become, and we will act in a **Professional** and **Customer Focused** manner towards all our members and stakeholders, both internal and external.

I am blessed to have an exceptional team of people who provide support to myself and the charity and I would like to sign off by thanking all of the staff, each one adding their own unique skills and knowledge and taking responsibility for their role, and to the trustees all of whom volunteer their time and knowledge to help CPC become the impactful charity it is.

Darren Lowe

MANAGING DIRECTOR

CRESCENT
Purchasing Consortium

CONTACT US

Registered Office
Procurement House, 23 Leslie Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ

Auditors
DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited, Bridge House, 157 Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham, WA14 2UT

Bankers
NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 5HD

Solicitors
Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester, M3 3EB

Crescent Purchasing Limited

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 July 2024
Company registration no: 06774578

Charity Registration No. 1130461

www.djh.co.uk

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINSTRATIVE INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. CPL trades as Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC). The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The Directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

F Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia
A J Comyn, (Chair) Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College
L Jenkins, Deputy Principal Finance and Resources, North Kent College
P Kane, Head of Estate and FM, Belfast Metropolitan College
S J Jacobs, Chief Executive, Professional Weirdos (Appointed 1st May 2024)
L R Sparrow, Coach, Mentor and Freelance Consultant (Appointed 1st May 2024)
D E Thornton, Managing Director, Thornton & Lowe (Appointed 1st May 2024)
A Williams, Director of School Improvement, Three Spires Trust (Appointed 1st May 2024)

Registered Office

Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ.

Auditors

DJH Audit Limited, Bridge House, 157 Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT.

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD.
Close Brothers Savings, 10 Crown Place, London EC2A 4FT.
Lloyds Bank plc, 1st Floor (East), 10 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7AE.
Nationwide Building Society, Kings Park Road, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 6NW.

Solicitors

Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

Website

www.thecpc.ac.uk

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The Trustees present their report together with the consolidated financial statements for the Charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for the Directors' report for Companies House purposes.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Vision and Mission

The vision of the Charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through its work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning. The mission of the Charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Report of the Trustees

CPL was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education and shares frameworks with the United Kingdom University Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC).

CPL also works in partnership with Dukefield Procurement on joint frameworks though notice has been served on this partnership. The parties will continue to work together through the remaining period of current frameworks.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPC. On 1 August 2024 Tenet will merge into its parent company, CPL. All trade, assets and liabilities will transfer into CPL after which Tenet will cease trading. On 2 August 2024 TPS changed its name to Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

The Board of Trustees consists of representatives of members colleges, Multi-Academy Trusts and the private sector. The Managing Director of CPC resigned as a Trustee at the end of the year to avoid potential conflicts of interest with his role in running the charity. He remains a director of the subsidiary companies.

Resignations

N C Cassidy resigned from the Board on 1st June 2024.
J C Bentley resigned from the Board on 12st July 2024.
D N Pullein resigned from the Board on 12th July 2024.
D Lowe resigned from the Board on 31st July 2024.

Trustee vacancies are advertised via social media channels and charityjob.co.uk. There is a bespoke induction pack and programme for all new Trustees. Trustees are not paid for their services.

The Board meets three times a year to determine strategy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPC is delegated to the Managing Director and his employees. The group leadership team (GLT) is made up of five senior managers plus the Managing Director. The pay and remuneration of key personnel is agreed annually as part of the budget setting process. Each post is benchmarked against similar roles within similar sized organisations.

On 31 July 2024 CPC had 10,098 members, an increase in the year of 473. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Charitable objectives

The Charity's objects are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

1. Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.

CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by a procurement managed service (which has recorded £11.3M of savings on current contract terms for 40 customers) and on-demand tendering services.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 over £1.5Million has been identified as Designated and Restricted Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £813,415 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £231,366 spent during 23/24.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions. The national lockdowns during the global pandemic meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding "window" was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid during 2021/22.

During this financial year a third grant funding window was opened with £201k paid to 33 institutions. The grants awarded are having an amazing impact on learners and enabling institutions to utilise their own resources elsewhere. This year the focus on future

reinvestment was defined more clearly and is covered in more detail later and in the Annual Report.

The Trustees and CPC employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

Several Trustees work in educational institutions which are members of CPC and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

To celebrate CPC reaching its 10,000th member landmark the Trustees approved £10,000 being designated from reserves to contribute towards a procurement training related initiative which will be made available to CPC members to bid for. Details are to be confirmed.

2. Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

Crescent Learning is the flagship under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to advancing education and research activities in procurement.

The Charity continues to fulfil its commitment through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party training providers and webinars for CPC member employees. This includes online webinars by CIPS and BIP Solutions and a wide range of webinars designed by CPC. These courses and webinars will ultimately be added into the Crescent Learning library. The ambition is to replicate this offer to framework suppliers by providing a resource area for their employees to advance their procurement knowledge.

During the year, 33 training courses were funded covering subjects such as writing a tender specification, ethical procurement and supply, and developing and managing contracts. 75 online webinars were attended covering advanced contract management, basic principles of contract law and an overview of the education sector. A total of 108 members gained access to training development material to advance their knowledge in procurement.

CPC continues to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and the Further Education Facilities Management Network (FEFMN). These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on CPC services. During the year, 589 members attended PAG meetings and 21 attended FEFMN network groups. 610 members attended the new "PAG presents" webinars which cover a variety of procurement related topics.

CPC is currently reviewing the Further Education Library of Procurement (FELP) which is a free to access online learning resource portal for all members. CPC plans to merge FELP into Crescent Learning during 2024/25, updating the learning and template resources required by

members to meet the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023, which comes into effect from February 2025.

In anticipation of the Procurement Act coming into force, CPC has invested in learning and development over the past 12 months, both in terms of its own employees and those of its members. A new role, Learning & Development Lead was recruited in February 2024 and will be responsible for developing learning resources over the next few years. An increase in communications through newsletters, webinars and a dedicated Procurement Act page on the CPC website has raised members' awareness of the change in law from February 2025.

All CPC procurement technical employees have or are close to completing the Cabinet Office provided Expert Practitioner training in preparation for the new Act and several colleagues have participated in further "deep-dive" sessions with peers from across the wider public sector. This will ensure CPC are best placed to cascade knowledge and support members through the legislative process and ensure their procurement activities are compliant.

The Trustees oversee the charitable objectives of the charity with due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Financial and business review.

2023/24 saw progression through year 2 of the charity's 5-year business plan. The three main strategies within the business plan are:

- To deliver outstanding procurement services.
- To support the development of its people (employees and members).
- To enable a sustainable future (financial, environmental and economic/social).

CPC income for the year ended 31 July 2024 was £6,036,761 (2023: £5,204,750) The year-end surplus before pension costs was £1,120,211 (2023: £622,325).

Marketing premium income from framework usage has increased by £544k from the previous year. Total spend reported through the frameworks exceeded £433 million (2023: £441 million) providing real value for money for CPC members.

18 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Tenet income from managed services increased by £76k during the year to a record total of £1,559,636. This is despite the loss of two large contracts at the start of the year due to the impact of the cost-of-living and energy crisis putting pressure on the budgets of colleges. Contract numbers recovered in the second half of the year and a new growth plan should increase income during 2024/25 and beyond.

Income from the on-demand tendering service was a record £745k (2023: £676k). Crescent Services (TPS) Limited which services the wider public sector has seen its most active year to

date with significant increase in CPC framework usage and the extension of a managed service contract with a Housing Association.

Fundraising – the charity does not generate a regular income from fundraising and therefore does not use the services of fundraisers either on a paid or voluntary basis. CPC received several corporate donations during the year totalling £12,182 which is placed in restricted reserves and is used as contribution toward grants awarded to CPC members.

2023/24 saw the largest investment in employees in the history of the charity led by the final elements of the harmonisation of terms, conditions and benefits for employees working in the subsidiary companies. In April 2024, all Tenet employees were transferred under TUPE regulations into CPC. This coincided with a major rebrand of the charity and launch of a new website.

Employee wellbeing is at the forefront of the charity's values with new investment in a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to support mental health alongside other health and medical benefits.

The Charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with employees having the option of participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme value on 31 July 2024 continues to show the company as having a pension asset. This has increased to £1,293,000 (2023: £790,000) and follows on from asset value determined by the actuary in 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be unrecognisable on the basis that the company has no expectation of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2024 a gift aid payment of £2,828 (2023: £6,164) was received from Tenet Education Services and £28,769 (2023: £12,404) was received from Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

Looking ahead

CPC intends to continue its growth over the coming years in line with the 5-year strategy launched in 2022. New growth plans for all frontline business streams have been developed.

A new detailed and robust development training package for the company's procurement professionals and all managers will be launched in Autumn 2024. This follows the charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos which is aimed at ensuring CPC retains and recruits the best talent.

The Articles of Association have been reviewed to ensure it accurately reflects the work the charity is currently doing and its growth ambitions. A revised set will be presented to voting

members at the AGM in November 2024 for approval. This will also include an added charitable object to include the increasing focus on "Giving Back".

A new grant funding window will open in early Spring 2025. Previously grants have funded a variety of projects and events aimed at.

- Enhancing teaching and learning.
- Improving a learner's experience of education.
- Supporting the learning of economically disadvantaged learners and minority groups.

The focus of future grants and the daily operational activities of the charity will now be on supporting our members in their quest to adequately help and support the following.

- Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- The physical and mental wellbeing of learners (with or without SEND).
- Absenteeism.

The Board of Trustees, senior management and employees fully support this focus and the positive impact CPC, with their efforts will have on people's lives.

CPC will shortly be publishing its first Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Annual Report for 2023/24 covering all its achievements through the year and plans for future years to achieve the EDI Strategy produced last year.

The financial strength of CPC ensures it can absorb any continued impact from the cost-of-living crises and with no long-term liabilities (loans) is not negatively impacted by rises in interest rates.

Reserves policy

CPC maintains a reserves policy that is available on its website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. Designated and Restricted reserves are those reserves that the Board of Trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving back" to the education sector.

Post balance sheet events

Tenet Education Services Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of CPC will merge into the parent company following the financial year end audit. Employees transferred into the charity on 1 April 2024. Tenet Procurement Services will continue trading as a subsidiary of CPC though with effect from 2 August 2024 will be renamed to Crescent Services (TPS) Limited. These changes will not have a significant effect on the Charity's financial position.

Environmental management

At the start of 2022 a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across CPC. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team (GLT) and has a Board sponsor. The aim of the group is to ensure the objectives set out in the 5-year strategy are achieved, not least setting out and completing the detailed plan to achieve ISO14001 – Environmental Management accreditation. Progress is reported at each monthly GLT meeting and at each Board meeting.

In 2022/23 an Environment Management System (EMS) template and the Charity's first Environmental and sustainability policy was produced. This year the focus has been to embed the objectives and key actions set out in the policy as well as introducing processes to collate and record the charity's carbon emissions and calculate its carbon footprint. During 2024/25 a Carbon Management Plan (CMP) will be created to manage and ultimately reduce the footprint over the next five years. This will be published on the website.

Business travel across the organisation is forecast to reduce year-on-year as management encourage more efficient and effective means of consulting with customers, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members which are, in the main held virtually.

A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Some managed service contract customers are willing for CPC employees to work on a hybrid basis to reflect their own working practices.

This year £1,000 was donated to City of Trees, a charity which plant trees and restore woods and green spaces in the Greater Manchester area. Each year, a similar type of charity in a different part of the country will be chosen to receive a similar donation.

Social Impact

CPC continues its agile working policy which allows employees to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and employee wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the company.

CPC was very pleased to maintain its "Great Place to Work" accreditation for its fourth year which runs alongside its current accreditations for "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace". It also gained accreditation for UK's Best Workplace for Development and UK's Best Workplace for Charities and Not for Profit organisations.

The 5-year business plan supports the Charity's "Grow Your Own" ethos by incorporating the recruitment of local graduates into planned positions across several areas of the business.

CPC has committed to making available one day per year for employees to volunteer their time to local good causes. During the year employees took part in various activities including:

- Litter picking and minor maintenance work at a local park.
- Helping at a local homelessness charity.
- Working at a local dog's home.
- Decorating and minor grounds maintenance of a charity's head office.

The management and distribution of restricted and designated reserves to member institutions in the form of grants is led by the "Giving Back" Group who ensure that three main criteria are met. These have recently been changed as detailed above.

£201k of grant funding was distributed during the year with further funding commissioned for 2024/25.

Feedback from institutions that have received funding have been extremely positive and demonstrate the direct social impact CPC is having on the lives of young learners.

The charity's social impact from "Giving Back" can be easily measured with the results available on the CPC website. Measuring the impact from the day-to-day operational activities is more challenging and 2024/25 will see progress being made to address this with the results published on the website. The impact will focus on the Charity's main stakeholders:

- CPC Members.
- Customers outside of membership.
- CPC framework suppliers.
- Employees.

In July 2024 CPC held its first Supplier Excellence Awards Night at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester. This was to celebrate the achievements of framework suppliers in supporting the education sector over the year and to involve suppliers in the Charity's revised focus of supporting SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism for its members.

The event was a success with £7,595 of donations being received for "Giving Back" as well as several leads being generated from suppliers and attendees for increased support toward the new SEND, wellbeing and absenteeism initiative on a longer-term basis. The aim is to make this an annual event.

Equality diversity and inclusion (EDI)

A 5-year EDI strategy was launched in November 2023. The Trustees recognise that EDI is key to helping deliver a public benefit and continually reappraise a full and comprehensive policy of diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities.

CPC's first EDI Annual Report for 2023/24 has been produced detailing the ambitions and continual progress being made by the EDI working group, which was formed in 2022 and is chaired by an employee. The group works on various initiatives throughout the year to support the development of employees, one of CPC's main strategic objectives.
The EDI working group overseas the great work being carried out by the Women's and Men's support groups with further inclusive groups (such as a new carer's group) and activities planned.

In support of EDI initiatives outside of the charity, CPC donated £1,000, split between three external organisations: Just Like Us (an LGBT+ young people's charity), Scope (a disability equality charity) and the Race Equality Foundation (a national charity tackling racial inequality in public services). Similar donations will be committed each year.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has a dedicated health, safety and wellness Lead who prepared the current health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

In February 2024 CPC was awarded its first ISO accreditation, ISO 45001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management). This achieves one of the main business aims within the 2022-27 Business Plan.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. The actions specified in the Health & Safety strategy have been completed. A Wellness Plan has been developed and awaits approval. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders. A new Men's group was started in the year to run alongside the Women's group formed last year and has been warmly received by participants.

Workshops are currently in progress with all employees to collate thoughts and suggestions prior to the development and implementation of an Employee Value Proposition (EVP).

Several workshops, posted articles and tips were delivered throughout the year covering topics requested by employees such as: Work Life Balance, Menopause, Women and men's health and Neurodiversity. Weekly office chair yoga sessions and seasonal coffee and connections have been particularly well received.

CPC is proud to maintain its Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing accreditation for another year with 99% of employees feeling that CPC is a physically safe place to work, 87% of employees feeling that CPC is a psychologically and emotionally safe place to work and 91% feeling that CPC encourages work-life balance. The new Wellness Plan aims to improve these results.

Governance

The Trustees are committed to the highest standards of Governance and recognise that this is only achieved through continual improvement. The Charity Governance Code is used as guidance and support for future improvements. In the build up to and during Board meetings in the year the Trustees have taken one of the seven principles included in the code and identified areas where further improvements can be made and this will form part of the continual Board development process. Two principles have been covered to date.

The Trustees have completed an annual detailed skills assessment for the last two years and these have identified skills gaps within the Board which have mostly been addressed with the appointment of four new trustees in May. The remaining gaps will be covered by training of current Trustees and the recruitment of a trustee with legal experience and a trustee with IT/Cyber security experience.

A comprehensive Learning and development platform has been created for the Board which will provide training resources for all Trustees as part of their continual development.

The Trustees have also approved a Trustee Performance Review Process which will incorporate a Board Development Plan alongside collective Board performance reviews every three years and annual individual trustee performance reviews.

The Crescent Services (TPS) Limited (formerly Tenet Procurement Services Limited) Board has been reduced to three directors: the Chair of CPC, the Managing Director of CPC and the Financial Controller of CPC. This is to improve efficiency and governance with separate Board meetings being held in advance of the main Charity Board meetings.

The GLT acknowledge that the organisation requires effective leadership at every level to achieve the Group's Mission and Vision. A new training and development programme for all managers has commenced in the year to support them in their role.

CPC has several cash investments in line with its Treasury Management Policy. The Trustees require that all investments be carried out ethically and have agreed that research can commence on potential equity investments in the future.

The Financial Controller regularly monitors not only the credit ratings of institutions the Group invests its cash with but also the environmental sustainability performance of the listed institutions and reports on this through the management accounts commentary.

The environmental sustainability performance is based on several criteria incorporating environmental reporting, carbon disclosure & reduction, responsible investment, ethical accreditations and political donations.

Internal controls assurance

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that the Charity's assets and money are safeguarded and properly accounted for, and that they are being used economically and effectively.

A wide range of internal control mechanisms are in place and being operated to help CPC meet its strategic objectives, to operate within the law, to make effective use of the Charity's money and to report activities accurately. These bring together information from all significant parts of the business and provide assurance to the Trustees that an effective system of internal controls is in place.

The most significant sources are through:

- The external auditors.
- Financial and non-financial performance monitoring and management.
- Appropriate communications structures.
- Effective strategies, policies and procedures.
- External stakeholders, including the Charity Commission and accreditation bodies.

The main forms of assurance are:

Operational controls

- Effective recruitment and selection process is in place to ensure suitable people are employed (including the completion of Disclosure and Barring Service checks for employees working in educational institutions) with senior managers responsible for ensuring that standards of conduct and behaviour are maintained to the highest levels.
- Annual appraisals (based around the Charity's vision and values) and half year interim reviews, with regular team and one-to-one meetings undertaken to maintain high standards of performance. People Development processes are in place to address any gaps or failings.
- Formal (but not exclusive to) Financial Policies and procedures, IT and Communications Access Policy, Group Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Treasury Management Policy.

- Appropriate separations of duties are in place across key operational functions e.g., purchase order process to mitigate risks around fraud.
- Role based access controls are in place to ensure that employees only have access to systems and data that is pertinent to their requirements.
- Financial forecasts and budgets are in place which allow the GLT to monitor spend in terms of achieving budgets in the short, medium and long term.

In July 2024 the Board of Trustees approved the formation of an Employment and Finance Committee (EFC) which will meet three times a year, a month prior to each main Board meeting. Its remit will be to review and evidence that operational controls are effective. The EFC comprises three Trustees, two of whom are accountants and one who is a HR Consultant alongside the Managing Director, Financial Controller and Head of People Development.

Risk management and compliance checks

The GLT maintain a comprehensive risk register. Risks are collated under four main headings:

- Financial, assets, premises, H&S and charitable status.
- Suppliers, partners, competition, frameworks and all Group procurement services.
- Group operational, legal and regulatory matters.
- Membership, customers, reputational issues and the marketplace.

The risk register (and in particular the "top 5" risks identified below) is reported to every Board meeting, supplemented by detailed reviews throughout the year by the GLT. The risk appetite is reviewed during this process.

Risk	**Nature of Risk and Risk Appetite**	**Mitigation**
Significant loss of income	Severe reduction in income due to increased competition and loss of market share poses a risk to the business plan. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Robust financial management processes are in place with action plans identified should trigger points be met. Reserves policy ensures adequate reserves are maintained.
Compliance with Data Protection legislation	Secure and resilient technology and processes are fundamental in building a more resilient business. *Risk Appetite – avoid*	External penetration testing of systems is carried out each year. The servers are now cloud-based with daily routine backups taking place.
Compliance with health and safety legislation	Failure to reduce or remove threats to employee, customer and supplier health and safety leads to harm and reputational damage.	A health, safety and staff wellbeing strategy is in place with mandatory training for all employees. A wellness group is tasked with maintaining an employee wellbeing and engagement

	Risk Appetite - avoid	programme. CPC has invested in an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) and other health benefits.
Business continuity in the event of a major disruption	Impact of major disruption such as Covid-19 pandemic or major IT outage on the continuing operations of the business. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	A Business Continuity Plan provides guidance and support in the event of a major no-notice event. This is tested throughout the year.
Recruiting and retaining talent	Recruitment and retention of talent is essential to the delivery of business objectives and the loss of skills and knowledge poses a challenge to maintaining performance. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Although retention has improved considerably during the year it is recognised that complacency must not set in. Competitive terms and conditions including a generous bonus and pension scheme. Regular feedback is received from employees via surveys, 1-2-1s and exit interviews. To implement an Employee Value Proposition (EVP) strategy that focuses on improving all areas of people development, culture, work environment and total rewards.

A range of surveys are undertaken of customer and employee satisfaction. The GLT conduct detailed analysis of the results with actions taken to address areas of concern.

There is appropriate independent oversight of compliance within specific areas of the business such as Health & Safety and Data Protection.

- CPC continues to progress its 5-year strategy in relation to health, safety and employee wellbeing which is sponsored by a board member. CPC achieved ISO 45001 – Occupational Health & Safety accreditation during the year.
- CPC maintains its "Great Place to Work" accreditation, "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace".
- CPC maintains Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation. CPC commissions external consultants to perform penetration testing on its systems each year. This forms part of the Charity's work toward achieving ISO 27001 – Information Security Management accreditation.
- A Board member sponsors a working group set up during the year to ensure CPC maintains full compliance with UK GDPR focussing on continual improvement.

Internal controls assurance conclusion

The Trustees can take assurance that the CPC is reacting appropriately to the challenges it faces and has acted proactively to identify, investigate and communicate issues and management actions in an accessible, transparent manner.

The Trustees can confirm that the CPC has suitable internal controls for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. They also confirm that no weaknesses have been identified from the external audit which would have resulted in material misstatement or loss and which would have required disclosure in the financial statements.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 11th of December 2024. The event will be hybrid, online via Microsoft Teams and in person.

External auditors

DJH Audit Limited were appointed as the external auditors for the next three years following a re-tendering exercise conducted through the CPC Audit Services framework and open to all suppliers on that framework.

Statement of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of recommended Practices (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK accounting standard have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

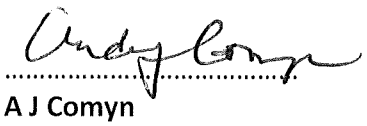
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and its subsidiary companies and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as each Trustee is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report of the Trustees was approved by the Board on 11 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (the parent 'charity') and its subsidiaries (the group) for the year ended 31 July 2024 which comprise the group statement of financial activities, the group balance sheet, the charity balance sheet, the group statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's or charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees report or the director's report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Auditor report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of Auditor responsibilities the trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
We have been appointed as auditor under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect

a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our previous knowledge and experience of the client and businesses in similar sectors;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified through making enquiries of management and inspecting any available legal correspondence; and
- the audit team were in regular communication in relation to laws and regulations and potential instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the Internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions; and
- performed walkthrough tests on major transaction cycles.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing legal and professional expenses for potential ongoing litigation work; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC and other professional advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would

become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to the member in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

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Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of DJH Audit Limited Date: 11/12/24

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

DJH Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	**Group 2024** £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024** £	Charity 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		12,182	500	43,778	19,068
Charitable activities	**3**	5,834,220	5,127,590	3,727,166	3,214,309
Investments	**4**	190,359	76,660	183,435	56,787
Total income		6,036,761	5,204,750	3,954,379	3,290,164
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	**5**	4,916,550	4,582,425	2,740,743	2,552,664
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources		1,120,211	622,325	1,213,636	737,500
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial (loss) gain on defined benefit pension schemes		(784,000)	496,000	(784,000)	496,000
Net movement in funds		366,211	1,118,325	429,636	1,233,500
Fund balances at 1 August 2023		6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565
Fund balances at 31 July 2024		7,184,258	6,848,047	8,114,701	7,685,065

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	**Group 2024 £**	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	**12**	-	115,000	-	-
Intangible assets	**13**	27,480	42,590	27,480	42,590
Tangible assets	**14**	24,907	36,936	13,995	26,110
Investments	**15**	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
		52,387	194,526	1,419,437	1,446,662
Current assets					
Debtors	**17**	1,249,822	1,007,680	916,885	779,331
Cash at bank and in hand		6,762,682	5,673,306	6,492,782	5,191,669
		8,012,504	6,680,986	7,409,667	5,971,000
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**18**	(880,633)	(817,465)	(714,403)	(522,597)
Net current assets		7,131,871	5,863,521	6,695,264	5,448,403
Net assets excluding pension liability		7,184,258	6,058,047	8,114,701	6,895,065
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	**19**	-	790,000	-	790,000
Net assets		7,184,258	6,848,047	8,114,701	7,685,065
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds – designated	**21**	520,993	347,387	520,993	347,387
Unrestricted funds – general		6,655,555	5,710,160	7,585,998	6,547,178
Unrestricted funds – pension		-	790,000	-	790,000
Restricted Funds – "Giving Back"		7,710	500	7,710	500
		7,184,258	6,848,047	8,114,701	7,685,065

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 JULY 2024

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2024, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of those financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 11 December 2024.

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A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration No. 06774578

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**26**		916,505		1,325,327
Investing activities					
Purchasing of tangible fixed assets		(18,122)		(18,155)	
Sale of fixed assets		634		1,163	
Interest received		190,359		76,660	
Net cash used in investing activities			172,871		59,668
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			1,089,376		1,384,995
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			5,673,306		4,288,311
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			6,762,682		5,673,306

1. Accounting policies

Charity information

Crescent Purchasing Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Procurement House, Leslie Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ.

The Crescent Group consists of Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in that UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

This charity is a qualifying entity for the purpose of FRS 102 and the Charity SORP, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements which are intended to give a true and fair view (of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss) and that member is included in the consolidation. The charity has therefore taken the advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements.

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows': Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures': Compensation for key management personnel.

1.2 Going concern

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

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purpose and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amounts is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is included within the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT has been charged as a cost against the activity in which the expenditure was incurred. All expenditure is solely for the purpose of achieving the charities objectives and has been disclosed within those cost categories.

Governance costs are recognised when, and to the extent that, the charity can identify activities in which are associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to being directly associated with its charitable activities.

Support costs are recognised when the charity can identify centralised services that benefit all area of the charity's operations.

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of unincorporated businesses over the fair value of net assets acquired. Its it initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill shall be considered to have a finite useful life and shall be amortised on a systematic basis over its life.

1.7 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Customer relationship	up to 8 years
Brand	up to 8 years
Cloud-based server	Over 5 years

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual value over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	Between 3 and 6 years
Fixtures and fittings	Over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

1.10 Fixed assets investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other shirt-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.12 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS102 to all of its financial instruments.

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year not amortised.

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

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

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

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

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

1.14 Retirement benefits
Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee cost. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Re-measurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1.15 Basis of consolidation

In the parent company financial statements, the cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill. The cost of the combination includes the estimated amount of contingent consideration after the acquisition date. Provisional fair values recognised for business combinations in the previous periods are adjusted retrospectively for final fair values determined in the 12 months following the acquisition date. Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are accounted for at costs less impairment.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Crescent Purchasing Limited and all of its subsidiaries (ie entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up 31 July 2024. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used in line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Tenet Education Services Limited and Crescent Services (TPS) Limited have been included in the group financial statements using the purchasing method of accounting. Accordingly, the group statements of financial activities and statement of cash flows include the results and cash flows of Tenet Education Services Limited and Crescent Services (TPS) Limited.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

During the current or preceding financial statements, no critical judgements or estimates were used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3. Charitable activities

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Marketing premiums	3,360,311	2,816,772	3,288,091	2,793,070
Services rendered	2,342,724	2,195,908	-	-
Other income	131,185	114,910	439,075	421,239
	5,834,220	5,127,590	3,727,166	3,214,309

4. Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Interest receivable	190,359	76,660

The majority, £183,435 (2023: £56,787) of the Group's investment income of £190,359 (2023: £76,660) arises in Crescent Purchasing Limited from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

5. Charitable activities

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Employee costs	2,874,547	2,794,450	914,924	1,019,179
Occupancy costs	69,591	84,706	69,591	84,706
Telephone	29,439	28,358	19,795	17,275
Postage and stationery	5,753	5,325	4,910	4,132
Insurance	63,269	56,056	63,269	56,056
Legal costs	(12,229)	45,345	6,170	7,345
Travel costs	78,789	72,191	24,639	18,357
Recruitment and training	54,752	70,228	49,577	59,482
Marketing and advertising	187,176	141,254	187,124	141,020
Crescent learning	4,378	9,329	4,378	9,329
Procurement partner and member shared income	10,939	5,077	10,939	55,077
Health, safety and employee wellbeing	17,221	10,587	15,898	9,594
Consultancy fees	12,210	12,201	750	-
Provision for bad debts	(4,512)	3,520	(251)	(741)
Bank charges	2,484	2,635	1,608	1,455
Other expenditure	8,983	7,228	8,353	6,850
Donations to Charity	2,000	100	2,000	100
ICT costs	73,394	84,685	52,172	59,182
	3,478,184	3,433,275	1,435,846	1,548,398
Giving Back Activities (see note 6)	231,366	34,130	231,366	34,130
Share of support costs (see note 7)	1,179,061	1,086,717	1,055,723	953,211
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	27,939	28,303	17,808	16,925
	4,916,550	4,582,425	2,740,743	2,552,664
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds – general	4,685,184	4,548,295	2,509,377	2,518,534
Unrestricted funds – designated	226,394	34,130	226,394	34,130
Restricted funds – "Giving Back"	4,972	-	4,972	-
	4,916,550	4,582,425	2,740,743	2,552,664

6. Giving Back activities

Reinvestment activities payable into the education sector is expenditure made from the charity's designated and restricted funds towards agreed projects detailed in the Trustees report and note 22.

This expenditure falls outside of standard operational costs and may lead to deficits in some years. The operational surplus that would have been stated had this reinvestment into the sector not happened is shown.

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Net income for the year	1,120,211	622,325	1,213,636	737,500
Giving Back activities	231,366	34,130	231,366	34,130
Operational surplus	1,351,577	656,455	1,445,002	771,630

7. Group support costs

	Support Cost £	**Governance costs £**	**2024 £**	2023 £	**Basis of allocation**
Employee costs	1,019,434	-	1,019,434	913,037	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	159,627	-	159,627	173,680	Support
Audit fees	-	8,260	8,260	8,100	Governance
Legal and professional	-	11,572	11,572	12,843	Governance
Accounting services	-	8,107	8,107	7,360	Governance
	1,179,061	27,939	1,207,000	1,115,020	
Analysed between Charitable activities	1,179,061	27,939	1,207,000	1,115,020	

Governance costs include payments to the auditors of £8,260 (2023: £8,100) for audit fees.

Charity	Support Cost £	Governance costs £	2024 £	2023 £	Basis of allocation
Employee costs	1,019,434	-	1,019,434	913,037	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	36,289	-	36,289	40,174	Support
Audit fees	-	5,100	5,100	5,100	Governance
Legal and professional	-	7,986	7,986	8,270	Governance
Accounting services	-	4,722	4,722	3,555	Governance
	1,055,723	17,808	1,073,531	970,136	
Analysed between Charitable activities	1,055,723	17,808	1,073,531	970,136	

Governance costs include payments to the auditors of £5,100 (2023: £5,100) for audit fees.

8. Net Movement in funds

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Fees payable to the company's auditors for the audit of the company's financial statements	8,260	8,100	5,100	5,100
Operating lease costs	32,269	43,676	32,269	43,676
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	29,517	33,570	21,179	25,064
Amortisation of intangible assets	130,110	140,110	15,110	15,110

9. Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them), except for the Managing Director, received any remuneration during the year. Two trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses in the year of £121 (2023: £161).

Note 10 includes further disclosure of remuneration of key management personnel.

10. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year were:

	Group 2024 Number	Group 2023 Number	**Charity 2024 Number**	Charity 2023 Number
Professional and administrative	80	80	40	38

Employment costs	**2024**	2023	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Wages and salaries	3,254,180	2,992,228	1,463,914	1,445,556
Social security costs	342,553	309,248	230,235	145,808
Other pension costs	297,248	406,011	240,209	340,852
	3,893,981	3,707,487	1,934,358	1,932,216

On 1 April 2024 all employees of Tenet Education Services Limited transferred into Crescent Purchasing Limited, its parent company.

There were no employee restructuring payments (both contractual and non-contractual), either incurred or paid during the year (2023: £27,946).

Included within other pension costs are current services costs and associated interest expense on defined benefit pension plans. During the year, the company recognised current service costs and interest expenses from defined benefit pension plans of £6,000 (2023: £198,000).

Included within support costs are wages to the value of £1,019,434 for the Human Resources, Finance and Communications departments through virtue of shared service to all the charitable activities.

The number of employees whose annal remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	Group 2024 Number	Group 2023 Number	**Charity 2024 Number**	Charity 2023 Number
Directors	1	1	1	1
Employees	15	9	6	6

Darren Lowe (Managing Director) is the only key management personnel associated with the direct running of the charity. Darren Lowe was paid total renumeration of £132,030

(2023: £122,820). The remuneration for Darren Lowe was provided in his capacity of Managing Director of the charitable activities and not in his capacity of trustee of the charity. Included within total remuneration were pension contributions totalling £12,600 (2023: £11,031). Darren Lowe resigned as a Trustee of the charity on 31 July 2024 and will act solely as Managing Director.

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12. Group intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill	Customer relationship	Brand	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 August 2023	1,742,236	60,754	322,010	2,125,000
Amortisation charged for the year	62,238	8,249	44,513	115,000
At 31 July 2024	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2024	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2023	62,238	8,249	44,513	115,000

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2023	1,250,000
Amortisation charged for the year	-
At 31 July 2024	1,250,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2024	-
At 31 July 2023	-

13. Group other intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2023	42,719	3,683	46,402
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2024	56,129	5,383	61,512
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2024	24,363	3,117	27,480
At 31 July 2023	37,773	4,817	42,590

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2023	42,719	3,683	46,402
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2024	56,129	5,383	61,512
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2024	24,363	3,117	27,480
At 31 July 2023	37,773	4,817	42,590

14. Group tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2023	58,757	74,577	29,417	162,751
Additions	-	18,122	-	18,122
Less Disposals	-	(22,570)	-	(22,570)
At 31 July 2024	58,757	70,129	29,417	158,303
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2023	49,777	49,369	26,669	125,815
Depreciation charged in the year	8,980	18,097	2,440	29,517
Less disposals	-	(21,936)	-	(21,936)
At 31 July 2024	58,757	45,530	29,109	133,396
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2024	-	24,599	308	24,907
At 31 July 2023	8,980	25,208	2,748	36,936

Charity tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2023	58,757	42,330	29,417	130,504
Additions	-	9,064	-	9,064
Less Disposals	-	(10,039)	-	(10,039)
At 31 July 2024	58,757	41,355	29,417	129,529
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2023	49,777	27,948	26,669	104,394
Depreciation charged in the year	8,980	9,759	2,440	21,179
Less disposals	-	(10,039)	-	(10,039)
At 31 July 2024	58,757	27,668	29,109	115,534
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2024	-	13,687	308	13,995
At 31 July 2023	8,980	14,382	2,748	26,110

15. Charity fixed asset investments

	Other Investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 August 2023 & 31 July 2024	1,377,962
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2024	1,377,962
At 31 July 2023	1,377,962

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other investments comprise:		
Investments in subsidiaries	1,377,962	1,377,962

16. Financial instruments

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Carrying amount of financial assets				
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	1,127,178	937,557	794,241	718,555
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost	496,442	497,861	484,848	355,504

17. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Trade debtors	399,360	363,430	72,725	63,689
Amounts owed by subsidiaries	-	-	6,613	81,795
Other debtors	2,871	2,884	2,871	2,884
Prepayments and accrued income	847,591	641,366	834,676	630,963
	1,249,822	1,007,680	916,885	779,331

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024** £	Charity 2023 £
Other taxation and social security	334,020	306,828	200,904	154,318
Trade creditors	104,706	86,096	97,970	77,662
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	-	-	-	1,830
Other creditors	11,955	20,196	11,291	7,424
Accruals and deferred income	429,952	404,345	404,238	281,363
	880,633	817,465	714,403	522,597

Deferred income within the charity relates to suppliers' sponsorship of the CPL village within external exhibitions (£3,650), namely the Schools and Academies Show (SAAS) which will be fully utilised in the November 2024 SAAS. £25,000 relates to a potential misreported spend from a framework supplier which will probably result in a credit being raised.

The additional subsidiary deferred income within the Group figure relates to consultancy works being invoiced where completion has been delayed into next year.

Deferred income

	Group £	**Charity** £
Balance at 1 August 2023	12,775	12,775
Released from previous years	(12,775)	(12,775)
Resources deferred in the year	50,170	28,650
Balance at 31 July 2024	50,170	28,650

19. Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities

The WYPF pension scheme value as at 31 July 2024 and show the company as having no pension asset. The latest actuarial valuation for the pension scheme related to the period ended 31 March 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be unrecognisable on the basis that the company has no expectation of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

	Note	**Group 2024 £**	Group 2023 £	**Charity 2024 £**	Charity 2023 £
Retirement benefit asset / obligations	**20**	-	790,000	-	790,000
		-	790,000	-	790,000

20. Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

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

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £243,000 (2023: £163,000).

Defined benefit schemes

Key assumptions

	2024 %	2023 %
Discount rate	4.90	4.90
Expected rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.50	2.60
Expected rate of salary increases	3.75	3.85
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.50	2.60
Pension accounts revaluations rate	2.50	2.60

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.8	21.0
- Females	24.0	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.7	22.2
- Females	24.7	25.1

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current service cost	318,000	386,000
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	198,000	143,000
Other costs and income	(243,000)	(163,000)
Total costs	273,000	366,000

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Actual return on scheme assets	312,000	255,000
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	312,000	255,000
Actuarial changes related to obligations	1,096,000	(751,000)

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Present value of defined benefit obligations	5,647,000	4,027,000
Fair value of plan assets	(5,647,000)	(4,817,000)
Surplus in scheme	-	(790,000)

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Liabilities at 1 August 2023	4,027,000	4,185,000
Current service cost	318,000	386,000
Benefits paid	(135,000)	(34,000)
Contributions from scheme members	143,000	98,000
Actuarial gains and losses	1,096,000	(751,000)
Interest cost	198,000	143,000
At 31 July 2024	5,647,000	4,027,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.
Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fair value of assets at 1 August 2023	4,817,000	4,677,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net)	312,000	(255,000)
Benefits	(135,000)	(34,000)
Contributions by the employer	267,000	168,000
Contributions by scheme members	143,000	98,000
Other	243,000	163,000
At 31 July 2024	5,647,000	4,817,000

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Equity instruments	4,479,000	3,858,000
Debt instruments	723,000	573,000
Property	152,000	159,000
Cash	152,000	188,000
Other	141,000	39,000
	5,647,000	4,817,000

21. Designated and Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 01 August 2023	**Incoming Resources**	**Resources expended**	**Balance at 31 July 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Subsidised costs for Tenet On-Demand	3,800	-	3,800	-
Supplier Awards Night	25,000	-	25,000	-
Other education sector charity donations	20,000	-	900	19,100
Sponsorship of Student Events/Activities	286,779	402,682	200,668	488,793
Procurement Training	-	10,000	-	10,000
Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)	4,768	-	48	4,720
Facilitate Estates Group	2,640	-	-	2,640
Marketing and materials	4,400	-	950	3,450
	347,387	412,682	231,366	528,703

Restricted funds relate to income received as a donation for use solely for the Giving Back (reinvestment) initiative. During the year £12,182 was received and £4,972 expended in the grant funding exercise carried out during the year.

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2024	**Designated 2024**	**Restricted 2024**	**Total 2024**	Total 2023
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2024 are represented by:					
Intangible fixed assets - goodwill				-	115,000
Intangible fixed assets - other	27,480	-	-	27,480	42,590
Tangible assets	24,907	-	-	24,907	36,936
Current assets	6,603,168	520,993	7,710	7,131,871	5,863,521
Pensions and Provisions	-	-	-	-	790,000
	6,655,555	520,993	7,710	7,184,258	6,848,047

23. Operating lease commitments

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

	Group 2024	Group 2023	**Charity 2024**	Charity 2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Within one year	2,517	32,269	2,517	32,269
Between two and five years	93,607	930	93,607	930
In over five years	-	-	-	-
	96,124	33,199	96,124	33,199

24. Related party transactions

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption available in Section 33.1A of FRS 102 whereby it has not disclosed transactions with the ultimate parent company or any wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of the group.

The Trustees are employed by institutions that are also members of CPC and benefit from the usage of its frameworks and Crescent Learning activities. Two Trustees (now resigned) were associated to Hopwood Hall College and Leeds College of Building which also accessed the procurement managed service provided by Tenet.

Grants payable from designated funds are available to all member institutions that pass the relevant criteria. This is therefore open to institutions which employ the trustees of the charity. No Trustees are involved in the review and approval of grant applications.

25. Subsidiaries

Consolidated financial statements for parent charitable companies are required under the Charity SORP (FRS102)

Details of the Charity's subsidiaries on 31 July 2024 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held
				Direct
Tenet Education Services Limited (No. 03049474)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00
Crescent Services (TPS) Limited (No. 10021398)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00

All investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less provision for impairment and are eliminated upon consolidation.

Tenet Education Services Limited will merge into Crescent Purchasing Limited with effect from 1 August 2024.

Crescent Services (TPS) Limited, formerly known as Tenet Procurement Services Limited will continue trading though changed its name to Crescent Services (TPS) Limited with effect from 2 August 2024.

26. Cash generated from operations

	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus for the year	1,120,211	622,325
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(190,359)	(76,660)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	130,110	140,110
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	29,517	33,570
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	6,000	198,000
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(242,142)	(277,977)
Increase in creditors	63,168	130,005
Cash generated from operations	916,505	1,325,327

27. Post Balance Sheet Event

On 1 August 2024 Tenet Education Services Limited will merge into its parent company, Crescent Purchasing Limited. All trade, assets and liabilities will transfer into the parent company after which Tenet Education Services Limited will be dissolved.

djh.co.uk

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DJH Mitten Clarke is a trading name of DJH Mitten Clarke Limited. Registered in England and Wales No. 03451690.
A list of our directors and their qualifications can be viewed at our registered office.

Management letter

Prepared for the board of trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries

For the year ended 31 July 2024

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1. Introduction

We are pleased to set out in this document our report to the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Our responsibilities as auditors are set out in the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) ("ISAs"). We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We have carried out our audit in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 April 2024 in order to express an audit opinion for UK statutory purposes on the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2024. We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and all threats to our independence, as identified to you in our audit plan letter dated 29 August 2024, have been properly addressed through appropriate safeguards. No additional facts or matters have arisen during the course of the audit that we wish to draw to your attention and we confirm that we are independent and able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

In this report, we present the key findings from our audit, together with a commentary on the significant matters arising. The matters that have been reported are limited to those deficiencies identified during the audit which we have concluded are of sufficient importance to bring to the attention of those charged with governance. This report has been discussed comprehensively and agreed with Dave Owen.

This report has been prepared for the sole use of the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries. No reports may be provided to third parties without our prior consent. Consent is, and will only be, granted on the basis that such reports are not prepared with the interests of anyone other than the company in mind and that we accept no duty or responsibility to any other party. No responsibilities are accepted by DJH Audit Limited towards any party acting or refraining from action as a result of this report.

We would like to express our thanks to all members of the company's staff who assisted us in carrying out our work.

2. Statutory audit communication

2.1 Objectivity and independence

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and the Ethical Standards published by the United Kingdom Auditing Practices Board. We have considered our independence and objectivity in respect to the audit for the year ended 31 July 2024.

In addition to auditing the financial statements we also provided, through other individuals, non-audit services to Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2024. We have outlined below the safeguards that we have put in place to ensure that these services provided do not cause any breaches in our independence and objectivity in relation to the audit.

Non audit service provided	Safeguards put in place to reduce the threat to our integrity, independence and objectivity
Corporation tax advisory and compliance services	This service is provided by a separate team from those who have audited the financial statements.

To maintain our independence as auditors we can also confirm that:

- DJH Audit Limited, its trustees and the audit team have no family, financial, employment, investment or business relationship with the company; and

- Audit and non-audit fees paid by the company do not represent a significant proportion of total fee income for either the firm or office.

We confirm that, in our professional judgement, the firm is independent within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff is not impaired.

Legal and regulatory requirements

In undertaking our audit work we considered compliance with the following legal and regulatory requirements, where relevant:

- Companies Act 2006.
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.
- Applicable accounting standards.

2.2 Audit approach and materiality

Our audit planning has taken account of the issues highlighted through discussions with Dave Owen, together with our knowledge and understanding of the company.

We confirm that there were no restrictions on the scope of our audit procedures and we have been able to undertake our work as set out in our planning meeting.

In our planning we have taken account of the results of our risk assessments made in accordance with the guidance set by the ISAs. Our consideration of high risk areas is documented in full within section 3 of this report.

Based on this rigorous process we have used our professional judgement and formed a materiality level. A matter is material if its omission or misstatement would reasonably influence the economic decisions of a user of the financial statements and the value at which if errors, on their own or in aggregate, were uncorrected would result in a potential qualified audit opinion. The audit materiality of the financial statements as a whole has been set at 1% of income.

We have considered this level of materiality based on the draft accounts for the year ended 31 July 2024 and are satisfied that it continues to be appropriate.

Underpinning materiality is a level of triviality, £3,000, at which any error or omission in excess of this value is recorded and reported to management.

In planning and carrying out our work, we applied a group materiality level to Crescent Purchasing Limited and subsidiaries of £60,000 based on 1% of income.

2.3 Accounting policies

In preparing the financial statements of the company, trustees are required under FRS 102 to review the accounting policies on an annual basis to ensure they remain appropriate to the circumstances of the company and are properly applied.

We have reviewed the accounting policies selected and operated by the company, and are satisfied that they are acceptable.

2.4 Significant findings

There were no significant findings that we feel need bringing to the attention of the trustees.

2.5 Accounting estimates and judgements

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on the cost of tangible fixed assets, to write them down to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives.

The principal annual rates used were as follows:

Goodwill	8 years straight line
Customer relationships & brands	8 years straight line
Cloud-based server	8 years straight line
Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	3 – 6 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	5 years straight line

2.6 Reconciliation of audited surplus/deficit

The profit/(loss) per the financial statements has been derived as follows:

	Balance sheet		Profit and loss account	
	Dr (£)	Cr (£)	Dr (£)	Cr (£)
Surplus/(deficit) per the draft trial balance				1,156,211
Defined benefit pension adjustment		790,000	790,000	
Total	-	**790,000**	**790,000**	
Impact on surplus				**790,000**
Surplus/(deficit) per financial statements				**366,211**

There are no uncorrected material errors or omissions in isolation or aggregate.

2.7 Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We did not encounter any significant difficulties during the audit.

2.8 Accounting and financial control systems

During our audit we examined the design and implementation of the internal controls relevant to the accounting systems and procedures.

The review of internal controls was carried out with a view to expressing an opinion on the financial statements for the year and was not directed primarily towards discovering weaknesses or towards the detection of fraud. Therefore our comments on these systems include only those matters that have come to our attention as a result of our normal audit procedures, and consequently our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all weaknesses that may exist or of all improvements that might be made. Please refer to section 4 of this report.

2.9 Management representations

We include a copy of the draft management representation letter. There are certain specific representations which we are required by auditing standards to obtain from management as part of our audit procedures. In addition, we are required to obtain other representations on matters material to the financial statements where other sufficient appropriate audit evidence cannot be reasonably expected to exist.

2.10 Audit opinion

Based upon the findings and conclusions of our work, we expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements.

3. Significant risk audit areas

Our review of the high risk audit areas as noted in our audit planning letter dated 29 August 2024 is as follows:

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Revenue recognition in respect of ensuring that all income received by the company is recognised in the correct period. The cut off on income needs to be established correctly to ensure that income is not over or understated. Completeness of income is to be established to ensure all income receivable in the year has been recognised appropriately.	Income not being recognised in accordance with FRS 102 recognition criteria and per any underlying agreements.	The accounting policies adopted by the company were reviewed, considering the guidance available in FRS 102 and the recognition criteria of entitlement, certainty and measurement. A review of cut off has been performed in line with the accounting policies mentioned above. Discussions were held with management and meeting minutes reviewed to identify any unexpected one-off sources of income and to ensure that the accounting treatment is appropriate.	Income appears to have been appropriately recognised by the company with a suitable accounting policy in line with FRS 102 being used. Cut-off also appears to have been applied correctly to determine the correct period for income to be recognised in.

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Management override of internal controls	Potential risk of management override of internal controls (this being a presumed risk inherent within current auditing standards).	A suitable level of professional scepticism was applied throughout all areas of audit testing. We reviewed manual journals and accounting estimates such as accruals and provisions and consider any pressures on management to achieve results.	No evidence of management override of the system of internal control was found throughout our audit procedures.
Going concern	It is the responsibility of the trustees to assess the ability of the company to continue as a going concern for a period of not less than 12 months following the anticipated date of sign off. This is a key risk given the current economic climate.	We have reviewed the considerations of management including cash flow forecasts and budget reports in relation to the going concern assumptions made.	We concur with the trustees' decision that going concern is an appropriate basis on which to prepare the financial statements.

3.1 Other areas of focus

Our review of other risk areas as noted in our audit planning letter dated 29 August 2024 is as follows:

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Defined benefit pension scheme	Incorrect treatment of the pension valuation. Financial statements are not prepared in accordance with FRS102 guidance, particularly over recognising assets positions.	We obtained the FRS 102 pension valuation as at 31 August 2024 and assessed the disclosures and accounting entries made by the group. We confirmed that the basis of valuation was appropriate and that the disclosures made in the financial statements were prepared in accordance with FRS 102.	Pension valuation and disclosures in the accounts appear reasonable in line with the valuation received and the accounting requirements of FRS102.
Intangible assets and investments	Particularly due to the expected hive up of assets throughout the group, work will be carried out to verify the intangible assets and their recoverable amount and ahead of such transfers.	We have verified the existence and valuation of the investments and intangibles, in addition to the amortisation incurred against intangibles in the year. The prospective accounting treatment for the hive up of the subsidiary was also verified.	The intangible assets and investments, in addition to the disclosures surrounding this are reasonable and in line with the accounting treatment of FRS102.

4. Review of systems and internal controls

4.1 Introduction

During our audit we have reviewed the company's systems in relation to accounting and internal control. Our review was solely for the purpose of the audit and our responsibilities under International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). If you wished us to carry out a comprehensive review for weaknesses of systems in order to present detailed recommendations for improvement, we would need to carry out a more extensive review under a separate engagement.

We are pleased to report that nothing has come to out attention in respect to the systems of internal control.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1130461

Accounts

CPL GROUP

tenet Crescent Purchasing Consortium tenet

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/23

Kriss Akabusi addressing our team at CPL Group Conference 2022.

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Vision, Mission, Values, Charity Objectives and History

Our Vision

The vision of the Charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through its work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning.

Our Mission

The mission of the Charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Our Values

PEOPLE ORIENTATED
Our greatest strength is our people. They are at the heart of all that we do. We provide a caring environment that focuses on individual needs so that our people play an active role in developing the charitable objectives of the Group.

SUPPORTIVE
Supporting our staff and customers is important to us. We listen to customers views and staff ideas and work together to provide an exceptional service. We heavily invest in the principals of training for all, sharing knowledge and guidance.

CUSTOMER FOCUSED
Everything we do is for the benefit of our customers. We are 100% committed to delivering the highest-quality service and support that exceeds expectations.

COLLABORATIVE
Working together achieves more. We share best practice and knowledge through teamwork and strive to develop innovative approaches through strong partnerships.

PROFESSIONAL
Acting with honesty, integrity and treating everyone with respect, we stive to deliver the highest standards to achieve strong working relationships.

Our Objectives

Our objectives are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

- Providing services for further education, higher education, schools, and other educational bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.

- Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

History of the Group

CPL was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing across the whole of the education sector.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPL Group.

Chair of the Charity report

Welcome to our 2022-23 annual report for Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL Group). This will be my second time of writing the opening comments to this report during my term of Nominated Chair. The past 12 months have involved progress, improvement and challenge, as the Charity continues to work towards our vision, deliver our mission and live our values.

Our vision 'to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and, though our work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning' is still extremely important to us and everything we do is driven by our passion to enhance teaching and learning across the whole spectrum of the education sector. We make every effort 'to deliver outstanding procurement services for our customers, our mission, which can be difficult when labour markets are challenging, the prices of goods and services are increasing; making savings hard to achieve.

The education sector's budgets are such that some institutions have had to make the difficult decision of whether to use external expertise or manage with the resources held within their organisation. CPL Group has worked tirelessly throughout the past year to continue to deliver the best service we can to our customers.

The backbone to how we operate are our values, these being 'People Orientated, Supportive, Collaborative, Professional, Customer Focused'. CPL Group is no different to an educational establishment; people are our product. Without them we cannot deliver the service we pride ourselves on and our customers cannot benefit from the expertise we deliver, in a range of different ways.

Our values are a consistent reminder to us on how we want to work and be seen and we will continue to live by our values. The Trustees worked with the Group Leadership Team to explore opportunities which we hope will evidence to our workforce that we genuinely value their work. Project work associated to the decisions made in 2022-23 will be concluded in 2023-24.

2022-23 was the first year of our 5-year strategic plan and the progress will be discussed later within this report. We strongly believe that the 3 strategies we have set will not only benefit our customers, but it will enable the charity to grow and offer more support to the education sector.

One avenue of growth has been to expand our presence across the wider public sector through the offering of Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC) frameworks, managed procurement services and procurement consultancy. Further details of this are contained on page 27.

The work of the CPL Group relies on the support from many stakeholders, including our loyal customers who have made us their first-choice provider. The vast number of educational suppliers, many of which recommend our services to their customers, and partners who help us develop our offering by providing time and expertise.

My huge thanks go to the employees of CPL Group and the volunteer Trustees for their contributions towards another successful year. In difficult economic times for the education sector, the teams have worked hard to maintain moral and support each other in delivering outstanding services. I am proud to be the Chair of CPL Group and champion the work by everyone associated with the Group to help the education sector to enhance teaching and learning through delivery of outstanding procurement services for our customers.

Andyrew Comyn

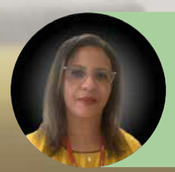
CHAIR OF THE CHARITY

Meet our Board of Trustees

ANDREW COMYN| Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer at Nottingham College
Andrew is an experienced commercial strategic finance and business advisor, possessing particular expertise within the professional services sector. His specialities span commercial finance (including M&A and funding), restructuring, insolvency operations, credit control and the legal sector.

DARREN LOWE| CPL Managing Director
Darren is responsible for the strategic direction of the CPL Group. He is an experienced Managing Director, leading a nationwide team of procurement specialists, and has devoted over 30 years to finance and procurement disciplines within the Further Education and private sectors.

PETER KANE| Head of Estates and FM at Belfast Metropolitan College
Peter possesses over 23 years' experience in Project and Assets Management across both the social housing and education sectors. His responsibilities include delivery of the college asset management strategy, plus contract management of the college's PFI/PPP contracts and overall estate operations, including health and safety/sustainability. Peter is the Board sponsor for health, safety and wellbeing.



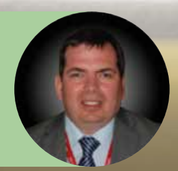
FATIMA BENISHEM| Finance & Procurement Officer at the College of West Anglia
Fatima is the Board Sponsor for GDPR and adds her experience as a sales ledger, purchase ledger and general ledger, working with credit control, management accounts, procurement and insurance, as well as line managing the operational side of a business, with skills in computerised accounts.

JO BENTLEY| Executive Director of Finance, Estates & Risk at Hopwood Hall College
Jo has worked at Hopwood Hall College & University Centre for the past six years, initially arriving as Head of Finance. For the last four years, she has served as Executive Director of Finance, Estates & Risk for Hopwood Hall, where she is a senior postholder. Jo started her career as a graduate trainee accountant in local government, gaining experience in internal audit and accounting departments.

DAVID PULLEIN| Vice Principal at Leeds College of Building, Finance & Resources
David is passionate about the education sector, a passion reflected by the longevity of his working contributions, spanning almost four full decades. To date, David has accrued more than 38 years of educational finance experience, with 33 of those spent within the sphere of Further Education.

LAWRENCE JENKINS| Deputy Chief Executive at North Kent College
Lawrence is a member of the Chartered Institute of Global Management Accountants and has worked in Further Education for the past 20 years. He has significant experience in financial and change management, as well as building and resource development. Lawrence has also worked in a number of other sectors, including time at the National Trust, the NHS and in media and advertising.

NOEL CASSIDY| Procurement Manager at Cambridge Regional College
Noel brings 32 years' experience of procurement, accumulated from his time spent working with the NHS, as well as within the education and private sectors. He has spent 15 years in procurement in the realm of Further Education and, as well as developing a personal passion for procurement itself, Noel is actively involved in mentoring, developing and sharing good procurement practice.



Meet our Group Leadership Team

DARREN LOWE

Managing Director

Darren is responsible for the strategic direction of the CPL Group. He is an experienced Managing Director leading a nationwide team of procurement specialists and has over 30 years' experience in finance and procurement disciplines within the Further Education and private sector.

JANE DAVIES

Head of People Development

Jane is an experienced Head of Human Resources. With 26 years of HR experience across a diverse range of organisations including retail, manufacturing, private commercial and education sector.

RANA HOLLAND

Head of Communication & Engagement

Rana joined the CPL Group in October 2021 as the Head of Communications and Engagement following a 28-year career in the Housing sector. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) Rana has particular expertise in sectors that are highly regulated and complex whilst dealing with multiple stakeholders.

DAVE OWEN

Financial Controller

Dave is a qualified and customer focused management accountant with 17 years of experience working in large finance departments. Dave joined CPL Group from the Housing sector where he had demonstrated a track record in managing and developing a management accounts team within a constantly evolving company.

RACHEL TURNER

Head of Procurement (North)

Rachel is the Head of Procurement for Tenet Education Services' Northern Team, a highly accomplished MCIPS, Chartered procurement and supply professional with 18 years of public procurement with experience acquired in the NHS and Education sectors.

RAYMOND WIFFEN

Head of Procurement (South)

Ray is a procurement professional with 31 years' experience within Education and the National Health Service sectors. With a wealth of experience, expertise and knowledge of Public Contracting and procurement legislation, Ray leads by example, and provides to our organisation extensive understanding of the Public Contract Regulations.

6,212 MEMBERS (4.97% INCREASE ON 2021/22) TRANSACTED THROUGH CPC FRAMEWORKS IN THE LAST YEAR

AVERAGE SPEND PER MEMBER AT £70,991 (23.16% INCREASE ON 2021/22)

TOTAL SPEND OVER THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23 IS £ 441,000,000.00

PPE, CLOTHING AND UNIFORMS SPEND IS UP £2M OVER THE LIFE OF THE AGREEMENT COMPARED TO PREVIOUS ITERATION

Peter McMullan

HEAD OF CONTRACTING SERVICES

Procurement Services Review
Contracting Services

The Contracting Team have delivered a strong set of results for 2022/23, building on the successes detailed in last year's report, with CPC continuing to be the chosen route to market for many educational institutions. Spend through CPC's various frameworks has continued to grow apace with £441m reported for 22/23, a 26.98% increase on 2021/22. Since 2018/19, framework revenue has increased by 83.8%, an increase of £201m.

To further demonstrate that we are the preferred route to market for many of our educational institutions, the number of customers transacting through our frameworks and the average spend per customer has also been steadily increasing.

A total of 6,212 members (4.97% increase on 2021/22) transacted through CPC frameworks in the last year, with the average spend per customer at £70,991 (23.16% increase on 2021/22). Readers should temper these figures however against inflationary pressures which have undoubtedly impacted spend totals over the last 12 months.

The annual rate of inflation reached 11.1% in October 2022, a 41-year high, before subsequently easing. More recently published government data shows it fell from 6.8% to 6.7% in August 2023. Full details can be found in ***Fig 1***.

A sample of Contracting highlights for the year is provided below:

- The new software for academies and schools framework has performed well – reported spend of £1.2m this latest academic year, compared to the previous framework results which were £634k 2021/22 and £300k 2020/21.
- Synthetic Sports spend quadrupled through just CPC customers use, taking spend from £188,070 (2021/22) to over £1million (2022/23)
- The Janitorial and Cleaning supplies framework had a drastic increase in spend - £1.3m for the current framework, compared to the previous framework which had £100k spend over the 4 years.
- PPE, Clothing and Uniforms spend is up £2m over the life of the agreement compared to previous iteration.

Academic Year	Total Spend	Growth	Total Members Transacting	Growth	Average Spend per Member	Growth
2018/19	£ 240,000,000.00	-	4,728	-	£ 50,761.42	-
2019/20	£ 214,000,000.00	-12.15%	5,128		£ 41,731.67	-21.64%
2020/21	£ 244,000,000.00	12.30%	5,365		£ 45,479.96	8.24%
2021/22	£ 322,000,000.00	24.22%	5,903		£ 54,548.53	16.62%
2022/23	£ 441,000,000.00	26.98%	6,212		£ 70,991.63	23.16%

Fig 1. – 2018-2023 Headline CPC Framework Spend Analysis

- Our Schools and Academies Furniture framework has supported customers in publishing over 50 quotes this year and now over 100 in total.
- A leading Multi Academy Trust has utilised our Temporary & Permanent Staffing framework, with a total spend of £6.2m with a total of 35,000 supply days covered saving the institution over £700k over the life of the agreement.

A recent quote provided by a MAT's Facilities Manager helps underline the quality of service available from the team to customers,

> ***CPC were able to support us through the process to ensure compliance, whilst understanding the needs of both suppliers and clients. We felt this was important as it allowed us to tailor the exercise to suit our own financial processes and requirements. The framework was relatively easy and the team were always contactable if we had any queries. The CPC team always accommodated our queries, and we will not hesitate to use them in the future.***

Framework Pipeline

It has been a productive year from a contracting pipeline perspective, with a number of new agreements added to our portfolio of agreements offered to customers.

The new Estates and Facilities Professional Services DPS was launched in January 2023, our first offering in this space, providing customers with a fully compliant route to market for a wide variety of estates related professional services.
A recently launched Waste Management Services framework has been made available to CPC customers following a collaborative procurement exercise with London Universities Purchasing Consortium (LUPC). Both of these agreements were born out of extensive engagement with our customers, particularly the Estates and Facilities Manager Network.

CPC have also entered into a new energy partnership with Dukefield Energy, who have been providing energy consultancy services to our customers since 2018. The new partnership builds on the provisions of the previous iteration with additional services now available around energy sustainability which is becoming an increasingly important priority for our member institutions. We have also launched a new Building Cleaning Services framework agreement. The quality and value of this framework is further underlined by the fact that the Department for Education (DfE) have approved this framework as a "Recommended Deal" to the wider education sector.

Team Restructure

During the last 12 months, the Contracting Team have undergone a restructure to better reflect the dynamics within the department and the needs of the individuals within it. Two new Procurement Managers were recruited to join the team, Michelle Newcombe and Keeley Blackburn. Both Michelle and Keeley previously worked for CPC's subsidiary company Tenet. Both have made strong starts in their new roles. A visual depiction of the new structure is provided on the right.

Continuous Improvement

One of the key focus areas for the team over the last 12 months has been process and procedure improvement. This review has been far reaching and we have made significant progress in a number of key areas to ensure all processes are delivered to a consistently high standard. Projects undertaken have included:
A comprehensive review and update to our standard tender

documentation pack.

- Adoption and enhancement of the new Selection Questionnaire.
- Ground-up redesign of our buyers' guides.
- Improvements to the manner in which direct awards are undertaken by customers.
- Commencement of a comprehensive review of our standard call-off terms and conditions to ensure that they are fit for purpose and provide the necessary protections for both customers and suppliers alike when contracting through our agreements.
- Completion of a customer journey mapping exercise to identify any efficiency improvements available in the way that customers engage with the organisation.

The Team continue to use a multitude of approaches to engage and support our membership. Working with the Regional Procurement Advisory team, the Contracting Team now attends all regional Procurement Advisory Group (PAG) meetings, where the focus of discussion is around providing updates on the team's activity and more recently the looming introduction of wide ranging public procurement reform.

These meetings also provide a good opportunity to undertake pre-market engagement with customers prior to the launch of a tender process, they present an excellent opportunity to seek feedback on proposals and to highlight common issues in the procurement of relevant Goods and Services. We also regularly deliver educational content to our members via various other communication channels including webinars, case studies and newsletter articles.

Collaboration

The CPC Contracting Team continue to collaborate wherever possible, working with a range of internal and external stakeholders to continue delivering best in class solutions to our customers. We continue to increase our engagement with the UK University Procurement Consortium (UKUPC) on a range of collaborative procurement projects, which include Waste Management (LUPC), Fire Safety (NEUPC), Audio Visual Equipment (NWUPC) to name a few. We continue to grow partnership working with the Department for Education (DfE), meeting on a monthly basis with their senior commercial leaders to discuss ongoing issues and strategic priorities across the sector.

Outcomes from these meetings have included clarity for the FE sector around a recent change to their classification by the Office for National Statistics which had the potential to greatly impact institutions by having to procure at central government thresholds.

We have also engaged with the DfE extensively around the "Recommended Deals" process, providing feedback to the Department on issues with their process and providing recommendations for improvement. CPC continue to grow our portfolio of Department for Education recommended deals and now have a record 17 agreements approved for use across the education sector, the most in CPC's history and the most of any PSBO.

The long-term working relationship with Dukefeld Procurement continued throughout the year allowing CPC to utilise the procurement experience of the Dukefield team to widen the portfolio of CPC lead frameworks. The Multi-Functional Devices framework continues to perform well, delivering a total of £124m in member spend since August 2019.

Continuous Professional Development

From a development perspective, the team have continued to invest their time in professional development. Three members of the team are currently engaged in Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) qualifications. Myles Woodman successfully completed his final level of his CIPS qualification earlier in the year and has now achieved Chartered MCIPS status, a fantastic achievement for someone going through the formative stages of their career.

Elsewhere, the team are currently undergoing White Paper Training and have recently undertaken a financial assessment workshop delivered by David Owen, our financial controller, which was a fantastic session, reinforcing the principles of financial due diligence on our supply chain.

The Contracting Team have been following the developments of the new Procurement Act 2023 and attending any available update briefings by the Cabinet Office. These learnings will continue to ensure that each team member has the requisite knowledge, skill and understanding to continue to deliver fully compliant procurement solutions to the education sector.

The Procurement Reform Taskforce will develop an appropriate learning and development plan for each customer of the Contracting Team to ensure this aspiration is achieved.

17 FRAMEWORKS ARE CURRENTLY SIGNPOSTED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION (DFE)

THREE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM ARE CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PURCHASING AND SUPPLY (CIPS) QUALIFICATIONS

Procurement Services Review
Managed Services

Managed Service teams have had a challenging but rewarding year with both the North and South regions achieving the savings targets and achieving excellent results for our customers.

The teams have been strengthened by management development, with plans to continue the skills growth into 2023/24.

With our education sector customers having to manage extreme pressures on budgets, the teams have risen to the challenge magnificently proving that a procurement resource within an education establishment is a worthwhile investment, not a cost.

Customers

The teams have supported 40 different educational establishments during the year.

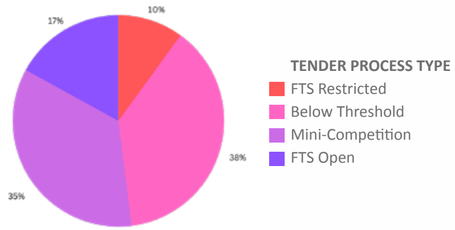
- 30 placements are Further Education Colleges, this represents a 13% market share in this sector.
- 7 placements are Multi Academy Trust customers.
- 3 placements are Higher Education customers.

Procurement Activity

A total of 239 tenders were completed during the year influencing £194.1m of non-pay public sector spend. Savings of £10.1m have been generated within the combined duration of all managed service customer contracts. The top 10 categories detailed to the right represent a spend of £163.8m or 84.37% of total spend.

The managed service teams have maintained an independent stance in terms of the guidance provided to customers and the breakdown by tender process detailed below illustrates the range of route to market which the team took over the course of the year.

CPV Code	Value of tenders awarded	% of total spend
Building-cleaning services (90911200-8)	£47.2m	24.63%
Catering services (55520000-1)	£21.7m	14.37%
Construction work for buildings relating to education and research (45214000-0)	£30.7m	13.62%
Industrial process control equipment (38810000-6)	£15.3m	7.73%
Refurbishment work (45453100-8)	£14.8m	7.64%
Transport services (excl. Waste transport) (60000000-8)	£11.3m	5.83%
School catering services (55524000-9)	£6.2m	3.20%
Computer equipment and supplies (30200000-1)	£5.0m	2.58%
Security services (79710000-4)	£4.8m	2.51%
Training services (80500000-9)	£4.4m	2.27%
Other	£37.7m	15.62%



THE TEAMS HAVE SUPPORTED 40 DIFFERENT EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS DURING THE YEAR

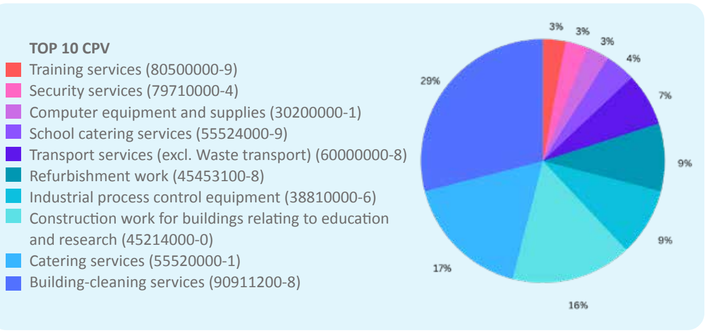
A TOTAL OF 239 TENDERS WERE COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

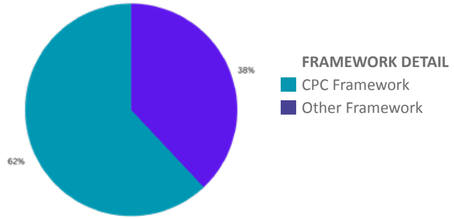
SAVINGS OF £10.1M HAVE BEEN GENERATED

£194.1M OF NON-PAY EDUCATION SECTOR SPEND

Rachel Turner

HEAD OF PROCUREMENT (NORTH)





Where frameworks were the chosen route to market, the detail below illustrates the split between CPC frameworks and other framework providers. The range of frameworks offered by the CPC and the fact they are designed for the education sector makes them a good choice for many managed service customers. The team do rely on other framework providers agreements, where the spend in question is better suited to an agreement outside the portfolio of the CPC.

- Crescent Purchasing Consortium Frameworks = 62%
- Other Framework Providers = 38%

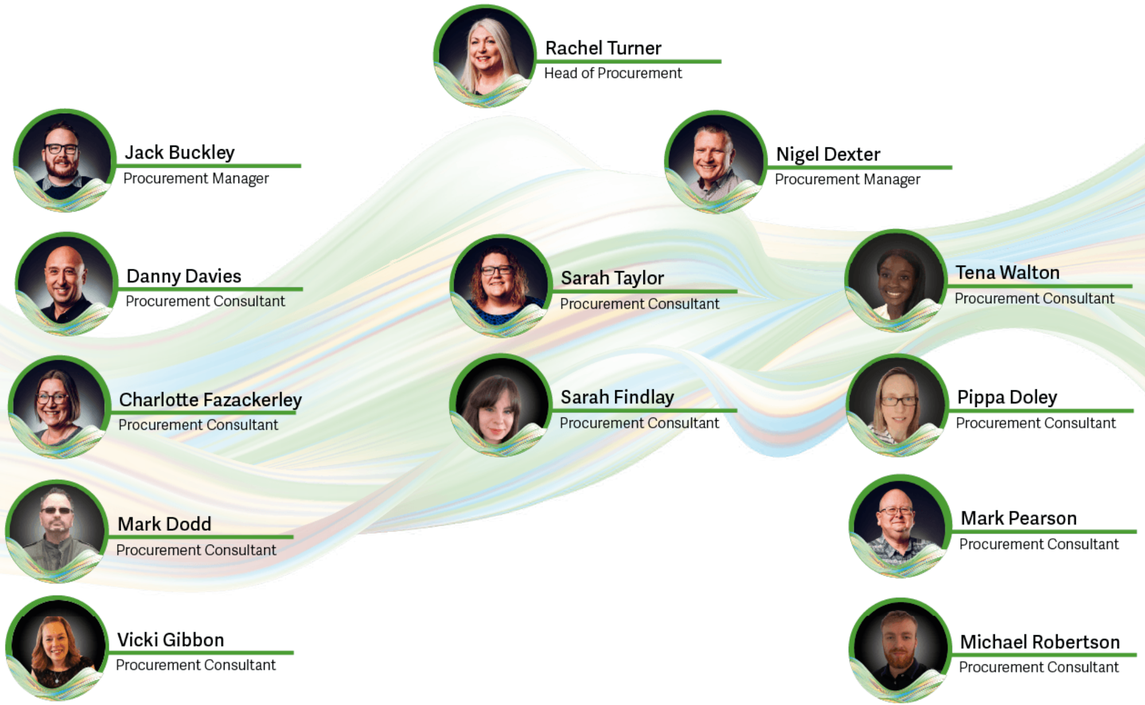
Employees

Between August 2022 and July 2023, the managed procurement service team consisted of 30 employees, split equally across the Northern and Southern teams. The gender split across both North and South teams was 53% male / 47% female.

Customer Satisfaction

The annual customer satisfaction questionnaire informed us that our customers recognised that we provided value for money in the following ways:

- 86.36% helping with compliance to the regulations.
- 63.64% by achieving savings.
- 63.64% offering guidance and support from a team of procurement professionals.
- 45.45% reviewing contractor KPI's.
- 36.36% helping to avoid costs.
- 9.09% providing support through the CPL Group Charity giving back program.
- 4.55% helping to improve processes.



MEET THE TEAM FROM TENET SOUTH

Raymond Wiffen
Head of Procurement

Jaqueline Porter
Procurement Manager

Sue Hayes
Procurement Manager

Anthony Imode
Procurement Consultant

Victoria Richardson
Procurement Consultant

Michael Pressey
Procurement Consultant

Steve Haines
Procurement Consultant

Eric Layton
Procurement Consultant

Jay Beedie
Procurement Consultant

Nevil Williams
Procurement Consultant

Andrew McGregor
Procurement Consultant

James Alger
Procurement Consultant

Robyn Ballin
Procurement Consultant

Julie Williams
Procurement Consultant

Karen Edmeads
Procurement Consultant

Parveen Khan
Procurement Consultant

THE GENDER SPLIT ACROSS BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH TEAMS WAS 53% MALE / 47% FEMALE

63.64% OF CUSTOMERS TOLD US TENET HELPED TO ACHIEVE FINANCIAL SAVINGS IN THE PAST YEAR

86% OF CUSTOMERS TOLD US THAT VALUE FOR MONEY WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH COMPLIANCE TO REGULATIONS

Click on the image to watch the Tenet Case Study video

Raymond Wiffen

HEAD OF PROCUREMENT (SOUTH)

187 TENDERS COMPLETED IN 2022/23

97% OF CUSTOMERS PROVIDED POSITIVE SATISFACTION RATING

Jonathan Whittle

HEAD OF TENET ON DEMAND SERVICES

100% WOULD RECOMMEND TENET ON DEMAND

Procurement Services Review
On Demand Services

On Demand Services provide tendering support to individual schools, multi-academy trusts, colleges, and universities.

Jonathan Whittle was appointed in October 2022, as Head of On Demand Services. Jonathan's promotion from Senior Catering Specialist, provided an opportunity for the organisation to support the 'grow our own' ethos whilst Mary Bee was also appointed as Procurement Manager in Catering.

Jonathan has since displayed his wealth of management experience and quickly settled into the role, Mary has a wealth of catering experience both in the contract catering arena and in tendering.

The team saw another appointment with Eve Metcalfe being promoted to Procurement Manager from her original post of Procurement Consultant.

The year has seen the Covid-19 impacts mitigate, with business patterns returning to pre-pandemic levels. The On Demand Service has undertaken over 187 tenders in the year.

The customer satisfaction surveys reveal 67% of clients rated our services as outstanding with another 30% rating our services as good, producing an overall 97% positive satisfaction rating. Of the responders 100% would recommend Tenet On Demand Services.

The team retained both of our existing retainer customers, with the addition of a further three customers adopting this model during the year. The retainer model allowed a customer to buy a block of consultancy days which can be 'called-off' as required during the year. This is proving to be particularly attractive to FE Colleges that may desire to have a managed service, but cannot identify a budget for this immediately.

A full pricing review was carried in the year and the outcome evidenced that our on demand services continue to be very competitive to other providers offering similar services to the sector. The year has also seen the team expand our knowledge into new tendering areas such as the appointment of Land Agents, Project Management Consultants, and School CIF bids to name a few.

MEET THE ON DEMAND TEAM

Rachel Turner
Head of Procurement (North)

Jonathan Whittle
Head of On demand Services

Karis Lucano-Jones
Procurement Manager

Eve Metcalfe
Procurement Manager

Mary Bee
Procurement Manager - Catering

Leah-Ann Richardson
Procurement Consultant

Emma Thorley
Procurement Officer

Gareth Jones
Catering Specialist

Emma Middleton
Procurement Consultant

Will Lord
Procurement Consultant

Procurement Services Review
Tenet Procurement Services (TPS)

Tenet procurement services provides easy to use frameworks and professional procurement tendering and consultancy services to non-education public and private sector clients.

This year has brought growth to the service and many different sectors have used our frameworks to achieve value for money within their procurements. These have included Local Councils, Fire & Rescue, NHS, Police and Housing Associations. Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) continues to provide a managed procurement service to a Housing Association in the north of England, to offer support to their Procurement Manager and internal teams, supporting the delivery of value for money, PCR compliance and the completion of procurement projects across the region.

Membership

TPS has received interest from154 public sector organisations from outside of education, this client base is growing steadily and includes NHS Trusts, Rail services, Police, Fire and Ambulance services, Local Councils, Housing Groups, Churches and Highways authorities to name a few. There are 26 Find a Tender Service (FTS) compliant frameworks currently available to TPS customers. Membership is free and quick via the website www.tenetprocurement.com

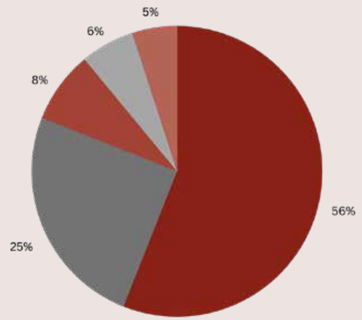
Framework Usage

The top 5 most popular frameworks used in the year:

- *ICT Networking & Storage Solutions* **56.74%**
- *ICT Hardware and Peripherals Equipment* **24.77%**
- *Fire Detection* **7.89%**
- *Catering* **5.77%**
- *Janitorial and Cleaning Supplies* **4.83%**

TOP 5 FRAMEWORKS

- ICT Networking & Storage Solutions
- ICT Hardware & Peripherals Equipment
- Fire Detection
- Catering
- Janitorial & Cleaning Supplies



MEMBERSHIP IS FREE

154 PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANISATIONS

26 FTS COMPLIANT FRAMEWORKS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TO TPS MEMBERS

Join Our Community

450 FUNDED PROCUREMENT TRAINING COURSES OFFERED TO MEMBERS IN THE LAST 3 YEARS

327 EDUCATION MEMBERS ATTENDED THE PROCUREMENT & ESTATE ADVISORY NETWORK

108 EDUCATION MEMBERS COMPLETED THE CHARITY FUNDED TRAINING

Procurement Services Review
CPL Learning

CPL has a strategic objective for the period of 2022/27 to advance education and research by developing our people to be the best they can be. Our people include our employees and our customers.

CPL Learning is the arm of the charity which delivers learning and development to our people to assist them in the delivery of their role and responsibilities. We take great pride in having delivered all the activities mentioned in this review at no cost to the employee or customer, making learning and development as inclusive and accessible as we possibly can for the benefit for the individual and the education sector.

Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)

Our national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAGs) continue to grow from strength to strength. PAG meetings ensure our customers have a network of support in their area where they can discuss all things procurement, these hubs of best practice welcomed 300 institutions across 24 individual events during 2022/23.

We will continue to explore new ways in which our customers can share best practice and take advantage of continued learning, we will be introducing a series of monthly webinars to provide expertise and knowledge around economic and environmental changes aided by the expertise of our internal team of procurement experts and supply chain. Fresh into the academic year, we look forward to aiding our customers with their procurement needs and enquiries and continue to educate the educators as we welcome news on the new Procurement Bill and the changes to our procurement landscape.

Further Education Facilities Management Network (FEFMN)

The network was established by Estates and Facilities Managers/ Directors based in Yorkshire and Humberside with an intention to share good practise and support peers working in similar roles within the Further Education sector.

CPC provided support to the group in the form of administration to help the group to organise frequent meets and build on the benefits of knowledge transfer. In addition, representatives from the Contracting Team attended meetings to engage in discussion around the procurement needs of the group and from this various new frameworks and dynamic purchasing systems (dps) have been born.

Following the success of the Yorkshire and Humberside Group a separate group was formed in the North West and the same offer from CPC was presented. The second group has now met on various occasions and replicated the benefits demonstrated by the Yorkshire and Humberside Group. The future ambition is to expand the network nationwide.

MEET THE TEAM

JACK HORTON
Customer Engagement Manager
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DANIEL KINDER
Regional Procurement Advisor
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+44 (0)7990 764272

THE TEAM FACILITATED 496 INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS

FREE UK WIDE PROCUREMENT ADVISORY SERVICE.

80% OF MEETINGS SUPPORTING NEW MEMBERS AS THEY JOINED THE CPC.

Procurement Services Review
Regional Procurement Advisory Services

2022/23 was another busy year for our Regional Procurement Advisory Team (RPA). We appointed a new Regional Procurement Advisor for the Southwest and Wales regions, resulting in increased customer engagement, another a welcome complement to our FREE UK wide procurement advisory service.

Demand for the latest news in procurement practices will continue to grow in the lead up to the new Procurement Bill being implemented. To meet this demand, we have invested in a further two posts for the next financial year in the RPA Team, to support our growing customer base. We continue to offer our customers a blended approach to engagement, offering both virtual meetings held online utilising the latest technology, along with in person onsite meetings. This allows our customers a full range of flexibility in relation to how they wish to contact and engage with us to best make use of our procurement expertise.

The team facilitated 496 individual meetings with customers during the course of the year, with around 80% of these supporting new customers as they joined the CPC. This is in addition to the core day to day business activity where the service provides advice and support via a number of mechanisms such as our helpdesk, communicator tool, online forms, telephone and email enquiries. To further enhance our new customer induction, we introduced a new customers' toolkit, which provides an overview of the plethora of ways we continue to support our customers across the sector, allowing for a seamless introduction.

Jack Horton

CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

WE HAVE ACHIEVED *CYBER ESSENTIALS PLUS CERTIFICATION* FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING

THE *MICROSOFT POWER PLATFORM* HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN ENHANCING OUR COMMUNICATIONS AND DATA ANALYTICS FUNCTIONS

OUR WEBSITES CONTINUE TO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN SUPPORTING OUR CUSTOMERS WITH ALL THEIR PROCUREMENT NEEDS

Rana Holland

HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Communications & Engagement

The team have had another successful year of achievements, which has resulted in further enhancing our portfolio of services to support customer engagement and user experience to provide timely and accessible information.

Since Board approval to commission the build of a new consolidated website, the IT Team have successfully completed phase one of the CPC web build, phase two will now commence which will see the amalgamation of subsidiary websites which includes the CPL Group and Tenet Education Services.

One primary website offering will provide our customers with a one stop shop for all procurement needs at your fingertips, which is anticipated to go live in spring 2024.

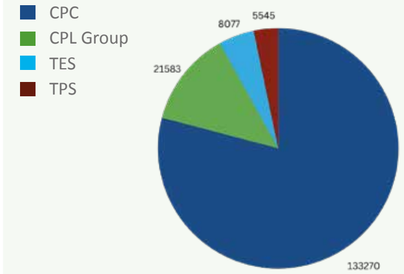
We are proud to announce that we have achieved Cyber Essentials Plus certification for the second year running. This means that we have met the government-backed standards for cyber security and demonstrated our commitment to protecting our data and systems from common online threats.

Cyber Essentials certification helps us to reassure our customers and suppliers that we are working to secure our IT against cyber-attack.

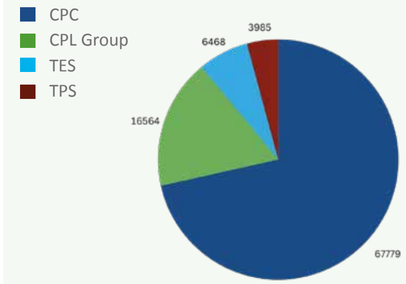
We conducted a penetration test on our newly built website in a sandbox environment, which identified no critical vulnerabilities with some minor improvements which have been implemented.

Penetration testing is a core tool for analysing the security of IT systems, and it is essential to ensure that the products and security controls assessed have been configured in accordance with good practice. Our websites continue to play a key role in supporting our customers with all their procurement needs which is evidenced with the continued growth trajectory in users detailed on the right.

LOGGED SESSIONS 2022/23



TOTAL USERS 2022/23



Over the past year, our business has significantly harnessed the capabilities of the Microsoft Power Platform to revolutionise our internal operations to drive efficiencies. Recognising the growing need for a more streamlined IT support service, we developed a robust app to facilitate the raising of IT helpdesk requests.

This intuitive platform not only allows employees to effortlessly report technical issues but also tracks the progress of each ticket, ensuring timely resolutions. Furthermore, it empowers our IT team with real-time data on recurring issues and the identification of user trends to steer the service.

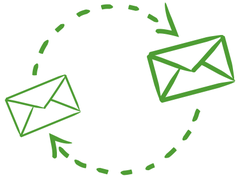
In addition to IT support, the Microsoft Power Platform has been instrumental in enhancing our communications and data analytics functions. We designed a dedicated app for our Communications Team, which centralises tasks, streamlines content approvals, and fosters collaborative efforts across departments.

We also saw the introduction of a Data Analytics Helpdesk app to support employees with Group wide reporting and dissemination of data to streamline our approach to core business activity.

The Group has embarked on the development of a Data Strategy. Phase one of the strategy has focused its efforts on cleansing all internal data to provide a firm foundation stone to aid all our communications to members, suppliers, and wider stakeholders.

Phase two of the strategy will focus on ensuring we have up to date information for our customers and suppliers to ensure we can continually communicate our evolving portfolio of services.

We launched our Customer Charter which details our approach to offering a good service and support for our customers. The charter details how we will manage customer expectations regarding the delivery of products and services whilst adhering to standards that our members are accustomed to. We recognise the importance of being here when you need us, as well as being clear about what you can expect from us.



Rana Holland
Head of Communications and Engagement

Toby Belshaw
Communications Manager

Lee Duckworth
Technical Lead

Jack Horton
Customer Engagement Manager

Viviana Di Miceli
Graphic Designer

Joshua Wood
Data Analyst

Louise Ashroft
Regional Procurement Advisor

Ashley Cox
Communications Officer

Robert Lyons
Web Developer

Tracey Hindmarsh
Regional Procurement Advisor

Rachel Burley
Content Designer

Connor Murphy
Web Developer

Deborah Adesina
Regional Procurement Advisor

Brandon Cox
IT Support Technician

Daniel Kinder
Regional Procurement Advisor

Our People & Culture

People are the heart of our business – they are our customers, suppliers, candidates and employees. Our people are front and centre of who we are and what we do. We are committed to building an engaging and inclusive culture that empowers our people to thrive and grow. Developing our people to be the best, most diverse is crucial in advancing education and research in procurement and help us achieve our mission to provide outstanding procurement services.

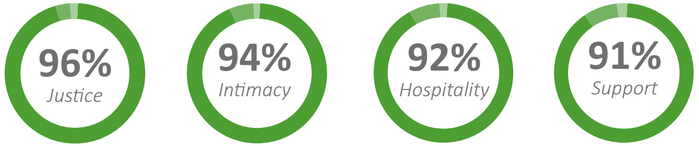
2022/23 was one of the most challenging labour market environments we have operated in. The year of the 'Great Resignation' with a National labour market turnover rate of 22.5%, high rates of inflation, increases in the average pay growth which resulted in a war of talent.

To ensure we rise above the labour market storm, our focus this year has been developing areas of training and development, including bespoke procurement and leadership development programmes, creating a thriving culture through well-being, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) and a fair deal for all on total rewards.

The annual employee 'Great Place to Work' (GPTW) survey, conducted in May 2023, provided us with the confidence that we are working in the right direction to provide a thriving culture for our people. The overall results increased from last year and for the third year running we have certified as a GPTW, as well as a GPTW for Women. We have also been nominated for the Wellbeing, Learning and Development and UK Best Workplaces certification.

We remain one of the highest scoring charities within the not-for-profit sector. Progress and plans against the people development objective to be an employer of choice which attracts, retains and develops talent.

Highest scoring areas of the Great Place to Work Survey 2022/23



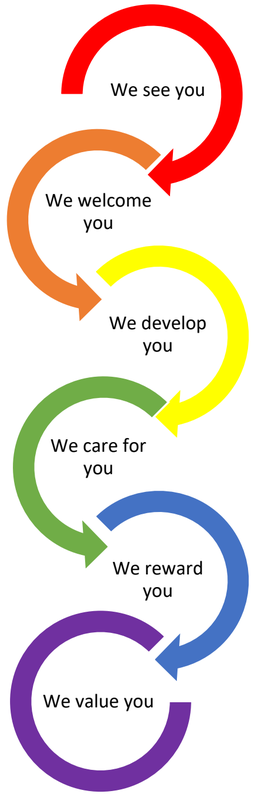
- Increased the overall results in the GPTW Survey from 89% to 90%.
- Certified for GPTW for Women.
- Scored 96% on the ED&I category within the GPTW.
- Received high scoring areas on the GPTW on working culture and support with development.
- Attracted over 2,000 candidates and filled 15 vacancies.
- Average time to hire 37 days.
- Achieved a 4.9* rating review as a great employer on Glassdoor.
- Taken steps to improve the total rewards and benefits package.
- Embedded a working group and Womens Group to drive ED&I and health & well-being.
- Celebrated and raised awareness of key celebrations within ED&I.
- Invested £44k towards training & formal qualifications.
- Annual staff awards to recognise great work.
- Developed an in-house procurement and leadership development programme.
- Nominated and shortlisted for Made in Manchester Awards (MiMA) for HR professional, recruitment & technology / innovation.
- Maintain absence rates below the National Average.
- Level 1 Disability Confident Employer certified.
- Menopause pledged and initiated policy.
- Volunteering day to a local good cause.
- Raising funds and donations for local charities.

Justice
Employees are treated fairly, regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation.

Intimacy
People can be themselves at work and people care about each other.

Hospitality
A supportive culture where people are offered training and development opportunities.

Support
Feeling welcome when joining the company.



Jane Davies

HEAD OF PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (ED&I) and Employee Value Proposition (EVP)

The Trustees recognise that ED&I is key to helping deliver a public benefit and continually reappraise a full and comprehensive policy of diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities.

We want to be a workplace in which everyone feels they belong and are able to thrive. This means creating an inclusive culture, free from the barriers that limit people in reaching their true potential. To help achieve our goals an ED&I working group was formed last year which is chaired by an employee and includes the sponsorship of a Trustee and Managing Director.

The group have been working on a strategic plan and policy which will set out our commitment in creating an inclusive work environment. So far this year they have been working on various initiatives throughout the year including a wellness and womens group. A new 5yr ED&I Strategy will be launched in November 23 which sets out the Groups priorities, initiatives and activities which will be delivered annually.

Wellbeing

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. A Wellness Group comprised of employees from across the organisation ensures the wellbeing strategy is progressed. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders. A new Women's group has been formed and has been warmly received by participants.

Further workshops planned for delivery include topics requested by employees such as:

- Work Life Balance
- Women's Health with a Focus on Menopause
- Men's Health
- Neurodiversity

Employee Value Proposition

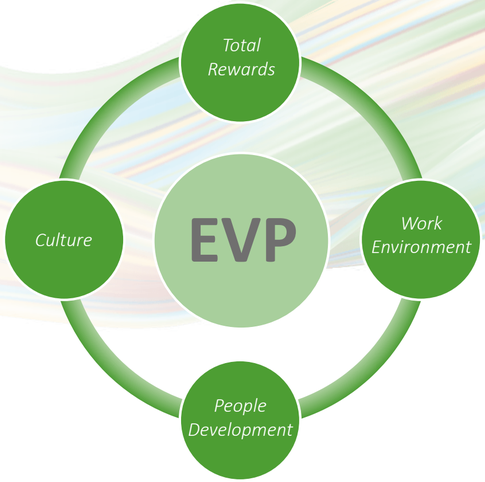
Throughout the pandemic employees had the opportunity to rethink their expectations and relationships in the workplace, resulting in them aligning what they want and value from the workplace. This year we have started to focus on Employee Value Proposition (EVP) and establish what it is our employees value in return for working for us. The aim is to set us apart from other procurement organisations to become an employer of choice. A full detailed plan will be launched in 2023/24.

Jane Davies
Head of People Development

Helena Fearnley-Brown
People Advisor

Smita Chauhan
People and Culture Advisor

Kelly Millar
Trainee People and Learning Administrator



glassdoor 5.0

CPL GROUP CPL Group 4.9 ★

OVER £ 1.1 MILLION RE-INVESTED INTO THE EDUCATION SECTOR.

£547K OF GRANTS HAVE BEEN 'GIVEN BACK' TO

101 INSTITUTIONS

CHECK OUT SOME OF OUR CASE STUDIES

Click on the image to watch the Giving Back video

Sustainability Matters

Environmental management

At the start of 2022 a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across CPL. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team (GLT) and has a Board sponsor.

The aim of the group is to ensure the objectives set out in the 5-year strategy are achieved, not least setting out and completing the detailed plan to achieve ISO14001 – Environmental Management accreditation.

During the year the working group created an Environment Management System (EMS) template and produced the Group's first environmental and sustainability policy. This sets out key actions which will be led by the working group in relation to achieving its strategic aims and objectives.

CPL secured software which will record the Groups carbon emission data and calculate its carbon footprint each year. A Carbon Management Plan (CMP) is in development to manage and ultimately reduce the footprint over the next five years.

Business travel across the organisation is forecast to reduce year-on-year as management encourage more efficient and effective means of consulting with customers, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members which are, in the main held virtually.

A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Some managed service contract customers are willing for Tenet employees to work on a hybrid basis to reflect their own working practices.

Social

The management and distribution of designated reserves to customer institutions in the form of grants is led by the "Giving Back" Group who ensure that three main criteria are met. These are:

- To help improvements to teaching and learning within the organisation.
- To have a positive impact on the learner's experience of education.
- To support the learning of economically disadvantaged learners and minority groups.

No grant funding was commissioned during the year though the Board of Trustees approved the transfer of additional funds into the designated reserves so a grant funding exercise can be carried out during 2023/24. Feedback from institutions that have received funding have been extremely positive and demonstrate the difference CPL is having on the lives of young learners.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has a dedicated health, safety and wellness lead who prepared the current health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

GIVING BACK CPL GROUP

Find out more on cpl.group/funding

Financial Review & Details

This year has been our best year yet. Total income exceeded £5 million for the first time and surplus before pension costs reached £820k. This is despite the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the fact that we are trading in a very unstable world.

Marketing premium income from framework usage has increased by £364k from the previous year. Total spend reported through the frameworks exceeded £441 million (2022: £322 million) providing real value for money for CPL members.

17 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

This is supported by an outstanding managed service which has recorded £10.1M of savings on current contract terms for 40 customers and on-demand tendering service provided by Tenet. The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 over £1 Million has been identified as Designated Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £768,483 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £34,130 spent during 22/23.

The Board approved a further £150k of designated reserves for grant funding in the March 2023 board meeting. This means that a third grant funding window can be opened during 2023/24 with up to £300k available. The Trustees and CPL employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

Reserves policy

CPL maintains a reserves policy that is available here.
This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. Designated and Restricted reserves are those reserves that the Board of Trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving back" to the education sector.

Treasury Management

The Group has several cash investments in line with its Treasury Management Policy. The Trustees require that all investments be carried out ethically.

The Financial Controller regularly monitors not only the credit ratings of institutions the Group invests its cash with but also the environmental sustainability performance of the listed institutions and reports on this through the management accounts commentary. The environmental sustainability performance is based on several criteria incorporating environmental reporting, carbon disclosure & reduction, responsible investment, ethical accreditations and political donations.

INCOME OVER £5 MILLION.

UP TO £300K FURTHER GRANT FUNDING FOR OUR MEMBERS.

OPERATING SURPLUS OVER £800K (BEFORE PENSION COSTS).

A THIRD GRANT FUNDING WINDOW CAN BE OPENED IN 23/24.

TOTAL SPEND REPORTED THROUGH FRAMEWORKS OVER £441 MILLION.

Dave Owen

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Extracts from the 2022/23 Financial Statements CPC

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	Group 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2023	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	500	-	19,068	280,376
Charitable activities	5,127,590	4,650,073	3,214,309	2,737,820
Investment	76,660	10,412	56,787	7,011
Total income	5,204,750	4,660,485	3,290,164	3,025,207
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4,582,425	4,619,370	2,552,664	2,893,227
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources	622,325	41,115	737,500	131,980
Other recognised gains and losses				
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes	496,000	3,164,000	496,000	3,164,000
Net movement in funds	1,118,325	3,205,115	1,233,500	3,295,980
Fund balances at 1 August 2022	5,729,722	2,524,607	6,451,565	3,155,585
Fund balances at 31 July 2023	6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565

BALANCE SHEET	Group 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2023	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Goodwill	115,000	240,000	-	-
Intangible assets	42,590	57,700	42,590	57,700
Tangible assets	36,936	53,514	26,110	39,164
Investments	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
	194,526	351,214	1,446,662	1,474,826
Current assets				
Debtors	1,007,680	1,285,657	779,331	938,438
Cash at bank and in hand	5,673,306	4,288,311	5,191,669	3,969,300
	6,680,986	5,573,968	5,971,000	4,907,738
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(817,465)	(687,460)	(522,597)	(422,999)
Net current assets	5,863,521	4,886,508	5,448,403	4,484,739
Net assets excluding pension liability	6,058,047	5,237,722	6,895,065	5,959,565
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	790,000	492,000	790,000	492,000
Net assets	6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565
Income funds				
Unrestricted funds – designated	347,387	231,517	347,387	231,517
Unrestricted funds – general	5,710,160	5,006,205	6,547,178	5,728,048
Unrestricted funds – pension	790,000	492,000	790,000	492,000
Restricted Funds – donation received	500	-	500	-
	6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565

Governance

The Board

Approves the strategy and leads the CPL Group to achieve long-term success.

Chair

- Leads the Board and ensures it operates effectively.
- Maintains a culture of openness and debate.
- Ensures effective dialogue between the Board and members.

Trustees

- Work with and challenge, if necessary, Group Leadership Team.
- Provide independent external perspective.
- Contribute a broad range of experience and expertise.

Managing Director

Day-to-day management of the CPL Group and implementation of strategy.

SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD
Giving Back Group

With Trustee representation, the Group advises on the appropriate distribution of free reserves held by the CPL Group.

Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)

Represented by National and Regional Groups. Each group consists of representation from member organisations. Chairs from each regional group form the national group and cascade information to regional meetings. The Chair of the National Group is a Trustee and provides an update at each Board meeting.

Group Leadership Team

Is responsible for the ongoing management of the CPL Group. It considers the day-to-day operational matters for running the Charity and reviews performance of the CPL Group, in line with the strategic plan.

- Meets on a frequent basis and is chaired by the Managing Director. The Managing Director then reports to the Board
- Is responsible for the development an implementation of the strategy.
- Develops and delivers business plans an budgets.
- Approves procedures and policies.
- Monitors operating and financial performance Is responsible for health, safety, and wellbeing management.
- Is responsible for data protection management.
- Is responsible for sustainability management.

CPL Group Board

The Board of Directors are responsible for providing direction and overseeing the governance of the Charity. The Directors of the Charity are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The duties of the Board are delivered within scheduled Board meetings which allow for constructive debate and challenge by the Trustees. This approach enables the Trustees and the Managing Director to make timely and educated decisions on strategic matters.

Leadership

As of the 31st of July 2023, the Board comprises the Chair, six Trustees and one Executive Director (Managing Director). The Charity's procedure for appointing new Trustees is the overall responsibility of the Chair, with delegated authority to the Head of

People Development for the recruitment process. The composition of the Board is fundamental to its success in providing strong and effective leadership. The term of the Chair shall be three consecutive years after which they can offer themselves up for re-election. A voting process will be undertaken by the Board to elect the next Chair. The Chair reviews the composition of the Board and will assess whether the balance of skills, experience and knowledge is appropriate to enable them to operate effectively.

Role of the Board

The Board has core responsibilities including setting the Charity's strategic direction, overseeing the delivery of the strategy, and managing risk. All matters below the financial limit set by the Board are delegated to the Group Leadership Team. The Board Trustees operate on an open and constructive debate basis.

Board Meetings

The Board agenda is agreed by the Chair, in conjunction with the Managing Director. Each scheduled meeting includes an update from the various areas of the Charity, along with financial reports and update reports from committees. Discussions on strategic proposals, legal and governance matters are also covered.
The Board has a strong focus on financial performance, risk management, data protection, health, safety and wellbeing and sustainability.

Division of Responsibilities

There is a clear division of responsibilities between the Chair (who is responsible for the leadership and effectiveness of the Board) and the Managing Director (who is responsible for managing the Charity's business). The Board has delegated authority for the day-to-day management of the CPL Group to the Managing Director, with specific areas of business being managed by the other members of the Group Leadership Team. The Group Leadership Team are involved in, or aware of, all major activities and are therefore extremely well placed to ensure that all decisions align with the Charity's agreed strategy. The Group Leadership Team are given delegated authority from the Board to make decisions within specific parameters. Decision outside of these parameters are reserved for the Board, although the Group Leadership Team are encouraged to bring decisions and/or proposals within their delegated authority to the Board for scrutiny and challenge.

Conflict of Interest

Trustees are required to avoid situations in which they have, or can have, a direct or indirect conflict with the interests of the Charity. The Charity has a procedure to record new outside interests and actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may affect them in their roles as Directors and Trustees of the CPL Group.

Director and Trustees

The Directors of the Charity are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The Trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Nominated Chair

A J Comyn,
Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College

Trustees and Directors

J C Bentley, Executive Director of Finance and Estates, Hopwood Hall College

F Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia

N Cassidy, Procurement Manager, Cambridge Regional College (Chair of Purchasing Advisory Group)

A J Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College

L Jenkins, Deputy Chief Executive, North Kent College

P Kane, Head of Estate and FM, Belfast Metropolitan College (co-opted with voting rights)

D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL

D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Darren Lowe

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Partnerships

The CPL Group has a long history of working in collaboration with external partners. We believe that a strong partnership with a trusted provider will generate benefits that will positively impact our customers.

A continuation of partnership working was maintained throughout 2022/23 and details of the various partners with whom the CPL Group engaged with are shown below:

Department for Education (DfE) www.gov.uk
Frequent discussions throughout the year with various parties within the Department for Education are held with the sole purpose of progressing the mutual goal of improving procurement within the school sector. As of the 31st of July 2023, the Department for Education were recommending 17 CPC frameworks.

Dukefield Procurement www.dukefieldprocurement.co.uk
Framework partners to the CPL Group, Dukefield Procurement provide procurement resource and specialism in designated areas of spend. Dukefield Procurement lead on the procurement of several frameworks of which Crescent Purchasing Limited are the contracting authority.

Risk 2 Value www.risk2value.com
Framework partners to CPC Risk 2 Value provide expertise on insurance matters. Risk 2 Value support the work associated to insurance frameworks provided by CPC and also lead on any insurance tenders for Tenet Education Services customers.

UK Universities Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC) www.ukupc.ac.uk
The CPC work collaboratively with the Joint Contracting Group, a working group of UKUPC, to share knowledge and combine skills to produce best in practice framework agreements for the education sector.

Managing Director concluding comments

It is that time in the year when I can publicly state how proud I am to lead an organisation which is made up of dedicated and loyal employees all of whom want to make a positive difference to the education sector and wider public sectors.

Employees of CPL Group, whether they are employed within Crescent Purchasing Consortium or Tenet Education Services, have the rare opportunity in today's world to see the difference their daily contribution is making. We have the luxury of seeing our work enhance teaching and learning, we have the privilege to be part of the team who has enabled the charity to 'give back' funds to the education sector and see the appreciation coming back from the recipients of grant funding from across the education sector. CPL Group is truly unique.

The various reviews contained in our annual report detail the amazing work and achievements the various teams have made during the year, but I would like to summarise the key highlights of the year:

- The Group has surpassed £5m in turnover for the first time in its history. This is due to the amazing loyal support we receive from our customers and suppliers. It is also a credit to the employees and trustees of CPL Group who look for continuous improvement in everything we do. Mistakes will happen, as they do in every business, but when mistakes happen in CPL Group it isn't because we don't care.

- £441m of spend by our customers via CPC framework agreements. An increase of £119m on the previous year. We aspire to design best-in-class frameworks and the increase in spend is the perfect thank you. It would however be remiss of me to not recognise the impact on the rising cost of living that will have a factor on the increase in the past year.

- Approval of a further £150k of designated funds for grant funding, to enable a 3rd funding window to be opened between 7th November and 7th December 2023. These funds will expand the quantity of projects the CPL Group charity has funded across the education sector since 2019.

- The retention of the Great Place to Work certification for the 3rd consecutive year. A proud achievement for any organisation because it is the employees who anonymously provide the feedback direct to Great Place to Work.

- The retention of the Cyber Essentials Plus certification, for the 2nd consecutive year. Our small team of IT professionals have ensured that our systems have continued to meet the requirements of the standard to ensure our charity and the data of our members is protected.

The list could continue… Every organisation should make time to look back on occasions and celebrate the successes from the past year. I hope having read our annual report you can see how CPL Group promotes the efficiency and effectiveness of our charity and how we effectively use charitable resources for the benefit of the public.

I want to thank my colleagues for choosing CPL Group as their employer of choice. Their commitment to CPL Group makes us who we are. Our customers deserve recognition for their support during the year. The various milestones CPL Group are achieving is greatly assisted by their loyalty in making CPL Group their procurement services partner of choice.

The 3rd spoke in the CPL Group wheel are the many suppliers who repeatedly bid for work which the CPL Group procurement teams advertise in the marketplace. Their support towards our work by referring their customers to us and their desire to win

Darren Lowe

MANAGING DIRECTOR

work in the education sector has enabled CPL Group to grow to where we are today. My predecessor Peter Brewer perfectly illustrated the relationship between CPL, our customers, and suppliers as a triangle, with each point being of equal size and importance. I could not illustrate it any better.

Looking forward to 2023/24 we have an exciting year ahead. We aspire to continue our growth in line with our strategic plan. To do this we intend to provide significant investment into our employees which will see the final elements of harmonisation of employment terms, conditions and benefits being completed.

Part of the investment will be additional posts to our structure including a new position of L&D procurement specialist who will support both employees and CPC customers by advancing their education in all aspects of procurement.

Employee wellbeing is at the fore with planned investment in a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to support mental health alongside other health and medical benefits.

We want to continue to embed equality, diversity, and inclusion across all our activities. Our commitment from board level downwards will ensure that we pro-actively try to become a diverse and inclusive employer and member organisation and offer equality every step of the way. Our ED&I working group made up of employees meets on a regular basis and I am consistently impressed with the work they do to raise awareness of a wide range of topics. They truly are passionate about ED&I.

In the year 2022/23 we have been working on a skills development plan for employees and 2023/24 will be the year in which this programme is made available so our employees can aim high in their careers, should they wish to gather relevant skills before the opportunity to apply for a promotion arrives. Our aspiration is to offer the opportunity of development to all our employees, so they reach their Everest (whatever goal that maybe for them as individuals).

We want to raise the profile of procurement across the education sector, because we believe passionately that a dedicated procurement resource is not a luxury, it is a role worthy of a place on any management team in any HE, FE, MAT or school and academy. Procurement has the same ability to deliver value equal to any person employed into a sales or marketing role, and yet procurement professionals are still a rare sight across the education sector.

We hope to demonstrate to the education sector that the investment is a wise decision and by engaging with senior finance professionals we hope to be able to illustrate the presence within the sector and plan for growth in the coming years.

As per our mission statement we want to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients. Our measure will be the annual customer satisfaction questionnaires; however we will also be introducing a complaints and compliments policy so our customers have a structured route in which to provide feedback.

Thank you for taking time to read our annual report. I am in no denial that 2023/24 will throw a few challenges in our path but working alongside my colleagues, supported by the board of trustees and appreciated by both loyal customers and suppliers, CPL Group will remain resilient and work towards our vision of becoming your procurement services partner of choice.

CONTACT US

Registered Office
Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ

Auditors
DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited, Bridge House, 157 Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT

Bankers
NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD

Solicitors
Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

Websites
www.thecpc.ac.uk
www.cpl.group
www.tenetservices.com
www.tenetprocurementservices.com

Charity Registration No. 1130461

Company Registration No. 06774578 (England and Wales)

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2UT

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINSTRATIVE INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Crescent Purchasing Ltd (CPL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. CPL trades as Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC). The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The Directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.
The Trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Nominated Chair

A J Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College

Trustees and Directors

J C Bentley, Executive Director of Finance and Estates, Hopwood Hall College
F Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia
N Cassidy, Procurement Manager, Cambridge Regional College (Chair of Purchasing Advisory Group)
A J Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College
L Jenkins, Deputy Principal Finance and Resources, North Kent College
P Kane, Deputy Head of Estate, Belfast Metropolitan College (co-opted with voting rights)
D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL
D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Registered Office

Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ.

Auditors

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited, Bridge House, 157 Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT.

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD.
Close Brothers Savings, 10 Crown Place, London EC2A 4FT.
Lloyds Bank plc, 1st Floor (East), 10 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7AE.
Nationwide Building Society, Kings Park Road, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 6NW.

Solicitors

Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

Website

www.thecpc.ac.uk
https://cpl.group

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

The Trustees present their report together with the consolidated financial statements for the Charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for the Directors' report for Companies House purposes.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Vision and Mission

The vision of the Charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through its work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning. The mission of the Charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Report of the Trustees

CPL was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education and United Kingdom University Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC). CPL also works in partnership with Dukefield Procurement on joint frameworks.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPL Group.

The Board of Trustees consists of nominated representatives of members colleges incorporating, four Directors of Finance, the Chair of the Purchasing Advisory Group (PAG) plus one nominated officer from PAG, one Head of Estates and the Managing Director.

Resignation – J Howard resigned from the Board on 31st March 2023.

Trustee vacancies are advertised via social media channels and charityjob.co.uk. There is a bespoke induction pack and programme for all new Trustees. Trustees are not paid for their services.

The Board meets three times a year to determine strategy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPL is delegated to the Managing Director and his employees. The group leadership team (GLT) is made up of five senior managers, three from CPL and two from Tenet plus the Managing Director. The pay and remuneration of key personnel is agreed annually as part of the budget setting process. Each post is benchmarked against similar roles within similar sized organisations.

On 31 July 2023 CPL had 9,625 members, an increase in the year of 657. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Charitable objectives

The Charity's objects are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

1. Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.

The CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by a procurement managed service (which has recorded £10.1M of savings on current contract terms for 40 customers) and on-demand tendering services provided by Tenet.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 over £1 Million has been identified as Designated Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £768,483 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £34,130 spent during 22/23.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions. The national lockdowns during the global pandemic meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding "window" was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid during 2021/22.

The Board approved a further £150k of designated reserves for grant funding in the March 2023 board meeting. This means that a third grant funding window can be opened during 2023/24 with up to £300k available.

The Trustees and CPL employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

The Trustees each work in educational institutions which are members of CPL and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

Another popular project is the subsidised fees for on-demand services. This is aimed at those institutions that may not normally access such a service. To date 192 subsidised tenders have been completed for 160 institutions.

2. Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

CPL Learning is the flagship under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to advancing education and research activities in procurement.

The Charity continues to fulfil its commitment through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party training providers and webinars for CPL member employees. During the year 99 training courses were funded covering subjects such as writing a tender specification, ethical procurement and supply, and developing and managing contracts. 104 online webinars were attended covering advanced contract management, basic principles of contract law and an overview of the education sector. A total of 203 members gained access to training development material to advance their knowledge in procurement.

CPL continues to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and the Further Education Facilities Management Network (FEFMN). These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on CPL services. During the year, 300 members attended PAG and 27 attended FEFMN network groups. The vision for the next year is to increase the level of engagement between members by 10%. This will be achieved by designing agendas bespoke to each region, delivering webinars on hot topics, additional marketing and new website design.

CPL have continued to develop the Further Education Library of Procurement (FELP) which is a free to access online learning resource portal for all members. The research undertaken by CPL is published via the library in a variety of different templates and advice/guidance documents. To compliment the library, all the CPL framework agreements have a comprehensive user-guide with embedded templates and guidance documents to help the member utilise a framework with ease.

Further progress has been made in the design of the Procurement Development Programme, a new initiative that will raise the profile of procurement within the education sector. The programme is currently being trialled by procurement employees within CPL with a long-term aspiration to offer to members. This will be funded by CPL Learning and will take the form of 1-2-1 mentoring, training, access to resources and networking groups as well as work experience within CPL.

CPL have commenced work to provide its membership with a benchmark tool for spend. The aspiration for the final product will be to provide CPL members with an online portal in which they can compare their spend to data collated from the education sector.

The Trustees oversee the charitable objectives of the charity with due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Financial and business review.

2022/23 saw the completion of year 1 of the charity's 5-year business plan. The three main strategies within the business plan are:

- To deliver outstanding procurement services
- To support the development of its people (employees and members)
- To enable a sustainable future (financial, environmental and economic/social)

CPL Group income for the year ended 31 July 2023 was £5,204,750 (2022: £4,660,485) The year-end surplus before pension costs was £622,325 (2022: £41,115).

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2023 a gift aid payment of £6,164 (2022: £245,000) was received from Tenet Education Services and £12,404 (2022: £35,376) from Tenet Procurement Services.

The Charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with subsidiary companies participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme value as at 31 July 2023 continues to show the company as having a pension asset. This follows on from asset value determined by the actuary in 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be recognisable on the basis that the company has expectations of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

Marketing premium income from framework usage has increased by £364k from the previous year. Total spend reported through the frameworks exceeded £441 million (2022: £322 million) providing real value for money for CPL members.

17 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Tenet income from managed services increased by £53k during the year despite the loss of several contracts in the first few months of the year due to the impact of the cost-of-living and energy crisis putting pressure on the budgets of colleges. Contract numbers recovered in the second half of the year and several leads are being followed which should increase income during 2023/24. Income from the on-demand tendering service was £4k down on the record £680k generated in 2022. Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) which services the wider public sector has seen its most active year to date with significant increase in CPC framework usage, continued one-off tender provision and the extension of a managed service contract with a Housing Association.

Fundraising – the charity does not currently generate income from fundraising and therefore does not use the services of fundraisers either on a paid or voluntary basis. CPL received its first donation from an outside organisation during the year which has been placed in restricted reserves and will be used as contribution toward future grants awarded to CPL members.

Looking ahead

CPL intends to continue its growth over the coming years in line with the 5-year strategy launched in 2022. The budget for 2023/24 sees the largest investment in employees in the history of the group led by the final elements of the harmonisation of terms, conditions and benefits for employees working in the subsidiary companies.

A new salary banding structure for procurement professionals alongside a detailed and robust development training package is aimed at ensuring CPL retains and recruits the best talent.

Employee wellbeing is at the fore with planned investment in a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to support mental health alongside other health and medical benefits.

The financial strength of CPL ensures it can absorb the continued impact of the cost-of-living crisis and with no long-term liabilities (loans) is not negatively impacted by rises in interest rates.

Reserves policy

CPL maintains a reserves policy that is available on its website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. Designated and Restricted reserves are those reserves that the Board of Trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving back" to the education sector.

Post balance sheet events

There have been no events since the year-end that have had a significant effect on the Charity's financial position.

Environmental management

At the start of 2022 a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across CPL. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team (GLT) and has a Board sponsor. The aim of the group is to ensure the objectives set out in the 5-year strategy are achieved, not least setting out and completing the detailed plan to achieve ISO14001 – Environmental Management accreditation.

During the year the working group created an Environment Management System (EMS) template and produced the Group's first Environmental and sustainability policy. This sets out key actions which will be led by the working group in relation to achieving its strategic aims and objectives. CPL secured software which will record the Groups carbon emission data and calculate its carbon footprint each year. A Carbon Management Plan (CMP) is in development to manage and ultimately reduce the footprint over the next five years.

Business travel across the organisation is forecast to reduce year-on-year as management encourage more efficient and effective means of consulting with customers, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members which are, in the main held virtually. A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Some managed service contract customers are willing for Tenet employees to work on a hybrid basis to reflect their own working practices.

Social

CPL continues its agile working policy which allows employees to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and employee wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the Group.

CPL was very pleased to maintain its "Great Place to Work" accreditation for another year which runs alongside its current accreditations for "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace".

The new 5-year business plan continues the Groups "Grow Your Own" policy by incorporating the recruitment of local graduates into planned positions across several areas of the business.

CPL has committed to making available at least one day per year for employees to volunteer their time to local good causes. During the year employees took part in various activities including:

- Litter picking and minor maintenance work at a local park.
- Helping out at a local animal sanctuary.
- Working at a community centre that supports those affected by homelessness.

Funds have also been raised and goods donated to support the charities that employees worked with. This has also had a positive impact on employee wellbeing and team morale.

The management and distribution of designated reserves to member institutions in the form of grants is led by the "Giving Back" Group who ensure that three main criteria are met. These are:

- To help improvements to teaching and learning within the organisation.

- To have a positive impact on the learner's experience of education.
- To support the learning of economically disadvantaged learners and minority groups.

No grant funding was commissioned during the year though the Board of Trustees approved the transfer of additional funds into the designated reserves so a grant funding exercise can be carried out during 2023/24.

Feedback from institutions that have received funding have been extremely positive and demonstrate the difference CPL is having on the lives of young learners.

Equality diversity and inclusion (ED&I)

The Trustees recognise that ED&I is key to helping deliver a public benefit and continually reappraise a full and comprehensive policy of diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities.

An ED&I working group was formed last year and is chaired by an employee. It works on various initiatives throughout the year in support one of CPL's three strategies which is to support the development of its people.

The ED&I working group overseas the great work being carried out by the Wellness Group and Women's Group with further inclusive groups and activities planned.

A new 5-year ED&I strategy will be launched in November 2023.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has a dedicated health, safety and wellness Lead who prepared the current health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. A Wellness Group comprised of employees from across the organisation ensures the wellbeing strategy is progressed. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders. A new Women's group has been formed and has been warmly received by participants.

Further workshops planned for delivery include topics requested by employees such as:

- Work Life Balance

- Women's Health with a Focus on Menopause
- Men's Health
- Neurodiversity

CPL was proud to maintain its Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing accreditation for another year with 99% of employees feeling that CPL is a safe place to work and 90% feeling that CPL encourages work-life balance.

Governance

The Trustees are committed to the highest standards of Governance and recognise that this is only achieved through continual improvement. The Charity Governance Code is used as guidance and support for future improvements.

The Chair and Managing Director conducted a detailed governance assessment which has identified areas where further improvements can be made and this will form part of the continual Board development process.

The GLT acknowledge that the organisation requires effective leadership at every level to achieve the Group's Mission and Vision. A new training and development programme for the GLT will commence in the year ahead alongside one for all managers within the Group to support them in their role.

The Group has several cash investments in line with its Treasury Management Policy. The Trustees require that all investments be carried out ethically.

The Financial Controller regularly monitors not only the credit ratings of institutions the Group invests its cash with but also the environmental sustainability performance of the listed institutions and reports on this through the management accounts commentary.

The environmental sustainability performance is based on several criteria incorporating environmental reporting, carbon disclosure & reduction, responsible investment, ethical accreditations and political donations.

Internal controls assurance

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that the Charity's assets and money are safeguarded and properly accounted for, and that they are being used economically and effectively.

A wide range of internal control mechanisms are in place and being operated to help CPL meet its strategic objectives, to operate within the law, to make effective use of the Charity's money and to report activities accurately. These bring together information from all

significant parts of the business and provide assurance to the Trustees that an effective system of internal controls is in place.

The most significant sources are through:

- The external auditors.
- Financial and non-financial performance monitoring and management.
- Appropriate communications structures.
- Effective strategies, policies and procedures: and
- External stakeholders, including the Charity Commission and accreditation bodies.

The main forms of assurance are:

Operational controls

- Effective recruitment and selection process is in place to ensure suitable people are employed (including the completion of Disclosure and Barring Service checks for employees working in educational institutions) with senior managers responsible for ensuring that standards of conduct and behaviour are maintained to the highest levels.
- Annual appraisals (based around the Charity's vision and values) and half year interim reviews, with regular team and one-to-one meetings undertaken to maintain high standards of performance. HR processes are in place to address any gaps or failings.
- Formal (but not exclusive to) Financial Policies and procedures, IT and Communications Access Policy, Group Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Treasury Management Policy.
- Appropriate separations of duties are in place across key operational functions e.g., purchase order process to mitigate risks around fraud.
- Role based access controls are in place to ensure that employees only have access to systems and data that is pertinent to their requirements.
- Financial forecasts and budgets are in place which allow the GLT to monitor spend in terms of achieving budgets in the short, medium and long term.

Risk management and compliance checks

The GLT maintain a comprehensive risk register. Risks are collated under four main headings:

- Financial, assets, premises, H&S and charitable status.
- Suppliers, partners, competition, frameworks and all Group procurement services.
- Group operational, legal and regulatory matters.
- Membership, customers, reputational issues and the marketplace.

The risk register (and in particular the "top 5" risks identified below) is reported to every Board meeting, supplemented by detailed reviews throughout the year by the GLT. The risk appetite is reviewed during this process.

Risk	Nature of Risk and Risk Appetite	Mitigation
Significant loss of income	Severe reduction in income due to increased competition and loss of market share poses a risk to the business plan. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Robust financial management processes are in place with action plans identified should trigger points be met. Reserves policy ensures adequate reserves are maintained.
Compliance with Data Protection legislation	Secure and resilient technology and processes are fundamental in building a more resilient business. *Risk Appetite - avoid*	External penetration testing of systems is carried out each year. The servers are now cloud-based with daily routine backups taking place.
Compliance with health and safety legislation	Failure to reduce or remove threats to employee, customer and supplier health and safety leads to harm and reputational damage. *Risk Appetite - avoid*	A health, safety and staff wellbeing strategy is in place with mandatory training for all employees. A wellness group is tasked with maintaining an employee wellbeing and engagement programme. The Group is committed to investing in an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) and other health benefits.
Business continuity in the event of a major disruption	Impact of major disruption such as Covid-19 pandemic on the continuing operations of the business. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	A Business Continuity Plan provides guidance and support in the event of a major no-notice event. This is tested throughout the year.
Recruiting and retaining talent	Recruitment and retention of talent is essential to the delivery of business objectives and the loss of skills and knowledge poses a challenge to maintaining performance. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Competitive terms and conditions including a harmonised bonus and pension scheme. Regular feedback is received from employees via surveys, 1-2-1s and exit interviews. To implement an Employee Value Proposition (EVP) strategy that focuses on improving all areas of people development, culture work environment and total rewards.

A range of surveys are undertaken of customer satisfaction and employee satisfaction, including detailed analysis of the results with actions taken to address areas of concern.

There is appropriate independent oversight of compliance within specific areas of the business such as Health & Safety and Data Protection.

- CPL continues to progress its 5-year strategy in relation to health, safety and employee wellbeing which is sponsored by a board member. CPL aspires to achieve ISO 45001 – Occupational Health & Safety accreditation within 12 months.
- CPL maintains its "Great Place to Work" accreditation, "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace".
- CPL maintains Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation. CPL commissions external consultants to perform penetration testing on its systems each year. This forms part of the Group's work toward achieving ISO 27001 – Information Security Management accreditation.
- A Board member sponsors a working group set up during the year to ensure CPL maintains full compliance with GDPR focussing on continual improvement.

Internal controls assurance conclusion

The Trustees can take assurance that the CPL is reacting appropriately to the challenges it faces and has acted proactively to identify, investigate and communicate issues and management actions in an accessible, transparent manner.

The Trustees can confirm that the CPL has suitable internal controls for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. They also confirm that no weaknesses have been identified from the external audit which would have resulted in material misstatement or loss and which would have required disclosure in the financial statements.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 14th of November 2023. The event will be online via Microsoft Teams.

External auditors

Haines Watts were reappointed at the 2020 AGM for a three-year period. During the 2023 audit this changed over to DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited.

Statement of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.

- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of recommended Practices (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK accounting standard have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and its subsidiary companies and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as each Trustee is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report of the Trustees was approved by the Board on 14 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

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A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 July 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Auditor use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Covid-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the charity's trade, customers, suppliers and wider economy.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Auditor report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Auditor responsibilities the trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an

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

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to the member in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Ltd.

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited Date: 14/11/2023

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	**Group 2023** £	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023** £	Charity 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		500	-	19,068	280,376
Charitable activities	**3**	5,127,590	4,650,073	3,214,309	2,737,820
Investments	**4**	76,660	10,412	56,787	7,011
Total income		5,204,750	4,660,485	3,290,164	3,025,207
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	**5**	4,582,425	4,619,370	2,552,664	2,893,227
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources		622,325	41,115	737,500	131,980
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes		496,000	3,164,000	496,000	3,164,000
Net movement in funds		1,118,325	3,205,115	1,233,500	3,295,980
Fund balances at 1 August 2022		5,729,722	2,524,607	6,451,565	3,155,585
Fund balances at 31 July 2023		6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	**Group 2023 £**	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023 £**	Charity 2022 £
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	**12**	115,000	240,000	-	-
Intangible assets	**13**	42,590	57,700	42,590	57,700
Tangible assets	**14**	36,936	53,514	26,110	39,164
Investments	**15**	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
		194,526	351,214	1,446,662	1,474,826
Current assets					
Debtors	**17**	1,007,680	1,285,657	779,331	938,438
Cash at bank and in hand		5,673,306	4,288,311	5,191,669	3,969,300
		6,680,986	5,573,968	5,971,000	4,907,738
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**18**	(817,465)	(687,460)	(522,597)	(422,999)
Net current assets		5,863,521	4,886,508	5,448,403	4,484,739
Net assets excluding pension liability		6,058,047	5,237,722	6,895,065	5,959,565
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	**19**	790,000	492,000	790,000	492,000
Net assets		6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds – designated	**21**	347,387	231,517	347,387	231,517
Unrestricted funds – general		5,710,160	5,006,205	6,547,178	5,728,048
Unrestricted funds – pension		790,000	492,000	790,000	492,000
Restricted Funds – donation received		500	-	500	-
		6,848,047	5,729,722	7,685,065	6,451,565

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 JULY 2023

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2023, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of those financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14 November 2023

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A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration No. 06774578

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**26**		1,325,327		465,785
Investing activities					
Purchasing of tangible fixed assets		(18,155)		(24,311)	
Sale of fixed assets		1,163		149	
Interest received		76,660		10,412	
Net cash used in investing activities			59,668		(13,750)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			1,384,995		452,035
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			4,288,311		3,836,276
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			5,673,306		4,288,311

1. Accounting policies

Charity information

Crescent Purchasing Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Procurement House, Leslie Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ.

The Crescent Group consists of Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in that UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

This charity is a qualifying entity for the purpose of FRS 102 and the Charity SORP, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements which are intended to give a true and fair view (of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss) and that member is included in the consolidation. The charity has therefore taken the advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements.

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows': Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures': Compensation for key management personnel.

1.2 Going concern

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

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purpose and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt to otherwise is the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amounts is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is included within the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT has been charged as a cost against the activity in which the expenditure was incurred. All expenditure is solely for the purpose of achieving the charities objectives and has been disclosed within those cost categories.

Governance costs are recognised when, and to the extent that, the charity can identify activities in which are associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to being directly associated with its charitable activities.

Support costs are recognised when the charity can identify centralised services that benefit all area of the charity's operations.

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of unincorporated businesses over the fair value of net assets acquired. Its it initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill shall be considered to have a finite useful life and shall be amortised on a systematic basis over its life.

1.7 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Customer relationship	up to 8 years
Brand	up to 8 years
Cloud-based server	Over 5 years

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciations is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual value over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	Between 3 and 6 years
Fixtures and fittings	Over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

1.10 Fixed assets investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other shirt-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.12 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS102 to all of its financial instruments.

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year not amortised.

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

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

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

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

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

1.14 Retirement benefits
Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee costs. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Re-measurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the prevent value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1.15 Basis of consolidation

In the parent company financial statements, the cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill. The cost of the combination includes the estimated amount of contingent consideration after the acquisition date. Provisional fair values recognised for business combinations in the previous periods are adjusted retrospectively for final fair values determined in the 12 months following the acquisition date. Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are accounted for at costs less impairment.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Crescent Purchasing Limited and all of its subsidiaries (ie entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up 31 July 2023. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used in line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited have been included in the group financial statements using the purchasing method of accounting. Accordingly, the group statements of financial activities and statement of cash flows include the results and cash flows of Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

During the current or preceding financial statements, no critical judgements or estimates were used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3. Charitable activities

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023** £	Charity 2022 £
Marketing premiums	2,816,772	2,452,931	2,793,070	2,412,784
Services rendered	2,195,908	2,118,685	-	-
Other income	114,910	78,457	421,239	325,036
	5,127,590	4,650,073	3,214,309	2,737,820

4. Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	76,660	10,412

All of the Group's investment income of £76,660 (2022: £10,412) arises in Crescent Purchasing Limited from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

5. Charitable activities

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023** £	Charity 2022 £
Employee costs	2,794,450	2,811,756	1,019,179	1,235,303
Occupancy costs	84,706	77,445	84,706	77,445
Telephone	28,358	19,272	17,275	14,330
Postage and stationery	5,325	6,178	4,132	4,639
Insurance	56,056	49,819	56,056	49,819
Legal costs	45,345	15,046	7,345	3,381
Travel costs	72,191	55,520	18,357	14,628
Recruitment and training	70,228	47,142	59,482	42,966
Marketing and advertising	141,254	117,134	141,020	115,909
Crescent learning	9,329	8,600	9,329	8,600
Procurement partner and member shared income	5,077	13,569	55,077	113,569
Health, safety and employee wellbeing	10,587	7,046	9,594	5,747
Consultancy fees	12,201	17,136	-	1,600
Provision for bad debts	3,520	789	(741)	789
Bank charges	2,635	2,669	1,455	1,555
Other expenditure	7,228	6,152	6,850	5,196
Donations to Charity	100	-	100	-
ICT costs	84,685	71,269	59,182	47,772
	3,433,275	3,326,542	1,548,398	1,743,248
Grant Funding Activities (see note 6)	34,130	367,959	34,130	367,959
Share of support costs (see note 7)	1,086,717	899,019	953,211	766,550
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	28,303	25,850	16,925	15,470
	4,582,425	4,619,370	2,552,664	2,893,227
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds – general	4,548,295	4,251,411	2,518,534	2,525,268
Unrestricted funds – designated	34,130	367,959	34,130	367,959
	4,582,425	4,619,370	2,552,664	2,893,227

6. Grant funding activities

Reinvestment activities payable into the education sector is expenditure made from the charity's designated funds towards agreed projects detailed in the Trustees report and note 22.

This expenditure falls outside of standard operational costs and may lead to deficits in some years. The operational surplus that would have been stated had this reinvestment into the sector not happened is shown.

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023 £**	Charity 2022 £
Net income for the year	622,325	41,115	737,500	131,980
Expenditure from designated funds	34,130	367,959	34,130	367,959
Operational surplus	656,455	409,074	771,630	499,939

7. Group support costs

	Support Cost £	**Governance costs £**	**2023 £**	2022 £	**Basis of allocation**
Employee costs	913,037	-	913,037	725,116	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	173,680	-	173,680	173,903	support
Audit fees	-	8,100	8,100	8,000	Governance
Legal and professional	-	12,843	12,843	10,490	Governance
Accounting services	-	7,360	7,360	7,360	Governance
	1,086,717	28,303	1,115,020	924,869	
Analysed between Charitable activities	1,086,717	28,303	1,115,020	924,869	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £8,100 (2022: £8,000) for audit fees.

Charity	Support Cost £	Governance costs £	2023 £	2022 £	Basis of allocation
Employee costs	913,037	-	913,037	725,116	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	40,174	-	40,174	41,434	support
Audit fees	-	5,100	5,100	5,000	Governance
Legal and professional	-	8,270	8,270	6,915	Governance
Accounting services	-	3,555	3,555	3,555	Governance
	953,211	16,925	970,136	782,020	
Analysed between Charitable activities	953,211	16,925	970,136	782,020	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £5,100 (2022: £5,000) for audit fees.

8. Net Movement in funds

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's financial statements	8,100	8,000	5,100	5,000
Operating lease costs	43,676	42,747	43,676	42,747
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	33,570	33,793	25,064	26,324
Amortisation of intangible assets	140,110	140,110	15,110	15,110

9. Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them), except for the Managing Director, received any remuneration during the year. Two trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses in the year of £161 (2022: £295).

Please see note 10 for further disclosure of remuneration of key management personnel.

10. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year were:

	Group 2023 Number	Group 2022 Number	**Charity 2023 Number**	Charity 2022 Number
Professional and administrative	80	74	38	36

Employment costs	**2023**	2022	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Wages and salaries	2,992,228	2,609,074	1445,556	1,232,126
Social security costs	309,248	278,162	145,808	128,692
Other pension costs	406,011	649,636	340,852	599,601
	3,707,487	3,536,872	1,932,216	1,960,419

Included within employment costs of the charity are employee restructuring payments (both contractual and non-contractual) totalling £27,946 (2022: nil) which are fully paid within the year.

Included within other pension costs are current services costs and associated interest expense on defined benefit pension plans. During the year, the company recognised current service costs and interest expenses from defined benefit pension plans of £198,000 (2022: £480,000).

Included within support costs are wages to the value of £913,037 for the Human Resources, Finance and Communications departments through virtue of shared service to all the charitable activities.

The number of employees whose annal remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	Group 2023 Number	Group 2022 Number	**Charity 2023 Number**	Charity 2022 Number
Directors	1	1	1	1
Employees	9	6	6	3

Darren Lowe (Managing Director) is the only key management personnel associated with the direct running of the charity. Darren Lowe was paid total renumeration of £122,820 (2022: £109,715). The remuneration for Darren Lowe was provided in his capacity of Managing Director of the charitable activities and not in his capacity of trustee of the

charity. Included within total remuneration were pension contributions totalling £11,031 (2022: £9,229).

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12. Group intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill	Customer relationship	Brand	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 August 2022	1,672,236	52,004	275,760	2,000,000
Amortisation charged for the year	70,000	8,750	46,250	125,000
At 31 July 2023	1,742,236	60,754	322,010	2,125,000
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2023	62,238	8,249	44,513	115,000
At 31 July 2022	132,238	16,999	90,763	240,000

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2022	1,250,000
Amortisation charged for the year	-
At 31 July 2023	1,250,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2023	-
At 31 July 2022	-

13. Group other intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2022	29,309	1,983	31,292
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2023	42,719	3,683	46,402
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2023	37,773	4,817	42,590
At 31 July 2022	51,183	6,517	57,700

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2022	29,309	1,983	31,292
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2023	42,719	3,683	46,402
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2023	37,773	4,817	42,590
At 31 July 2022	51,183	6,517	57,700

14. Group tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2022	58,757	62,043	29,417	150,217
Additions	-	18,155	-	18,155
Less Disposals	-	(5,621)	-	(5,621)
At 31 July 2023	58,757	74,577	29,417	162,751
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2022	39,982	35,676	21,045	96,703
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	18,151	5,624	33,570
Less disposals	-	(4,458)	-	(4,458)
At 31 July 2023	49,777	49,369	26,669	125,815
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2023	8,980	25,208	2,748	36,936
At 31 July 2022	18,775	26,367	8,372	53,514

Charity tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2022	58,757	33,196	29,417	121,370
Additions	-	12,010	-	12,010
Less Disposals	-	(2,876)	-	(2,876)
At 31 July 2023	58,757	42,330	29,417	130,504
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2022	39,982	21,179	21,045	82,206
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	9,645	5,624	25,064
Less disposals	-	(2,876)	-	(2,876)
At 31 July 2023	49,777	27,948	26,669	104,394
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2023	8,980	14,382	2,748	26,110
At 31 July 2022	18,775	12,017	8,372	39,164

15. Charity fixed asset investments

	Other Investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 August 2022 & 31 July 2023	1,377,962
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2023	1,377,962
At 31 July 2022	1,377,962

	2023	2022
Other investments comprise:	**£**	£
Investments in subsidiaries	1,377,962	1,377,962

16. Financial instruments

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023** £	Charity 2022 £
Carrying amount of financial assets				
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	366,314	422,799	148,368	90,430
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost	510,637	414,285	368,279	323,013

17. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023** £	Charity 2022 £
Trade debtors	363,430	416,099	63,689	25,132
Amounts owed by subsidiaries	-	-	81,795	61,270
Other debtors	2,884	6,700	2,884	4,028
Prepayments and accrued income	641,366	862,858	630,963	848,008
	1,007,680	1,285,657	779,331	938,438

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2023	Group 2022	**Charity 2023**	Charity 2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Other taxation and social security	306,828	273,175	154,318	99,986
Trade creditors	86,096	43,532	77,662	41,422
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	-	-	1,830	1,143
Other creditors	20,196	39,802	7,424	28,021
Accruals and deferred income	404,345	330,951	281,363	252,427
	817,465	687,460	522,597	422,999

Deferred income within the charity relates to suppliers sponsorships of the CPL village within external exhibitions, namely the Schools and Academies Show (SAAS). The full balance of £12,775 will be utilised in the November 2023 SAAS.

Deferred income

	Group	**Charity**
	£	**£**
Balance at 1 August 2022	6,800	5,000
Released from previous years	(6,800)	(5,000)
Resources deferred in the year	12,775	12,775
Balance at 31 July 2023	12,775	12,775

19. Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities

The WYPF pension scheme value as at 31 July 2023 continues to show the company as having a pension asset as at 31 July 2023. The latest actuarial valuation for the pension scheme related to the period ended 31 March 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be recognisable on the basis that the company has expectations of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

	Note	**Group 2023 £**	Group 2022 £	**Charity 2023 £**	Charity 2022 £
Retirement benefit asset / obligations	**20**	790,000	492,000	790,000	492,000
		790,000	492,000	790,000	492,000

20. Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

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

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £163,000 (2022: £71,000).

Defined benefit schemes

Key assumptions

	2023 %	2022 %
Discount rate	4.90	3.40
Expected rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.60	2.50
Expected rate of salary increases	3.85	3.75
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.60	2.50

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.0	21.8
- Females	24.1	24.6
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.2	22.5
- Females	25.1	25.7

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current service cost	386,000	563,000
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	143,000	107,000
Other costs and income	(163,000)	(71,000)
Total costs	366,000	599,000

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Actual return on scheme assets	255,000	(442,000)
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	255,000	(442,000)
Actuarial changes related to obligations	(751,000)	(2,722,000)

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Present value of defined benefit obligations	4,027,000	4,185,000
Fair value of plan assets	(4,817,000)	(4,677,000)
Surplus in scheme	(790,000)	(492,000)

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Liabilities at 1 August 2022	4,185,000	6,397,000
Current service cost	386,000	563,000
Benefits paid	(34,000)	(234,000)
Contributions from scheme members	98,000	74,000
Actuarial gains and losses	(751,000)	(2,722,000)
Interest cost	143,000	107,000
At 31 July 2023	4,027,000	4,185,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.
Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fair value of assets at 1 August 2022	4,677,000	4,205,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net)	(255,000)	442,000
Benefits	(34,000)	(234,000)
Contributions by the employer	168,000	119,000
Contributions by scheme members	98,000	74,000
Other	163,000	71,000
At 31 July 2023	4,817,000	4,677,000

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Equity instruments	3,858,000	3,709,000
Debt instruments	573,000	524,000
Property	159,000	187,000
Cash	188,000	187,000
Other	39,000	70,000
	4,817,000	4,677,000

21. Designated funds

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

	Balance at 01 August 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£
Subsidised costs for Tenet On-Demand	32,030	-	28,230	3,800
Regional Procur.Ed Conferences	45,000	(20,000)	-	25,000
Other education sector charity donations	-	20,000	-	20,000
Sponsorship of Student Events/Activities	136,779	150,000	-	286,779
Facilitate Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)	5,000	-	232	4,768
Facilitate Estate Group	2,708	-	68	2,640
Marketing and materials	10,000	-	5,600	4,400
	231,517	150,000	34,130	347,387

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2023	Designated 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2023 are represented by:					
Intangible fixed assets - goodwill	115,000	-	-	115,000	240,000
Intangible fixed assets - other	42,590	-	-	42,590	57,700
Tangible assets	36,936	-	-	36,936	53,514
Current assets	5,515,634	347,387	500	5,863,521	4,886,508
Pensions and Provisions	790,000	-	-	790,000	492,000
	6,500,160	347,387	500	6,848,047	5,729,722

23. Operating lease commitments

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

	Group 2023	Group 2022	**Charity 2023**	Charity 2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Within one year	32,269	43,676	32,269	43,676
Between two and five years	930	33,199	930	33,199
In over five years	-	-	-	-
	33,199	76,875	33,199	76,875

24. Related party transactions

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption available in Section 33.1A of FRS 102 whereby it has not disclosed transactions with the ultimate parent company or any wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of the group.

The Trustees are employed by institutions that are also members of CPL and benefit from the usage of its frameworks and CPL Learning activities. A Trustee is associated to Hopwood Hall College and Leeds College of Building which also access the procurement managed service provided by Tenet.

Grants payable from designated funds are available to all member institutions that pass the relevant criteria. This is therefore open to institutions which employ the trustees of the charity. No Trustees are involved in the review and approval of grant applications.

25. Subsidiaries

Consolidated financial statements for parent charitable companies are required under the Charity SORP (FRS102)

Details of the Charity's subsidiaries on 31 July 2023 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held
				Direct
Tenet Education Services Limited (No. 03049474)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00
Tenet Procurement Services Limited (No. 10021398)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00

All investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less provision for impairment and are eliminated upon consolidation.

26. Cash generated from operations

	2023	2022
	£	£
Surplus for the year	622,325	41,115
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(76,660)	(10,412)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	140,110	140,110
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	33,570	33,793
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	198,000	480,000
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	277,977	(239,555)
Increase in creditors	130,005	20,734
Cash generated from operations	1,325,327	465,785

27. Post Balance Sheet Event

On 20 September 2023 a legal settlement was agreed to the value of £18,000. The value of this had already been accrued within the financial statements along with relevant legal expenses.

djhmitten clarke
great things together

Management letter

Prepared for the board of trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited (Group)

For the year ended 31 July 2023

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djhmitten clarke

1. Introduction

We are pleased to set out in this document our report to the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited (group) for the year ended 31 July 2023.

Our responsibilities as auditors are set out in the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) ("ISAs"). We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We have carried out our audit in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 August 2018 in order to express an audit opinion for UK statutory purposes on the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (group) for the year ended 31 July 2023. We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and all threats to our independence, as identified to you in our audit plan letter dated 4 September 2023, have been properly addressed through appropriate safeguards. No additional facts or matters have arisen during the course of the audit that we wish to draw to your attention and we confirm that we are independent and able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

In this report, we present the key findings from our audit, together with a commentary on the significant matters arising. The matters that have been reported are limited to those deficiencies identified during the audit which we have concluded are of sufficient importance to bring to the attention of those charged with governance. This report has been discussed comprehensively and agreed with D Owen.

This report has been prepared for the sole use of the trustees of Crescent Purchasing (group). No reports may be provided to third parties without our prior consent. Consent is, and will only be, granted on the basis that such reports are not prepared with the interests of anyone other than the charitable group in mind and that we accept no duty or responsibility to any other party. No responsibilities are accepted by DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited towards any party acting or refraining from action as a result of this report.

We would like to express our thanks to all members of staff who assisted us in carrying out our work.

2. Statutory audit communication

2.1 Objectivity and independence

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and the Ethical Standards published by the United Kingdom Auditing Practices Board. We have considered our independence and objectivity in respect to the audit for the year ended 31 July 2023.

In addition to auditing the financial statements we also provided, through other individuals, non-audit services to Crescent Purchasing Limited (group) for the year ended 31 July 2023. We have outlined below the safeguards that we have put in place to ensure that these services provided do not cause any breaches in our independence and objectivity in relation to the audit.

Non audit service provided	Safeguards put in place to reduce the threat to our integrity, independence and objectivity
Corporation tax advisory and compliance services	This service is provided by a separate team from those who have audited the financial statements.

To maintain our independence as auditors we can also confirm that:

- DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited, its directors and the audit team have no family, financial, employment, investment or business relationship with the charitable group; and

- Audit and non-audit fees paid by the charitable group do not represent a significant proportion of total fee income for either the firm or office.

We confirm that, in our professional judgement, the firm is independent within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements and the objectivity of the audit engagement director and audit staff is not impaired.

Legal and regulatory requirements

In undertaking our audit work we considered compliance with the following legal and regulatory requirements, where relevant:

- Companies Act 2006.
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.
- Applicable accounting standards.

2.2 Audit approach and materiality

Our audit planning has taken account of the issues highlighted through discussions with D Owen, together with our knowledge and understanding of the charitable group.

We confirm that there were no restrictions on the scope of our audit procedures and we have been able to undertake our work as set out in our planning meeting.

In our planning we have taken account of the results of our risk assessments made in accordance with the guidance set by the ISAs. Our consideration of high risk areas is documented in full within section 3 of this report.

Based on this rigorous process we have used our professional judgement and formed a materiality level. A matter is material if its omission or misstatement would reasonably influence the economic decisions of a user of the financial statements and the value at which if errors, on their own or in aggregate, were uncorrected would result in a potential qualified audit opinion. The audit materiality of the financial statements as a whole has been set at 1% turnover.

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We have considered this level of materiality based on the draft accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023 and are satisfied that it continues to be appropriate.

Underpinning materiality is a level of triviality, £1,000, at which any error or omission in excess of this value is recorded and reported to management.

In planning and carrying out our work, we applied a group materiality level to Crescent Purchasing Limited (group) of £55,000 based on turnover.

2.3 Accounting policies

In preparing the financial statements of the charitable group, trustees are required under FRS 102 to review the accounting policies on an annual basis to ensure they remain appropriate to the circumstances of the charitable group and are properly applied.

We have reviewed the accounting policies selected and operated by the charitable group, and are satisfied that they are acceptable.

2.4 Significant findings

There are no significant matters that we feel need bringing to the attention of the trustees.

2.5 Accounting estimates and judgements

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on the cost of tangible fixed assets, to write them down to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives.

The principal annual rates used were as follows:

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	3 to 6 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5 years straight line
Customer relationship	Up to 8 years straight line
Brand	Up to 8 years straight line
Cloud-based server	5 years straight line

2.6 Reconciliation of audited profit/loss

The surplus per the financial statements has been derived as follows (after adjusting for the WYPF report):

	Crescent Group	Crescent	Tenet Education	Tenet Procurement
Surplus per the consolidated trial balance	1,118,325	1,108,500	1,057	8,768
Surplus per the financial statements	1,118,325	1,108,500	1,057	8,768

There are uncorrected misstatements totalling £25,455 as set out in the appendix.

2.7 Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We did not encounter any significant difficulties during the audit.

2.8 Accounting and financial control systems

During our audit we examined the design and implementation of the internal controls relevant to the accounting systems and procedures.

The review of internal controls was carried out with a view to expressing an opinion on the financial statements for the year and was not directed primarily towards discovering weaknesses or towards the detection of fraud. Therefore our comments on these systems include only those matters that have come to our attention as a result of our normal audit procedures, and consequently our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all weaknesses that may exist or of all improvements that might be made. Please refer to section 4 of this report.

2.9 Management representations

We include a copy of the draft management representation letter. There are certain specific representations which we are required by auditing standards to obtain from management as part of our audit procedures. In addition, we are required to obtain other representations on matters material to the financial statements where other sufficient appropriate audit evidence cannot be reasonably expected to exist.

2.10 Audit opinion

Based upon the findings and conclusions of our work, we expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements.

3. Significant risk audit areas

Our review of the high risk audit areas as noted in our audit planning letter dated 4 September 2023 is as follows:

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Revenue recognition in respect of ensuring that all income received by the charitable group is recognised in the correct period. The cut off on income needs to be established correctly to ensure that income is not over or understated. Completeness of income is to be established to ensure all income receivable in the year has been recognised appropriately.	Income not being recognised in accordance with FRS 102 recognition criteria and per any underlying agreements.	The accounting policies adopted by the charitable group were reviewed, considering the guidance available in FRS 102 and the recognition criteria of entitlement, certainty and measurement. A review of cut off has been performed in line with the accounting policies mentioned above. Discussions were held with management and meeting minutes reviewed to identify any unexpected one-off sources of income and to ensure that the accounting treatment is appropriate.	We are satisfied that the income within the group has not been materially misstated. Please refer to section 4.1 for findings in relation to income.

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Management override of internal controls	Potential risk of management override of internal controls (this being a presumed risk inherent within current auditing standards).	A suitable level of professional scepticism was applied throughout all areas of audit testing. We reviewed manual journals and accounting estimates such as accruals and provisions and consider any pressures on management to achieve results.	We have not identified any instances of management override.
Going concern	It is the responsibility of the trustees to assess the ability of the charitable group to continue as a going concern for a period of not less than 12 months following the anticipated date of sign off. This is a key risk given the current economic climate.	We have reviewed the considerations of management including cash flow forecasts and budget reports in relation to the going concern assumptions made.	We concur with management's assessment of going concern disclosures within the accounts. We are satisfied that the group as a whole is a going concern, however the fact that the trade, assets and liabilities of Tenet Education Services Limited will be transferred into Crescent Purchasing Limited (the parent) within the next 12 months means that the preparation of the accounts for this company is correct to be prepared on a basis other than going concern.

3.1 Other areas of focus

Our review of other risk areas as noted in our audit planning letter dated 4 September 2023 is as follows:

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Value of intangible assets	Recognition of Intangible Assets (including goodwill) and the application of appropriate accounting policies.	We assessed the identifiable intangible assets against appropriate recognition criteria under FRS102, and assessed the reasonableness and valuation of the disclosure of intangibles within the financial statements.	The acquisition of Tenet Education and Tenet Procurement gives rise to goodwill in the consolidation. This has been correctly accounted for.
Pension valuation	Incorrect treatment of the pension valuation. Financial statements are not prepared in accordance with appropriate accounting standards.	We obtained the FRS 102 pension valuation as at 31 July 2023 and assessed the disclosures and accounting entries made by the charity. We confirmed that the basis of valuation was appropriate and that the disclosures made in the financial statements were prepared in accordance with FRS 102.	Movement was correctly recognised, disclosure in financial statements was amended accordingly.

4. Review of systems and internal controls

4.1 Introduction

During our audit we have reviewed the charitable group's systems in relation to accounting and internal control. Our review was solely for the purpose of the audit and our responsibilities under International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). If you wished us to carry out a comprehensive review for weaknesses of systems in order to present detailed recommendations for improvement, we would need to carry out a more extensive review under a separate engagement.

	Audit finding	Potential effect
1	During our income testing, it was identified some rebates had been invoiced at a lower rate than the contract in place. We are aware that this has been fully investigated internally with an underbilled amount identified for the year ended 31 July 2023 of £6,955 and for prior periods of £22,413.	The decision made internally on this occasion is that no invoices will be raised for the prior period and that for the year to 31 July 2023 the relevant customers will be asked if they wish to make a donation to the "giving back" fund rather than being invoiced. The financial impact prior to any customer donating to the fund is understated income across 4 years of £29,368. We would suggest that going forward a check is put in place to ensure the correct rebate percentage is included on the database. This is a manual entry and therefore could easily be mistyped.
2	The insurance rebate and interest received had been included within box 6 of the VAT returns in the year. Previously the amounts were trivial, however due to higher interest rates this year the interest values were material.	Although there is no financial impact, HMRC will sense check values included in box 6 across the year against the income within the financial statements and can raise a query where there are significant differences.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1130461

Accounts

Crescent Purchasing Consortium

Annual Report 2021/22

CPL GROUP

tenet Crescent Purchasing Consortium tenet

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Introduction from our Chair

Our Vision

"To be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and, through our work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning."

I wish you a very warm welcome to our 2021-22 annual report for Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL Group). I have the honour of writing the opening comments section of the report for the first time following my appointment to Chair of the Board of Trustees, in August 2021. In the capacity of Nominated Chair, I have had the pleasure of working with our Trustees and CPL Group colleagues, in particular the Group Leadership Team, all of whom are dedicated to pursuing our vision to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and, through our work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning. The CPL Group is committed to supporting our members with all aspects of procurement, including the advancement of education and research in procurement through learning and development and enabling collaboration and sharing best practice with like-minded network groups. I hope you will gain an appreciation of the depth and breadth of the valuable work undertaken through the year as you read the various sections within our annual report. The year has seen several milestones being achieved by the CPL Group team, including:

1. More members than ever before finding value in using the Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC) portfolio of frameworks, resulting in record levels of spend going through the frameworks each quarter
2. Tenet On Demand procurement consultancy completing more projects than ever before, enabling them to achieve their highest level of income to-date
3. Tenet Procurement Services supporting customers with more procurement activities than ever before, helping them achieve their highest level of income to-date

The surplus generated by the Charity enables it to continue to invest funds back into education with many members having benefitted not just from the CPL Group's procurement services, but also the grant funding which has been provided to support the enhancement of teaching and learning across the education sector. A further £367,959 has been 'given back' to the education sector during the 2021/22 year.

The new 5-year strategic plan will commence in 2022 and I believe we have been aspirational in our vision for the next 5 years to deliver outstanding procurement services to our members. More detail relating to the 2022-27 5-year plan is contained in the Managing Director report.

The work of the CPL Group relies on the support of our members and suppliers who engage in our procurement work. It cannot be under-estimated how much we appreciate this support, which ultimately translates into us being able to 'give back to the future'; the future being those learners who are benefiting from enhanced teaching and learning because of the work of the CPL Group. Without this continued support, none of the work we do would be possible.

My final words of appreciation are for the CPL Group employees. None of the above is achievable without a team of professionals who live by the Charity's values of being People Orientated, Supportive, Collaborative, Professional and Customer Focused. The range of activities undertaken by the team are wide and far-reaching, with each person adding value to the overall outcomes produced by the Group. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to say thank you! The work you do is highly valued and hugely appreciated and is making a positive difference to the education sector.

Andrew Comyn

Welcome to our Group Leadership Team

Darren Lowe
MANAGING DIRE

Darren is responsib
Group. He is an e
nationwide team of
years' experience in
Education and privat

Craig Lockley
HEAD OF PROCUREMENT, ON-DEMAND

With extensive expertise and knowledge of Procurement Legislation, Craig brings over 12 years' experience across the NHS and education sectors and is a member of the Group Leadership Team. He is proud to have developed a procurement service has that provided 1,000+ institutions with a compliant, robust, effective tender process, while growing a winning team to meet those demands.

Jane Davies
HEAD OF PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT

With over 25 years' experience, Jane is an experienced Head of People Development and has HR experience within a diverse range of organisations including retail, manufacturing, private commercial and education sector.

Rachel Turner
HEAD OF PROCUREMENT - NORTH

Rachel is the Head of Procurement for Tenet Education Services' North team. A highly accomplished MCIPS, Chartered procurement and supply professional, with 17 years of public procurement with experience acquired in the NHS and Education sectors.

CTOR

le for the strategic direction of the CPL xperienced Managing Director leading a procurement specialists and has over 28 procurement disciplines within the Further te sector.

Dave Owen
FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Dave is a qualified and customer focused management accountant with over 16 years of experience working in large finance departments. Dave joined CPL Group from the Housing sector where he had demonstrated a track record in managing and developing a management accounts team within a constantly evolving company.

Rana Holland
HEAD OF COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Rana joined the CPL Group in October 2021 as the Head of Communications and Engagement following a 28-year career in the Housing sector. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) Rana has particular expertise in sectors that are highly regulated and complex whilst dealing with multiple stakeholders.

Raymond Wiffen
HEAD OF PROCUREMENT - SOUTH

Raymond is a procurement professional with over 30 years' experience within Education and the NHS. He has a wealth of experience, expertise and knowledge of Public Contracting and procurement legislation.

Welcome to the Board

Andrew Comyn

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AT NOTTINGHAM COLLEGE

Experienced commercial strategic finance and business advisor, with particular expertise within the professional services sector. Specialties: Finance Commercial (including M&A and funding) Restructuring, Insolvency Operations, Legal sector, Credit control.

Jo Bentley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ESTATES & RISK AT HOPWOOD HALL COLLEGE

Jo has worked at Hopwood Hall College & University Centre for 5 years, starting as Head of Finance and for the last three years as Executive Director of Finance, Estates & Risk & Senior postholder. Jo started her career as a graduate trainee accountant in local government gaining experience both in internal audit and accounting departments.

Darren Lowe

CPL MANAGING DIRECTOR

Darren is responsible for the strategic direction of the CPL Group. He is an experienced Managing Director leading a nationwide team of procurement specialists and has over 28 years' experience in finance and procurement disciplines within the Further Education and private sector.

David Pullein

VICE PRINCIPAL AT LEEDS COLLEGE OF BUILDING, FINANCE & RESOURCES

David is passionate about the education sector with over 38 years educational finance experience with 33 of them in Further Education.

Peter Kane

DEPUTY HEAD OF ESTATE AT BELFAST METROPOLITAN COLLEGE

With over 22 years' experience in Project and Assets Management in both the social housing and education sector. Responsible for delivery of the College Asset management strategy in place for over 61,000m2 of estate, contract management of the college's PFI/PPP contracts and overall college estate operations including health and safety / sustainability. Peter is the Board sponsor for health, safety & wellbeing.

Noel Cassidy

PROCUREMENT MANAGER AT CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL COLLEGE

Noel has 32 years' experience of procurement within the NHS, Education and Private Sectors of which 15 years has been within the Further Education Sector. He has a personal passion for procurement and is actively involved in mentoring, developing and sharing good procurement practice.

Fatima Benishem

FINANCE & PROCUREMENT OFFICER
AT THE COLLEGE OF WEST ANGLIA

Fatima is the Board Sponsor for GDPR. An experienced sales ledger, purchase ledger, general ledger, credit control, management accounts, procurement, insurance, and line managing the operational side of a business with skills in computerised accounts.

Jon Howard

ESTATE DIRECTOR

Experienced Estate Director with a demonstrated history of working in the professional training & coaching industry. Skilled in Negotiation, Operations Management, Coaching, Facility Management (FM), and Team Building. Strong business development professional graduated from Huddersfield University. Jon is the Board Sponsor for Sustainability.

Lawrence Jenkins

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE AT NORTH KENT COLLEGE

Lawrence is a member of the Chartered Institute of Global Management Accountants. He has worked in the Further Education sector for the past 20 years. He has significant experience in financial and change management, as well as building and resource development. In addition, Lawrence has also worked in a number of differing sectors through his career, with the National Trust, Media and Advertising, and the NHS.

Managing Director Report

Darren Lowe
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Has procurement ever been needed more than it is now?

The past 12 months have seen price increases happening continually. This constant challenge is hard to manage, and some organisations are forced to make difficult decisions and reduce outgoing costs to allow for the affordability of essentials such as rising staffing costs and energy bills. Sadly, cutting cost at every opportunity can increase risk in your business. Implementing a strategy to avoid escalating costs can save an organisation a lot of money. Ensuring procurement processes are compliant, even if this means having to take longer to receive the goods or service, is better than receiving a costly legal challenge resulting from a non-compliant process. Challenging financial markets place a lot of pressure on businesses and some will be forced into survival mode.

The difference between winning a new contract, or retaining one, can make or break a business. Losing a contract can be the end and, in these times, it is not uncommon for the volume of challenges from unsuccessful bidders to rise. A good procurement offering will defend their process and decision, so the costly legal challenge does not occur. Procurement has never been a quick win solution, it's a long-term game and in many cases a backlog of process improvements and a change of culture is needed before savings and quality improvements can start to be achieved.

Once the good practice is embedded, the benefits will flow but need to be maintained by experienced professionals. Some of these benefits are not tangible. Not receiving a legal challenge is a win, but educational establishments will not recognise this as cost avoidance. My procurement colleagues across the CPL Group have been supporting a large volume of our customers throughout the year and from the conversations I have been involved in, I am only too aware how difficult the past twelve months has been for the education sector.

I am proud of the dedication our customer focused team has invested into supporting and collaborating with customers and suppliers to do the very best that they can do. The same has to be said for the CPL Group support service teams, who are people focused and have provided first-class support to our front-line team to ensure they are supported, and their wellbeing is cared for.

The CPL Group has a mission "to provide outstanding procurement services to our members and clients."

We strive to deliver this mission every day because we genuinely believe outstanding procurement services enhances teaching and learning. We might not be teachers and lecturers, but we assist in providing teachers and lecturers with the teaching materials, books, stationery, technical equipment and learning environments to help them deliver world class teaching and learning. If what we do goes some way to enhancing the work of teachers and lecturers nationwide, then we will proudly continue with our work.

Commitment to Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

The CPL Group was proud to retain the Great Place to Work certified status for a 2nd year and we formed an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working group made up of employees. The group meetings are chaired by Lisa O'Shea, Senior Procurement Officer within the CPC Contracting Team and will look to continually raise awareness and ensure fair treatment and opportunity for all. More information on our work in the field of equality, diversity and inclusion is provided within the People and Culture section of the report.

Sustainability

We all have a part to play in sustainability and the CPL Group are doing our best to contribute to this important matter. Dave Owen, Financial Controller is the chair of our Sustainability working group and with support from our Trustee Sponsor Jon Howard and employees who make up our working group we have ambitions to improve the working practices that we have control over to be more financially, economically, and environmentally sustainable.

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Our Wellbeing Support Team has grown as a result of enthusiastic employees wanting to train to become Mental Health First Aiders. The team now consists of eight colleagues who are all passionate to help others when they need someone to lean on and talk to. I am proud that our values of being supportive, collaborative and people focused are evidenced in bright lights by the work of this team and any employee across the CPL Group, regardless of their location is never far from a caring colleague.

People

The CPL Group pride ourselves on being a people focused organisation. I want to give recognition to our HR Team who may be small in numbers but large in support, empathy and knowledge. Continually looking for improvements in how we can support our employees to be the best they can be requires a team to be innovative and there is no shortage of ideas and energy.

Managing Director Report

CPC Membership increased by 10.24%

42 Managed Procurement Service Customers

240 Tenders

Membership

Membership numbers within the CPC have remained strong during the 2021/22 year, with membership figures increasing by 10.24%. The rise in membership is primarily accountable to an increase in schools, academies and multi-academy trusts wishing to access the fantastic resources available through the CPL Group. A breakdown of the CPC membership is shown below.

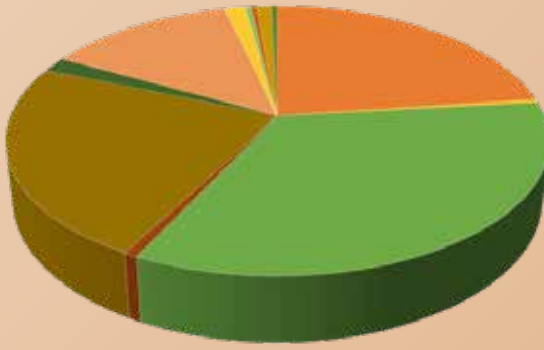
CPC MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN (TOTAL 8943)

- Academies 5504
- English Schools 1445
- Multi-Academy Trusts 885
- English Schools with 6th Forms 343
- English FE and 6th Form Colleges (Full) 244
- Universities 112
- Free Schools 86
- Private and Independent 80
- Other Members (Non-Colleges) 76
- Specialist Colleges and Schools for Students with Disabilities 52
- Other Members (Local Authorities) 30
- Welsh Schools 22
- Scottish FE Colleges 17
- Welsh FE Colleges 14
- English FE and 6th Form Colleges (Other) 12
- Museums 7
- Nothern Irish FE Colleges 6
- Adult Education Colleges 3
- Federations 3
- Scottish Schools and Schools with 6th Forms 2

Managed procurement service customers was 42, an increase of 6 since last year, Tenet managed services and On Demand ran a total of 240 tenders this year, down from 287 last year. A breakdown of the customer types for both Tenet services is shown below.

TENET CUSTOMERS BREAKDOWN

- Academies 22.9%
- Adult Education Colleges 0.4%
- English FE and 6th Form Colleges (Full) 33.9%
- English FE and 6th Form Colleges (Other) 0.7%
- English Schools 23.2%
- English Schools with 6th Forms 1.8%
- Multy-Academy Trusts 13.3%
- Non Education 1.5%
- Other Members (Non-Colleges) 0.4%
- Private and Independent 0.4%
- Universities 1.1%
- Welsh FE Colleges 0.4%



The Strategic Plan

2021/22 Strategic Plan

The 2021/22 year focused on 4 priority aims across the CPL Group. Each aim had an operational plan of work designed to move the CPL Group towards our vision of being the procurement partner of choice for the education sector and through our work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning.

The 2021/22 priorities were:

1. To provide outstanding procurement services
2. To invest in providing procurement training and resources to enable the advancement of education and research
3. Be an employer of choice through engagement, equality, diversity, and inclusion
4. Focus on sustainability matters

The outcomes from the 2021-22 strategic plan have resulted in 80% of planned activities being fully completed, with the remaining 20% realligned to the 2022-27 strategic plan.

2022-27 Strategic Plan

The CPL Group will always be an ambitious organisation which looks for continuous improvement in everything we do. Our new 5-year strategic plan consists of 3 strategies:

1. To deliver outstanding procurement services
2. To support the development of our people (members and employees)
3. To enable a sustainable future

Within each strategy are 3 objectives which describe what we intend to achieve alongside key results which will become our success measure.

I am very proud of the strategic plan and the engagement which has taken place during the latter months of 2020 and early 2021. Engagement sessions with our employees and Trustees has provided over 500+ ideas from which the final strategic plan has been designed.

Darren Lowe

Click here to see our Strategic Plan

Contracting Business

£322m spend via the frameworks

Peter McMullan

SENIOR CATEGORY MANAGER

The Contracting Team have had an exceptional year with CPC frameworks being the chosen route to market for many educational institutions. The volume of spend via frameworks has been £322m, which is an increase of 32% from £244m in 2020/21 with each quarter of 2021/22 seeing new spend records being achieved

The Contracting Team has delivered outstanding support to CPC members through a range of channels, including a telephone helpdesk, online chat, video calls and more traditional telephone and email support. Members can be assured that their needs are at the forefront of the support from the Contracting Team and every effort will be made to help members achieve their desired goal. The Contracting Team have worked collaboratively with colleagues from across the CPL Group, in particularly Tenet colleagues, Dukefield Procurement and Risk 2 Value (framework partners) to ensure the CPC portfolio of framework agreements and dynamic purchasing systems are designed specifically for the education sector, are easy to use and provide value for money. These collaborations have benefitted the pre-market engagement process with knowledge gained from discussions, and research being invested into new frameworks. Likewise, the quality of work from the team is continuously reviewed to ensure best-in-class frameworks and dynamic purchasing systems are the primary outcome for the team.

Continuing with the theme of collaboration, the Team have engaged with both members and suppliers throughout the year to ensure we remain educated on the needs and requirements of the sector, as well as maintaining our marketplace knowledge. Members have benefited from numerous interactions with the Contracting Team via regional network groups, individual support and knowledge transfer articles, in the form of blogs and newsletters. Suppliers have worked well with the Team to exchange knowledge on their specific marketplace and assisted the Contracting Team to overcome member issues, when necessary. The CPC was founded on the principle of members, suppliers and CPC supporting each other to deliver a mutually beneficial service for all. Since our formation back in 1999 we have worked on this principle and we will continue to do so, as we commence our new 5-year strategic plan with members and suppliers equally reflected in the objectives we have set.

CPC have been working with various teams across the Department for Education (DfE) throughout 2021/22. Mutual benefit has been achieved from working with the Category Team at the DfE to promote CPC frameworks to the school marketplace. On the 31st of July 2022, **17 CPC frameworks** had gained **DfE approved** status.

17 DfE approve Framewo

One Stop Shop

The UK public procurement reform is anticipated to be the biggest change to public procurement rules since 2015. The earliest the regime will come into force is 2023. Until such time, the Contracting Team are providing as much information as is known to the members and continually reviewing news as it is released by the Cabinet Office. Excellent feedback was received from members who attended the regional procurement network meetings and heard Pat Condon's appraisee of what the new regime may look like and how the education sector may need to work differently. One of the fundamental objectives of our operation is to ensure that we offer our members full regulatory compliance when utilising our agreements and we will take appropriate steps prior to the introduction of the new procurement rules to ensure this continues under the new regulatory regime. Furthermore we are committed to upskilling our members and will be working in partnership with training providers to support the education sector in understanding necessary changes, as part of the regulatory rollout.

The team completed a framework gap analysis during the year, identifying a number of potential workstreams. Our vision is to be the first-choice procurement partner, and through our work, enhance teaching and learning. This work supports our vision and will provide our members with a one-stop-shop for their procurement needs. The next step is for feasibility studies to be undertaken to determine the potential viability of any given requirement. Details of the findings from the gap analysis will be discussed with our members throughout 2022/23 at regional network meetings. Thank you to colleagues from Tenet and framework partners for their support with and work involved in producing the above agreements.

Contracting Business

Retendered Agreements completed during 2021/22

- Outsourced Catering
- Painting & Decorating
- Leasing Services (Master Vendor)
- Temporary & Permanent Staffing
- Software Licenses & Associated Services
- Corporate Software
- Building Materials & Hardware
- Leasing DPS
- Print & Design
- Security Systems
- Electric Vehicle Charging Points
- Utilities Supplies & Services
- Financial Services
- Legal Services
- Cashless Payments
- Outsourced HR & Payroll
- Communication Solutions
- Residential Textiles
- Sustainable Furniture Solutions
- Sustainable Fleet Solutions

P
Se

Jane Edwards
Category Manager

Majid Khan
Category Manager

Myles Woodman
Senior Procurement Officer

Lisa O'Shea
Senior Procurement Officer

Rezia Begum
Procurement Officer

Adam Richardson
Procurement/ Helpdesk Support Officer

The Contracting Team

There have been no staffing changes within the past year. Each team member has completed a minimum of 30 hours continuous professional development and colleagues who are studying toward the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) professional qualification have progressed well. I would like to congratulate Lisa O'Shea for achieving Level 5 CIPS, Myles Woodman for progressing through Level 6 and Rezia Begum for progressing Level 4.

The CPL Group are committed to advancing the education of our team and will continue to provide support with the development of their skills and career progression qualifications. Finally, I would like to thank the Contracting Team for their efforts throughout the year. I am proud of where we are and what we have achieved, as a team.

Peter McMullan

eter McMullan
enior Category Manager

Gary Sadler
Senior Category Manager

Ekkehard Kugler
Category Manager

Steven Gorst
Contracting Support Officer (Helpdesk)

Ria Logan
Senior Procurement Officer

Communications & Engagement

Rana Holland

HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

It has been a busy 12 months for the Communications and Engagement Team, with a number of service enhancements implemented to improve user experience, engagement levels and to provide timely, accessible information for all our members. Following Board approval, the Group commissioned a new website project that will amalgamate the Groups service offer across its subsidiaries, providing a one-stop-shop for all our members procurement needs at their fingertips, with one primary website offering.

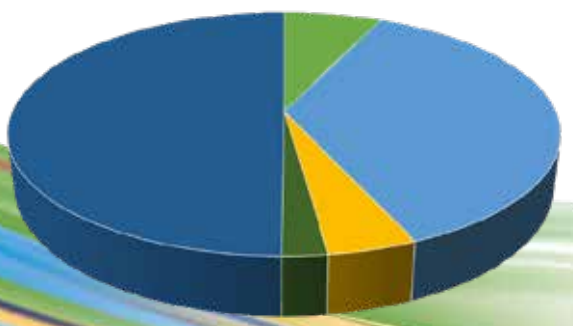
The project commenced with a pre-engagement campaign to gather member feedback on how we can improve our website accessibility and functionality. Our websites recorded a staggering 265,260 sessions with a total number of 169, 604 users.

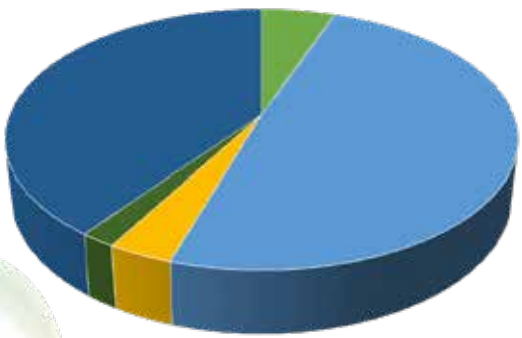
LOGGED SESSIONS

- **CPL 14,783**
- **CPC 130,635**
- **TES 9,214**
- **TPS 5,016**
- **FELP 105,612**

TOTAL USERS

- **CPL 11,638**
- **CPC 62,037**
- **TES 7,518**
- **TPS 3,804**
- **FELP 84,607**



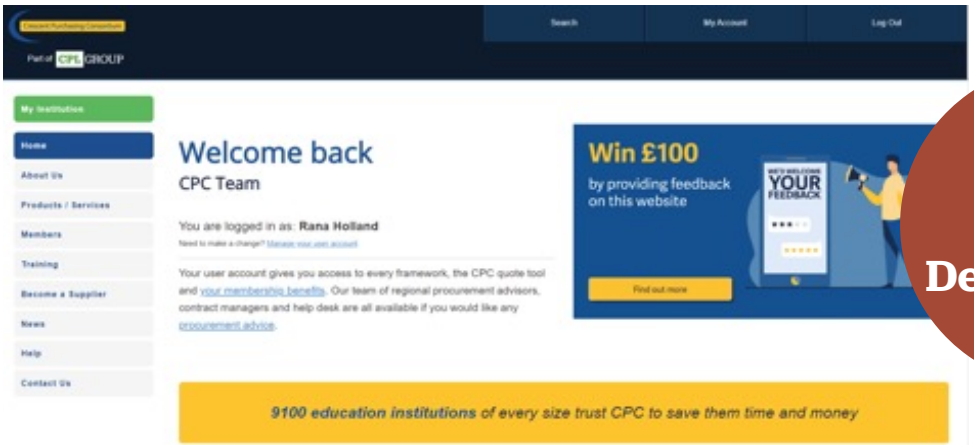


9,000 strong member base

265,350 website sessions

169,604 website users

It is vital that our members are instrumental and at the heart of our development work to ensure we create a platform that is tailored and bespoke around their needs. Our new website is on track to be launched in 2023.



NEW Website Development

Another milestone achievement was the build and launch of a new internal Intranet site, which was another welcome addition to our communications portfolio to support colleagues across the Group. This centralised portal, provides easy access to internal and external resources and is a central hub to facilitate company-wide communication, increasing employee productivity, and team collaboration, whilst supporting colleagues to stay connected with an integrated web app to assist colleagues on the move.

sorce

engage

NEW Internal Intranet Site

Communications & Engagement

The year 2021-22 saw significant change within the Regional Procurement Advisory Team (RPA) which demonstrates our commitment to ongoing member support across the UK. Jack Horton joined the team in February 2022 as our new Customer Engagement Manager along with two new RPA roles. Deborah Adesina supports members in London/Southeast and East respectively, along with Emma Middleton who supports member regions Wales and the Southwest.

We continue to offer our members a blended approach to engagement offering virtual and physical meetings, utilising the latest technology. This allows our members a variety of engagement methods and makes best use of our procurement expertise and support tailored to their needs.

The team has facilitated 397 meetings during the course of year with 95% of those supporting new members inductions to CPL Group services, whilst also signposting to our internal procurement experts for members wanting to utilise our wide portfolio of 90 compliant procurement frameworks (17 approved by the DfE) and our Tenet On-Demand consultancy and managed services. This does not include the several hundred points of contact via phone calls, email and MS Team meetings fielded by the team, on a day-to-day basis to provide procurement support and guidance for our members.

Jack Horton
CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Tracey Hindmarsh
REGIONAL PROCUREMENT ADVISOR

Louise Ashcroft
REGIONAL PROCUREMENT ADVISOR

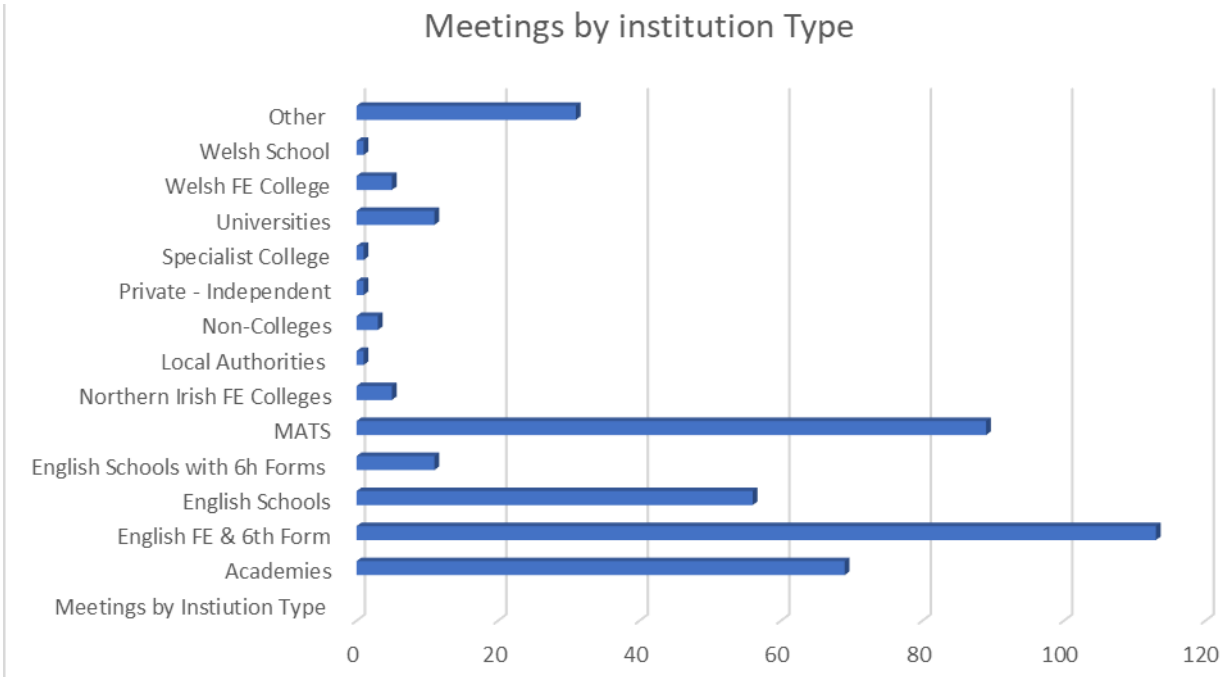
Emma Middleton
REGIONAL PROCUREMENT ADVISOR

Deborah Adesina
REGIONAL PROCUREMENT ADVISOR

397
1-2-1
meetings

377
institutions
attendance

24
UK wide
PAG
meetings



We saw a growth in demand from Multi Academy Trusts (MATS) and Academies during the year which has resulted in a significant increase within our member base. Demand for the latest news in procurement practices will continue to grow in the lead up to the new Procurement Bill being implemented. The CPL Group have invested in the RPA Team to support our growing membership navigate changes in legislation.

We have continued to harness the power of our internal Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. By cleansing contract data information, we have enhanced our member experience by signposting them effectively within the Group to the relevant procurement expertise. In turn this intelligence will support future streamlining of our service offer.

The RPA team facilitated 24 Procurement Advisory Group (PAG) networking meetings across the UK during the year with a collective 377 institutions in attendance. We will continue to meet the exponential growth in demand with an additional proposal for quarterly PAG meetings by region.

Rana Holland

Managed Procurement Service

Raymond Wiffen & Rachel Turner

HEAD OF PROCUREMENT - NORTH & SOUTH

“

The Managed Procurement Team have supported 42 different educational establishments during the year.

- 34 placements are Further Education customers, this represents a 15% market share in this sector.
- 6 placements are Multi Academy Trust customers
- 2 placements are Higher Education customers

A total of 240 tenders were completed during the year influencing £26.9m of non-pay public sector spend. Savings of £10.7m were generated within the combined duration of all placement customer contracts. As of the 31st of July 2022, the managed procurement service team consisted of 30 employees, split equally across the North and South teams. The gender split across both North and South teams was 44% male / 56% female.

The annual customer satisfaction questionnaire informed us that a pleasing 100% of the customers who responded to the questionnaire would recommend the service to others. 92.3% considered the Value for Money to be good or outstanding. We received a 30.23% return rate on the questionnaire.

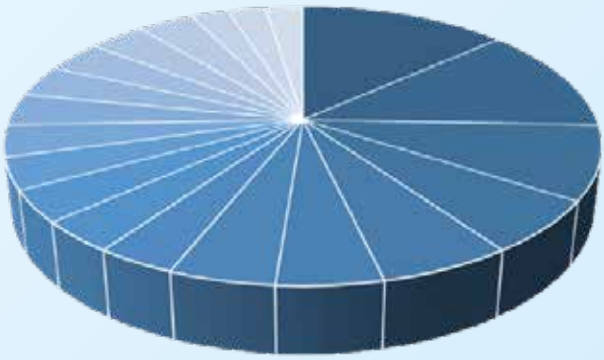
Tenet completed tenders in 46 different categories during the year 2021/22. A breakdown of the work is shown below.

- Audit 11%
- Catering inc. Vending 3%
- Minor Works 10%
- Consultancy 3%
- MFD/Print Services 7%
- Insurance services 3%
- IT Equipment 5%
- IT Hardware 3%
- PPM Maintenance 5%
- Student Transport 3%
- Cleaning Services 4%
- Waste Management 3%
- Sub-Contracting 4%
- Equipment 2%
- Corporate Software 3%
- Future Technologies 2%
- IT Networks 3%
- M&E services 2%
- Grounds Maintenance 3%
- Other 24%

£26.9m non-pay public sector spend

£10.7m Saving

TENDER CATEGORIES



Gender split across the teams **44% male 56% female**

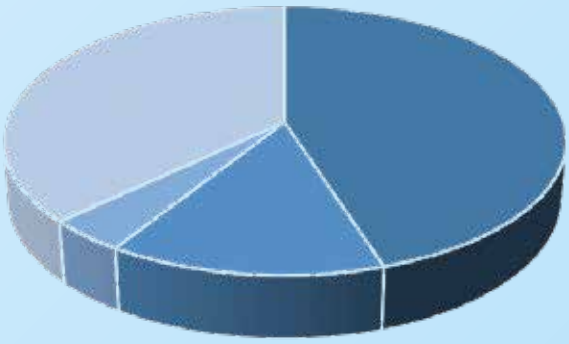
42 different educational establishments

- Audit 11%
- Minor Works 10%
- MFD/ Print Services 7%
- IT Equipment 5%
- PPM Maintenance 5%
- Cleaning Services 4%
- Sub Contracting 4%
- Corporate Software 3%
- IT Network 3%
- Grounds Maintenance 3%
- Catering inc. Vending 3%
- Consultancy 3%
- Insurance Services 3%
- IT Hardware 3%
- Student Trasport 3%
- Waste Management 3%
- Equipment 3%
- Future Technologies 2%
- M&E Services 2%
- Other 2%

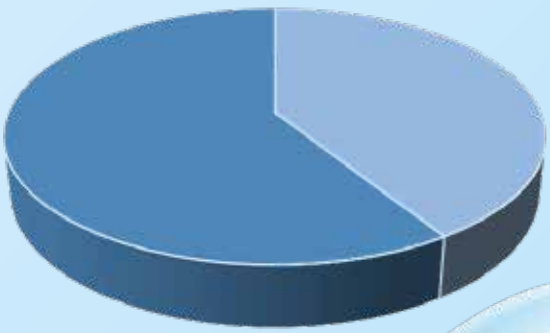
240 tenders in **46** different categories

TENDER PROCESS

- Below Treshold 45%
- Over Treshold-Open 14%
- Over Treshold-Restricted 4%
- Mini-Competition 37%



FRAMEWORK DETAIL



- CPC Framework 59%
- Other Framework Providers 41%

On-Demand Procurement Service

Compliant
Robust
Effective
Tendering
Service

179 Projects

500 Education sites

Craig Lockley

HEAD OF PROCUREMENT ON-DEMAND

The post-pandemic restriction era brought about a vast amount of contracts that had been extended under the Government's Procurement Policy Notes and required to be competitively tendered.

Tenet's On Demand team have been the chosen provider for procurement consultancy on 179 different projects over the 2021/22 year, across more than 500 separate education sites. The team have performed fantastically well and have delivered a compliant, robust and effective tendering service to a sector, in need of support.

The Management Team within On Demand was expanded during the year with a well-deserved promotion for Jonathan Whittle. Jonathan is the Senior Catering Specialist and brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the team. Catering is a complex area of spend to tender. In recognition of the demand from the education sector for Tenet's support in this area, Gareth Jones and Mary Bee joined the On Demand team working with Jonathan to specifically fulfil the sectors catering tendering requirements.

The On Demand team also welcomed a further two new employees with Emma Thorley joining as a Junior Procurement Officer and Leah-Ann Richardson joining as a Procurement Officer. Both Emma and Leah-Ann have settled in well and have demonstrated the added value they bring to the team and our partners.

Craig Lockley

We are an education owned **charity** that gives back to the sector

Tenet Procurement Service

Craig Lockley

HEAD OF PROCUREMENT ON-DEMAND

Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) provides procurement support services, including compliant frameworks and procurement consultancy to the public and private sectors, outside of education.

TPS has expanded its growth throughout the year with public sector bodies outside of education making CPC frameworks their chosen route to market. Wider public sector choosing TPS products included housing, health, blue light, charity, and local authority sectors. In addition, TPS has continued to help private companies with procurement support on their public sector appointments.

A total of 27 compliant frameworks are now available with a host of procurement options available in terms of direct awards, mini-competitions, and dynamic purchasing systems (DPS). The aspiration is for the number of frameworks to expand year on year, providing customers with an alternative resource to conduct all procurement.

TPS was appointed by a Housing Association to provide a dedicated procurement support service for an agreed number of days per week. This model has been successfully delivered within the education sector for many years, and we are delighted to be adding value within the Housing Sector by leading on the running of tenders, analysing spend and managing suppliers.

The Tenet Procurement Services website has undergone a full transformation during the year, with a focus on providing customers with an easy to navigate website with clear and concise information.

Craig Lockley

27 Compliant Frameworks

Dedicated Procurement Support

Equality
Loyalty
Supportive
Tenet
Team
Cpc
People
Integrity
Procurement
Group
CPL GROUP
Supplier
Dignity
Group
Culture
Choice
Respect

People & Culture

Jane Davies

HEAD OF PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT

Our most valuable assets are the people who work in our business every day. Our people bring a diverse range of experience, expertise and perspectives that contribute to the values and culture of the Group.

Gathering feedback from our people about their experiences at the Group is key. Our annual employee 'Great Place to Work' survey provides us with insights and an opportunity to shape our culture and commitment to ensuring the policies, programmes and initiatives we are building reflect the needs of our people.

Our people have truly spoken and following the survey in June 2022, the Group were delighted to be certified as a Great Place to Work (GPTW) for a 2nd year running. As well as the Best Workplace for Well-being, Best Workplace for Women and officially named one of the Best Workplaces for a medium sized organisation.

We are delighted with the overall results and whilst we did see a slight dip from the previous year results, we are still one of the highest scoring charities within the not-for-profit sector.

"At the CPL Group, we are committed to building an engaging and inclusive culture that empowers our people to thrive and grow.

Highest scoring areas of the survey 2021/22:

Employer of Choice

One of the Group's strategic aims for 2021/22 was to be an employer of choice through engagement, equality diversity and inclusion. Over the last 12 months we have developed many initiatives to help enhance our people's experience, so we can retain and attract talent. These initiatives have been successful and have helped us reduce our labour turnover rate from 30% to 15.6%. We have also attracted 23 new employees to the Group through delivering effective recruitment strategies and achieving 4.9* rating review as a great employer on Glassdoor. We always aim to deliver a total remuneration and reward package that is competitive with the market. All employees are offered a wide range of benefits including a competitive salary with an annual pay review, yearly bonus, pension, 38 days leave (including Christmas holiday closure and bank holidays), agile flexible working, paid sick, maternity and paternity pay and financial support towards CPD and qualifications.

Great place to work for Well-being

In 2021, we were accredited a Great Place to Work for Well-being and we have continued to review and develop our engagement agenda to create a working environment that is safe and fun, where our people feel supported to thrive. We have continued to deliver engaging events including team building days which included afternoon teas, boat trips and escape rooms. We have also organised a bake-off and planting event, a walking challenge around Britain and an international food day. We have invested in training eight mental health first aiders, to help reduce the stigma around mental health and we positively encourage our people to reach out if they are struggling with any emotional matters and mental struggles. Working with ABEL, a healthcare provider, we also now offer occupational health resolutions to support our people with any health issues which may affect their functional ability both at home and at work.

Learning and Development

We have maintained a culture of learning and development, upskilling and reskilling our people so they can bring their best selves to work. This year we have invested £34,401 and 1,571 hours of continue professional development. Working in partnership with Futureproof we have delivered training on a wide range of courses including Unconscious Bias, Imposter Syndrome, Presenting with Impact, Negotiation Skills and Report Writing. Our people also have access to funded training through a Greater Manchester initiative, GM Skills Map and have completed Leadership & Management training, Mental Health & Stress Awareness and Time Management.

This year we have also been working hard, developing a bespoke Development Programme for Procurement and Leadership Management so we can "grow our own" talent within the Group. We are very excited to launch the programme in 2022/23 and continue to invest in the development of our people.

People & Culture

Internal Communications

We have created a direct connection between our Board, leadership, management and our people to ensure that there is open dialogue and communication sharing upwards and downwards. This year we have put a spotlight on connecting leaders (Group Leadership team with the Management team) through new communication channels and management meetings. The purpose and focus of this group is to work together to identify and understand business priorities, strategy and deliverables and behaviours we need to be successful. Through the implementation of a new internal Intranet system, we have improved collaboration and communication by sharing monthly news, recognising special events, anniversaries and achievements. It provides business intelligence on group wide policies, strategy plans and access to useful information.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I)

We want to be a workplace in which everyone feels they belong and are able to thrive. This means creating an inclusive culture, free from the barriers that limit people in reaching their true potential. To help achieve our ED&I goals, our dedicated working group are developing a strategic plan and policy which will set out our commitment in creating an inclusive work environment. We have continued to take a holistic approach to make sure every employee's individuality, diversity and uniqueness is welcome, valued and be at their best. This year we have recognised and raised awareness of national celebration days including Pride, Diwali, Ramadan, Black History Month, Alzheimer's, ADHD and bisexuality awareness.

Jane Davies

SCHOOLS AN
ACADEMIES
ROCK
CPL

CPL Learning

Advancing the procurement knowledge and skills of our members is important to us. No matter what role our members have in Education, we aim to raise awareness of procurement across the sector and provide our members with a general business understanding of procurement. Having a greater understanding of procurement allows our members to become more efficient in their role, manage risks and lower the costs of goods and services.

As the Charity continues to grow, so does the investment and our commitment into the advancement of learning and research to our members. The year commenced with the launch of a new brand and website for CPL Learning https://cpl.group/learning bringing together all categories of advancement and learning.

Funded Procurement Training

Working in partnership with CIPS, BIP Solutions and The Whitepaper Conference we have continued to fulfil our commitment to offer fully funded training courses to our members. During 2021/22, 187 training courses were offered to our members, compared to 38 in 2020/21. The courses covered subjects such as Introduction to Procurement, Writing a Tender Specification, Ethical Procurement and Supply, Developing and Managing Contracts and the Public Procurement Law Conference.

CPL Learning (formerly Crescent Learning) is the flagship under which the charity fulfils its charitable objective in relation to advancing education and research activities in procurement for the Education sector.

Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG)

The Regional and National PAG Groups have continued to deliver a comprehensive agenda to members and are making considerable progress with 377 educational institutes in attendance this year. These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on new frameworks and procurement developments whilst enabling productive feedback on current services.

FE Facilities Management Network (FEFM)

The FEFM is a network of Facilities Management professionals from the FE Sector all coming together to collaborate and communicate the sharing of good practice. Regional networks have been established in Northwest, Yorkshire & Humberside and we hope to build on these regional networks yearly, with a longer aspiration of forming a national council and Education Facilities Management specific events.

Further Education Library of Procurement (FELP)

The FELP website has been rebranded and provides six hundred library pages of free procurement information, resources and templates to our members. A working group was formed at the beginning of the year to review the pages and update in accordance with any legislation changes. To date, the working group have updated the top twenty-five pages and a continued review is planned for 2022/23. The content on FELP is only accessible through login credentials provided to our members. The statistics for the last 12 months show any increase in visits to the pages, just over 29,000 sessions (a session is one browser visiting the site).

Plans for the next 12 months

The aspiration is to broaden the learning opportunities for our members and continually advance their education and research in procurement. In 2022/23 we plan to conduct research with our members to determine the current level of dedicated procurement resource and gain a greater understanding of training needs. The findings from this research will help build and develop additional training material, resources, development programmes and support for our members.

We plan to continually build our community through the PAG and FEFM network groups. We will offer administration support to ensure meetings are set in advance, with trending topics that allow members to engage, collaborate and advance their education.

Continuing to support the FE sector we also plan to launch a research project on the benchmarking of data called 'Insight'. Insight will gather data intelligence from our members about their education establishment. Once analysed, the data will help our members improve the procurement of goods, services and help save costs for the future.

We are excited to launch a portfolio of training presentations and toolbox talks, including an introduction to procurement, contract management, delivery of frameworks and the principles of contract law. We will continually work with training providers and ensure we have in place regular updates and training on the new procurement bill regulations.

Another exciting year ahead and we welcome members to join our community and advance your procurement knowledge with CPL Learning.

Financial

£1 Million Designated Funds

£288k awarded to 68 institution

Dave Owen

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

This year has been our best year yet for income and surplus. The CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team. Marketing premium income increased by £394k on last year.

This is supported by an outstanding procurement managed service (which in the year recorded £10.7M of savings over contract terms for 42 customers) and on-demand tendering services provided by Tenet.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 £1 Million has been Identified as Designated Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £400,525 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £367,959 spent during 21/22.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions. The national lockdowns during the global pandemic meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding "window" was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid in the first quarter of this financial year.

"The CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

Marketing Premium Income increased by £394k

£ 10.7M Savings for Tenet Customers

Tenet income from procurement placements increased by £149k during the year while the on-demand tendering service increased its income by £114k. Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) which services the wider public sector has seen its most active year to date with significant increase in CPL framework usage, continued one-off tender provision and for the first time a managed service contract with a Housing Association.

Fundraising – the charity does not generate income from fundraising at this current time and therefore does not use the services of fundraisers either on a paid or voluntary basis.

Income	**2022 (£)**	**2021 (£)**		**Assets**	**2022 (£)**	**2021 (£)**
Charitable activities	4,650,073	3.936,431		Goodwill	240,000	365,000
Investments	10,412	9,077		Other fixed assets	111,214	135,954
Total income	**4,660,485**	**3,945,508**		Net current assets	4,886,508	4,215,653
Operational expenditure	4,251,411	3,813,606		Pension Surplus / Provision for liabilities	492,000	(2,192,000)
Operational Net income	**409,074**	**131,902**		**Total net assets**	**5,729,722**	**2,524,607**
Reinvestment into the education sector	367,959	68,133		**Financed by:**		
Net income	**41,115**	**63,769**		Revenue reserves	5,006,205	4,117,131
				Designated reserves	231,517	599,476
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes	3,164,000	695,000		Pension asset / liability	492,000	(2,192,000)
Net movement in funds	**3,205,115**	**758,769**		**Total reserves**	**5,729,722**	**2,524,607**

Environmental management

At the start of the year a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across the Group. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team and has a Board sponsor.

The aim of the working group is to set up and maintain an effective Environment Management System (EMS) and Carbon Management Plan. The implementation of energy efficient measures will ensure the Group's carbon footprint is significantly reduced over the next five years. The new 5-year business plan includes a detailed plan to achieve ISO 14001 – Environmental Management accreditation within 3 years and go beyond net carbon emissions (carbon offsetting).

Business travel across the organisation has reduced following the national lockdowns as more meetings, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members are held virtually. A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Managed service contract customers are willing for Tenet employees to work on a hybrid basis.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has prepared detailed health and safety policies as well as a new 5-year health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. A Wellness Group was set up during the year with employees from across the organisation with the aim of ensuring the new strategy is achieved. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders.

The CPL Group intends to continue its growth over the coming years.

Looking ahead

The CPL Group intends to continue its growth over the coming years. A new, ambitious and challenging 5-year business plan is in place with a supporting budget model. The three main strategies within the business plan are:

- To deliver outstanding procurement services
- To support the development of its people (employees and members)
- To enable a sustainable future (financial, environmental and economic/social)

The financial strength of the CPL Group ensures it can absorb the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and with no long-term liabilities (loans) is not negatively impacted by rises in interest rates.

Reserves policy

The CPL Group maintains a reserves policy that is available on its website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. Designated reserves are those reserves that the board of trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving back" to the education sector.

David Owen

Governance

Darren Lowe
MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Board

Approves the strategy and leads the CPL Group to achieve long-term success.

Chair

- Leads the Board and ensures it operates effectively
- Maintains a culture of openness and debate
- Ensures effective dialogue between the Board and members

Trustees

Work with and challenge, if necessary, Group Leadership Team.

- Provide independent external perspective
- Contribute a broad range of experience and expertise

Managing Director

Day-to-day management of the CPL Group and implementation of strategy.

Sub-committees of the Board

Giving Back Group

With Trustee representation, the Group advises on the appropriate distribution of free reserves held by the CPL Group.

Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)

Represented by a National and Regional Groups. Each group consists of representation from member organisations. Chairs from each regional group form the national group and cascade information to regional meetings. The Chair of the National Group is a Trustee and provides an update at each Board meeting.

Group Leadership Team

Is responsible for the ongoing management of the CPL Group. It considers the day-to-day operational matters for running the charity and reviews performance of the CPL Group, in line with the strategic plan.

- Meets on a frequent basis and is chaired by the Managing Director. The Managing Director then reports to the Board
- Is responsible for the development and implementation of the strategy
- Develops and delivers business plans and budgets
- Approves procedures and policies
- Monitors operating and financial performance
- Is responsible for health, safety, and wellbeing management
- Is responsible for data protection management
- Is responsible for sustainability management

CPL Group Board

The Board of Directors are responsible for providing direction and overseeing the governance of the Charity. The Directors of the Charity are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The duties of the Board are delivered within scheduled Board meetings which allow for constructive debate and challenge by the Trustees. This approach enables the Trustees and the Managing Director to make timely and educated decisions on strategic matters.

Leadership

As of the 31st of July 2022, the Board comprises the Chair, seven Trustees and one Executive Director (Managing Director). The Charity's procedure for appointing new Trustees is overseen by the Financial Controller. The composition of the Board is fundamental to its success in providing strong and effective leadership. Trustees are appointed for specific terms, usually of three years. The Chair reviews the composition of the Board and will assess whether the balance of skills, experience, and knowledge is appropriate to enable them to operate effectively.

Role of the Board

The Board has core responsibilities including setting the Charity's strategic direction, overseeing the delivery of the strategy, and managing risk. All matters below the financial limit set by the Board are delegated to the Group Leadership Team. The Board Trustees operate on an open and constructive debate basis.

Board Meetings

The Board agenda is agreed by the Chair, in conjunction with the Managing Director. Each scheduled meetings includes an update from the various areas of the Charity, along with financial reports and update reports from committees. Discussions on strategic proposals, legal and governance matters are also covered. The Board has a strong focus on financial performance, risk management, data protection, health, safety and wellbeing and sustainability.

Division of Responsibilities

There is a clear division of responsibilities between the Chair (who is responsible for the leadership and effectiveness of the Board) and the Managing Director (who is responsible for managing the Charity's business). The Board has delegated authority for the day-to-day management of the CPL Group to the Managing Director, with specific areas of business being managed by the other members of the Group Leadership Team. The Group Leadership Team are involved in, or aware of, all major activities and are therefore extremely well placed to ensure that all decisions align with the Charity's agreed strategy. The Group Leadership Team are given delegated authority from the Board to make decisions within specific parameters. Decision outside of these parameters are reserved for the Board, although the Group Leadership Team are encouraged to bring decisions and/or proposals within their delegated authority to the Board for scrutiny and challenge.

Conflict of Interest

Trustees are required to avoid situations in which they have, or can have, a direct or indirect conflict with the interests of the Charity. The Charity has a procedure to record new outside interests and actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may affect them in their roles as Directors and Trustees of the CPL Group.

Darren Lowe

Partnerships

The CPL Group has a long history of working in collaboration with external partners. We believe that a strong partnership with a trusted provider will generate benefits that will positively impact our members and customers.

A continuation of partnership working was maintained throughout 2021/22 and details of the various partners with whom the CPL Group engaged with are shown below

Department for Education (DfE)
www.gov.uk

Frequent discussions throughout the year with various parties within the Department for Education are held with the sole purpose of progressing the mutual goal of improving procurement within the school sector. As of the 31st of July 2022, the Department for Education were recommending 17 CPC frameworks.

Dukefield Procurement
www.dukefieldprocurement.co.uk

Framework partners to the CPL Group, Dukefield Procurement provide procurement resource and specialism in designated areas of spend. Dukefield Procurement lead on the procurement of several frameworks of which Crescent Purchasing Limited are the contracting authority.

Risk 2 Value
www.risk2value.com

Framework partners to CPC Risk 2 Value provide expertise on insurance matters. Risk 2 Value support the work associated to insurance frameworks provided by CPC and also lead on any insurance tenders for Tenet Education Services customers.

UK Universities Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC)
www.ukupc.ac.uk

The CPC work collaboratively with the Joint Contracting Group, a working group of UKUPC, to share knowledge and combine skills to produce best in practice framework agreements for the education sector.

CPL GROUP

We are an education owned **charity** that gives back to the sector

Contact Us

Office telephone: +44 (0)800 066 2188
Office email: info@cpl.group
Our address: Procurement House, Unit 23, Leslie Hough Way, Salford. M6 6AJ. UK

Auditors
Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham. WA14 2UT. UK

Bankers
NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds. LS1 5HD. UK

Charity Registration No. 1130461

Company Registration No. 06774578 (England and Wales)

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2UT

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINSTRATIVE INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Crescent Purchasing Ltd (CPL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. CPL trades as Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC). The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The Directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.
The Trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Nominated Chair
A J Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College

Trustees and Directors
J C Bentley, Executive Director of Finance and Estates, Hopwood Hall College
F Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia
N Cassidy, Procurement Manager, Cambridge Regional College (Chair of Purchasing Advisory Group)
A J Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College
L Jenkins, Deputy Principal Finance and Resources, North Kent College
P Kane, Deputy Head of Estate, Belfast Metropolitan College (co-opted with voting rights)
J Howard, Director of Estates, Wakefield College
D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL
D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Registered Office

Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ.

Auditors

Haines Watts, Bridge House, 157 Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT.

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD.

Solicitors

Weightmans LLP, No1 Spinningfields, Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

Website

www.thecpc.ac.uk
https://cpl.group

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

The Trustees present their report together with the consolidated financial statements for the Charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for the Directors' report for Companies House purposes.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Vision and Mission

The vision of the Charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through its work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning. The mission of the Charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Report of the Trustees

Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL) was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education and Higher Education and University Purchasing Consortia. CPL also works in partnership with TUCO, a specialist consortium for catering supplies and with Dukefield Procurement on joint frameworks.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPL Group.

The Board of Trustees consists of nominated representatives of members colleges incorporating, four Directors of Finance, the Chair of the Purchasing Advisory Group (PAG) plus one nominated officer from PAG, two Heads of Estates and the Managing Director. There have been no Board membership movements during the year. Trustee vacancies are advertised via social media channels and charityjob.co.uk. There is a bespoke induction pack and programme for all new Trustees. Trustees are not paid for their services.

The Board meets three times a year to determine strategy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPL Group is delegated to the Managing Director and his employees. The group leadership team is made up of six senior managers, three from CPL and three from Tenet plus the Managing Director. The pay and remuneration of key personnel is agreed annually as part of the budget setting process. Each post is benchmarked against similar roles within similar sized charities.

On 31 July 2022 CPL had 8,968 members, an increase in the year of 787. 170 have confirmed their status as "Owner members" of the charitable company, limited by guarantee. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Charitable objectives

The Charity's objects are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

1. Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities.

The CPC frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by an outstanding procurement managed service (which in the year recorded £10.7M of savings over contract terms for 43 customers) and on-demand tendering services provided by Tenet.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 £1 Million has been Identified as Designated Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £400,525 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £367,959 spent during 21/22.

Re-investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions. The national lockdowns during the global pandemic meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding "window" was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £288k awarded to 68 institutions which was paid in the first quarter of this financial year.

The criteria for grant funding are deliberately wide in scope though the majority of applications this year fell into three main themes:

- ICT Hardware for disadvantaged learners.
- Learner wellbeing programmes
- Innovative learning technology, namely around virtual reality.

The Trustees and CPL Group employees are proud of the contribution they make to these causes.

The Trustees each work in educational institutions which are members of CPL and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

Another popular project is the subsidised fees for Tenet on-demand services. This is aimed at those institutions that may not normally access such a service. To date 157 subsidised tenders have been completed for 126 institutions.

During the year, the Tenet on-demand team utilised £40k from the designated reserves to run a project which provided a free tender review service. 32 institutions benefitted from the service which focussed on catering services.

2. Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published.

CPL Learning (formerly Crescent Learning) is the flagship under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to advancing education and research activities in procurement.

The Charity continues to fulfil its commitment through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party training providers for CPL member employees. During the year 187 courses were funded covering subjects such as writing a tender specification, ethical procurement and supply, and developing and managing contracts.

CPL continues to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and are making significant progress in setting up and supporting similar groups specifically for Heads of Estates within education institutions.

During the year CPL Learning has developed a new website and improved its branding and marketing campaigns.

The regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) have continued to deliver a comprehensive agenda to members and are making significant progress. These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on new frameworks and procurement developments whilst enabling productive feedback on current services.

CPL have continued to develop the FELP (Further Education Library of Procurement) which is a free access online learning resource portal for all members. The research undertaken by CPL is published via the library in a variety of different templates and advice/guidance documents. To compliment the library, all the CPL framework agreements have a comprehensive user-guide with embedded templates and guidance documents to help the member utilise a framework with ease.

Through the work of CPL Learning there is an aspiration to conduct research during the 22/23 year to determine the current level of dedicated procurement resource across the education sector and identify their support needs. The findings from this research will be used to further support the work of CPL Learning and ultimately advance the education of all members. One of the planned proposals is to establish a Procurement Development Programme, a new initiative that will raise the profile of procurement within the education sector. CPL intends to engage with the Finance Director's network and members to identify a cohort of procurement champions to deliver the programme. The aim is to enhance the procurement knowledge of these champions by way of a mentoring programme supported and funded by CPL Learning. This will take the form of 121 mentoring, training, access to resources and networking groups as well as work experience within the CPL Group.

The Trustees oversee the charitable objectives of the charity with due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Financial and business review.

CPL Group income for the year ended 31 July 2022 was £4,660,485 (2021: £3,945,508). The year-end surplus before pension costs was £41,115 (2021: £63,769).

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2022 a gift aid payment of £245,000 (2021 £267,015) was received from Tenet Education Services and £35,376 (2021: £7,316) from Tenet Procurement Services.

The Charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with Tenet employees participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme value as at 31 July 2022 has been determined by the actuary which is now showing the company as having a pension asset as at 31 July 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be recognisable on the basis that the company has expectations of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

Marketing premium income from framework usage has increased by £394k during the year, the first full year without interruptions brought about by Coronavirus.

12 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Tenet income from procurement placements increased by £149k during the year while the on-demand tendering service increased its income by £114k. Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) which services the wider public sector has seen its most active year to date with significant increase in CPL framework usage, continued one-off tender provision and for the first time a managed service contract with a Housing Association.

Fundraising – the charity does not generate income from fundraising at this current time and therefore does not use the services of fundraisers either on a paid or voluntary basis.

Looking ahead

CPL intends to continue its growth over the coming years. A new, ambitious and challenging 5-year business plan is in the final stages of development with a supporting budget model. The three main strategies within the business plan are:

- To deliver outstanding procurement services
- To support the development of its people (employees and members)
- To enable a sustainable future (financial, environmental and economic/social)

The financial strength of CPL ensures it can absorb the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and with no long-term liabilities (loans) is not negatively impacted by rises in interest rates.

Reserves policy

CPL maintains a reserves policy that is available on its website. This sets out the level of reserves to be held by the company and the reasons why. Designated reserves are those reserves that the board of trustees have approved for the purpose of "Giving back" to the education sector.

Post balance sheet events
There have been no events since the year-end that have had a significant effect on the Charity's financial position.

Environmental management

At the start of the year a Sustainability Working Group was established with employee volunteers from across the Group. This is chaired by a member of the Group Leadership Team and has a Board sponsor.

The aim of the working group is to set up and maintain an effective Environment Management System (EMS) and Carbon Management Plan. The implementation of energy efficient measures will ensure the Group's carbon footprint is significantly reduced over the next five years. The new 5-year business plan includes a detailed plan to achieve ISO 14001 – Environmental Management accreditation within 3 years and go beyond net carbon emissions (carbon offsetting).

Business travel across the organisation has reduced following the national lockdowns as more meetings, in particular the Regional Procurement Advisors meetings with members are held virtually. A hybrid working model means that employees based at the Head Office in Salford are only expected to work onsite for two days per week and can work from home for the remainder. Managed service contract customers are willing for Tenet employees to work on a hybrid basis.

Social

CPL continues its agile working policy which allows employees to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and employee wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the Group.

CPL Group was very pleased to maintain its "Great Place to Work" accreditation for another year which runs alongside its current accreditations for "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace".

The new 5-year business plan continues the Groups "Grow Your Own" policy by incorporating the recruitment of local graduates into planned positions across several areas of the business.

CPL Group has made significant progress during the year in moving from national to local suppliers for various services. This has a positive impact on the local economy.

The management and distribution of designated reserves to member institutions in the form of grants is led by the "Giving Back" Group who ensure that three main criteria are met. These are:

- To help improvements to teaching and learning within the organisation
- To have a positive impact on the learner's experience of education
- To support the learning of economically disadvantaged learners and minority groups

Feedback from institutions that have received funding have been extremely positive and demonstrate the difference CPL Group is having on the lives of young learners.

Equality diversity and inclusion (EDI)

The Trustees recognise that EDI is key to helping deliver a public benefit and continually reappraise a full and comprehensive policy of diversity inclusion and equal opportunities. A working group has been formed and is chaired by an employee. It will work on various initiatives during the 22/23 year which will support one of the Group's three strategies which is to support the development of our people.

Health, safety and employee wellbeing

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The Charity has prepared detailed health and safety policies as well as a new 5-year health, safety and employee wellbeing strategy. A Board sponsor oversees the work that is carried out in relation to this.

The aim of this strategy is to develop a positive health, safety and wellbeing culture with coherent policies and procedures that are compliant with all appropriate health and safety standards. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

Further and sustained investment in employee wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely. A Wellness Group was set up during the year with employees from across the organisation with the aim of ensuring the new strategy is achieved. Eight employees have been trained as mental health first aiders.

Governance

The Trustees are committed to the highest standards of Governance and recognise that this is only achieved through continual improvement. The Charity Governance Code is used as guidance.

The Group Leadership Team acknowledge that the organisation requires effective leadership at every level to achieve the Group's Mission and Vision. A new training and development programme for the Group Leadership Team will commence in the year ahead alongside one for all managers within the Group to support them in their role.

The Group has several cash investments in line with its Treasury Management Policy. The Trustees require that all investments be carried out ethically.

The Financial Controller monitors not only the credit ratings of institutions the Group invests its cash into but also the environmental sustainability performance of the listed institutions and reports on this through the management accounts commentary.

The environmental sustainability performance is based on four criteria: Environmental reporting, Carbon reporting and management, Transparency and ethical lending and Company ethos.

Internal controls assurance

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that the Charity's assets and money are safeguarded and properly accounted for, and that they are being used economically and effectively.

A wide range of internal control mechanisms are in place and being operated to help the company meet its strategic objectives, to operate within the law, to make effective use of the Charity's money and to report activities accurately. These bring together information from all significant parts of the business and provide assurance to the Trustees that an effective system of internal controls is in place. The most significant sources are through:

- The external auditors.
- Financial and non-financial performance monitoring and management.
- Appropriate communications structures.
- Effective strategies, policies and procedures: and
- External stakeholders, including the Charity Commission and accreditation bodies.

The main forms of assurance are:

Operational controls

- Effective recruitment and selection process is in place to ensure suitable people are employed (including the completion of Disclosure and Barring Service checks for employees working in educational institutions) with senior managers responsible for ensuring that standards of conduct and behaviour are maintained to the highest levels.
- Annual appraisals (based around the Charity's vision and values) and half year interim reviews, with regular team and one-to-one meetings undertaken to maintain high standards of performance. HR processes are in place to address any gaps or failings.
- Formal (but not exclusive to) Financial Policies and procedures, IT and Communications Access Policy, Group Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Treasury Management Policy.
- Appropriate separations of duties are in place across key operational functions e.g., purchase order process to mitigate risks around fraud.
- Role based access controls are in place to ensure that employees only have access to systems and data that is pertinent to their requirements.
- Financial forecasts and budgets are in place which allow the Group Leadership Team to monitor spend in terms of achieving budgets in the short, medium and long term.

Risk management and compliance checks

The Group Leadership Team maintain a comprehensive risk register. Risks are collated under four main headings:

- Financial, assets, premises, H&S and charitable status.
- Suppliers, partners, competition, frameworks and all Group procurement services.
- Group operational, legal and regulatory matters.
- Membership, customers, reputational issues and the marketplace.

The risk register (and in particular the "top 5" risks identified below) is reported to every Board meeting, supplemented by detailed reviews throughout the year by the Group Leadership Team. The risk appetite is reviewed during this process.

Risk	Nature of Risk and Risk Appetite	Mitigation
Significant loss of income	Severe reduction in income due to increased competition and loss of market share poses a risk to the business plan. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Robust financial management processes are in place with action plans identified should trigger points be met. Reserves policy ensures adequate reserves are maintained.
Compliance with Data Protection legislation	Secure and resilient technology and processes are fundamental in building a more resilient business. *Risk Appetite - avoid*	External penetration testing of systems has been carried out and will be done annually. The server is now cloud-based with daily routine backups taking place.
Compliance with health and safety legislation	Failure to reduce or remove threats to employee, customer and supplier health and safety leads to harm and reputational damage. *Risk Appetite - avoid*	A health, safety and staff wellbeing strategy is in place with mandatory training for all employees. A wellness group has been set up to implement an employee wellbeing and engagement programme.
Business continuity in the event of a major disruption	Impact of major disruption such as Covid-19 pandemic on the continuing operations of the business. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	A new Business Continuity Plan has been developed to provide guidance and support in the event of a major no-notice event. This is tested throughout the year.
Recruiting and retaining talent	Recruitment and retention of talent is essential to the delivery of business objectives and the loss of skills and knowledge poses a challenge to maintaining performance. *Risk Appetite - moderate*	Competitive terms and conditions with regular salary benchmarking supports the Group's "Grow your Own" strategy. A bonus scheme to reward employees. Regular feedback is received from employees via surveys and 121s.

A range of surveys are undertaken of customer satisfaction and employee satisfaction, including detailed analysis of the results with actions taken to address areas of concern.

There is appropriate independent oversight of compliance within specific areas of the business such as Health & Safety and Data Protection.

- CPL Group has developed a new 5-year strategy in relation to health, safety and employee wellbeing which is sponsored by a board member. The Group aspires to achieve ISO 45001 accreditation.
- CPL Group maintains its "Great Place to Work" accreditation, "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women", "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Wellbeing" and "Great Place to Work – UK's best workplace".
- CPL Group maintains Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation. During the year, the Group commissioned external consultants to perform penetration testing on its systems. This forms part of the Group's work toward achieving ISO 27001 accreditation and will be a regular event.
- A Board member sponsors a working group set up during the year to ensure CPL Group maintains full compliance with GDPR focussing on continual improvement.

Internal controls assurance conclusion

The Trustees can take assurance that the CPL Group is reacting appropriately to the challenges it faces and has acted proactively to identify, investigate and communicate issues and management actions in an accessible, transparent manner.

The Trustees can confirm that the CPL Group has suitable internal controls for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud

and other irregularities. They also confirm that no weaknesses have been identified from the external audit which would have resulted in material misstatement or loss and which would have required disclosure in the financial statements.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 16th of November 2022. The event will be online via Microsoft Teams.

External auditors

Haines Watts were reappointed at the 2020 AGM for a three-year period.

Statement of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of recommended Practices (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK accounting standard have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

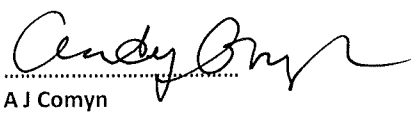
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as each Trustee is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report of the Trustees was approved by the Board on 16 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 July 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Auditor use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Covid-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the charity's trade, customers, suppliers and wider economy.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Auditor report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of Auditor responsibilities the trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
We have been appointed as auditor under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE TRUSTEES OF CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to the member in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Haines Watts

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Haines Watts

16/11/2022

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

Haines Watts is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Notes	**Group 2022 £**	Group 2021 £	**Charity 2022 £**	Charity 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		-	-	280,376	274,331
Charitable activities	**3**	4,650,073	3,928,717	2,737,820	2,237,533
Investments	**4**	10,412	9,077	7,011	6,204
Other income	**5**	-	7,714	-	4,375
Total income		4,660,485	3,945,508	3,025,207	2,522,443
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	**6**	4,619,370	3,881,739	2,893,227	2,329,316
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources		41,115	63,769	131,980	193,127
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes		3,164,000	695,000	3,164,000	695,000
Net movement in funds		3,205,115	758,769	3,295,980	888,127
Fund balances at 1 August 2021		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458
Fund balances at 31 July 2022		5,729,722	2,524,607	6,451,565	3,155,585

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2022

	Notes	**Group 2022 £**	Group 2021 £	**Charity 2022 £**	Charity 2021 £
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	**13**	240,000	365,000	-	-
Intangible assets	**14**	57,700	72,810	57,700	72,810
Tangible assets	**15**	53,514	63,145	39,164	54,427
Investments	**16**	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
		351,214	500,955	1,474,826	1,505,199
Current assets					
Debtors	**18**	1,285,657	1,046,102	938,438	755,230
Cash at bank and in hand		4,288,311	3,836,276	3,969,300	3,542,394
		5,573,968	4,882,378	4,907,738	4,297,624
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**19**	(687,460)	(666,726)	(422,999)	(455,238)
Net current assets		4,886,508	4,215,652	4,484,739	3,842,386
Net assets excluding pension liability		5,237,722	4,716,607	5,959,565	5,347,585
Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities	**20**	492,000	(2,192,000)	492,000	(2,192,000)
Net assets		5,729,722	2,254,607	6,451,565	3,155,585
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds – designated	**22**	231,517	599,476	231,517	599,476
Unrestricted funds – general		5,006,205	4,117,131	5,728,048	4,748,109
Unrestricted funds - pension		492,000	(2,192,000)	492,000	(2,192,000)
		5,729,722	2,524,607	6,451,565	3,155,585

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 JULY 2022

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2021, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of those financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 November 2022

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A J Comyn
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration No. 06774578

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Notes	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**27**		465,785		493,706
Investing activities					
Purchasing of tangible fixed assets		(24,311)		(20,827)	
Sale of fixed assets		149		1,447	
Interest received		10,412		9,077	
Net cash used in investing activities			(13,750)		(10,303)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			452,035		483,403
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			3,836,276		3,352,873
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			4,288,311		3,836,276

1. Accounting policies

Charity information

Crescent Purchasing Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Procurement House, Leslie Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ.

The Crescent Group consists of Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in that UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

This charity is a qualifying entity for the purpose of FRS 102 and the Charity SORP, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements which are intended to give a true and fair view (of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss) and that member is included in the consolidation. The charity has therefore taken the advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements.

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows': Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures': Compensation for key management personnel.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purpose and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt to otherwise is the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amounts is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is included within the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT has been charged as a cost against the activity in which the expenditure was incurred. All expenditure is solely for the purpose of achieving the charities objectives and has been disclosed within those cost categories.

Governance costs are recognised when, and to the extent that, the charity can identify activities in which are associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to being directly associated with its charitable activities.

Support costs are recognised when the charity can identify centralised services that benefit all area of the charity's operations.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of unincorporated businesses over the fair value of net assets acquired. Its it initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill shall be considered to have a finite useful life and shall be amortised on a systematic basis over its life.

1.7 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Customer relationship	up to 8 years
Brand	up to 8 years
Cloud-based server	Over 5 years

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciations is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual value over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	Between 3 and 6 years
Fixtures and fittings	Over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

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

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

1.10 Fixed assets investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other shirt-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.12 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS102 to all of its financial instruments.

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

1. Accounting policies **(Continued)**

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

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

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

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

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

1.14 Retirement benefits
Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee costs. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Re-measurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the prevent value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1. Accounting policies (Continued)

1.15 Basis of consolidation

In the parent company financial statements, the cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill. The cost of the combination includes the estimated amount of contingent consideration after the acquisition date. Provisional fair values recognised for business combinations in the previous periods are adjusted retrospectively for final fair values determined in the 12 months following the acquisition date. Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are accounted for at costs less impairment.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Crescent Purchasing Limited and all of its subsidiaries (ie entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up 31 July 2022. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used in line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited have been included in the group financial statements using the purchasing method of accounting. Accordingly, the group statements of financial activities and statement of cash flows include the results and cash flows of Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

During the current or preceding financial statements, no critical judgements or estimates were used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3. Charitable activities

	Group 2022	Group 2021	**Charity 2022**	Charity 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Marketing premiums	2,452,931	2,058,857	2,412,784	2,055,067
Services rendered	2,118,685	1,864,370	-	-
Other income	78,457	5,490	325,036	182,466
	4,650,073	3,928,717	2,737,820	2,237,533

4. Investments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	10,412	9,077

All of the Group's investment income of £10,412 (2021: £9,077) arises in Crescent Purchasing Limited from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

5. Other Income

	2022	2021
	£	£
Coronavirus job retention scheme	-	7,714

6. Charitable activities

	Group 2022 £	Group 2021 £	**Charity 2022** £	Charity 2021 £
Employee costs	2,811,756	2,697,114	1,235,303	1,253,009
Occupancy costs	77,445	69,676	77,445	69,676
Telephone	19,272	24,856	14,330	16,036
Postage and stationery	6,178	5,234	4,639	3,221
Insurance	49,819	38,225	49,819	38,225
Legal costs	15,046	314	3,381	314
Travel costs	55,520	11,954	14,628	499
Recruitment and training	47,142	47,912	42,966	37,637
Marketing and advertising	117,134	32,109	115,909	24,165
Crescent learning	8,600	4,165	8,600	4,165
Procurement partner and member shared income	13,569	10,529	113,569	103,351
Health, safety and employee wellbeing	7,046	3,093	5,747	3,093
Consultancy fees	17,136	11,581	1,600	6,391
Provision for bad debts	789	(25,616)	789	(25,616)
Bank charges	2,669	2,971	1,555	1,839
Other expenditure	6,152	15,725	5,196	13,270
ICT costs	71,269	43,127	47,772	32,253
	3,326 ,542	2,992,969	1,743,248	1,581,528
Grant Funding Activities (see note 7)	367,959	68,133	367,959	68,133
Share of support costs (see note 8)	899,019	797,840	766,550	664,552
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	25,850	22,797	15,470	15,103
	4,619,370	3,881,739	2,893,227	2,329,316
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds – general	4,251,411	3,813,606	2,525,268	2,261,183
Unrestricted funds – designated	367,959	68,133	367,959	68,133
	4,619,370	3,881,739	2,893,227	2,329,316

7. Grant funding activities

Reinvestment activities payable into the education sector is expenditure made from the charity's designated funds towards agreed projects detailed in the Trustees report and note 22.

This expenditure falls outside of standard operational costs and may lead to deficits in some years. The operational surplus that would have been stated had this reinvestment into the sector not happened is shown.

	Group 2022 £	Group 2021 £	**Charity 2022** £	Charity 2021 £
Net income for the year	41,115	63,769	131,980	193,127
Expenditure from designated funds	367,959	68,133	367,959	68,133
Operational surplus	409,074	131,902	499,939	261,260

8. Group support costs

	Support Cost £	**Governance costs** £	**2022** £	2021 £	**Basis of allocation**
Employee costs	725,116	-	725,116	625,849	Administration support
Depreciation and amortisation	173,903	-	173,903	171,991	
Audit fees	-	8,000	8,000	10,425	Governance
Legal and professional	-	10,490	10,490	5,483	Governance
Accounting services	-	7,360	7,360	6,889	Governance
	899,019	25,850	924,869	820,637	
Analysed between Charitable activities	899,019	25,850	924,869	820,637	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £8,000 (2021: £10,425) for audit fees.

Charity	**Support Cost** £	**Governance costs** £	**2022** £	2021 £	**Basis of allocation**
Employee costs	725,116	-	725,116	625,849	Administration support
Depreciation and amortisation	41,434	-	41,434	38,703	
Audit fees	-	5,000	5,000	6,925	Governance
Legal and professional	-	6,915	6,915	4,982	Governance
Accounting services	-	3,555	3,555	3,196	Governance
	766,550	15,470	782,020	679,655	
Analysed between Charitable activities	766,550	15,470	782,020	679,655	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £5,000 (2021: £6,925) for audit fees.

9. Net Movement in funds

	Group 2022	Group 2021	**Charity 2022**	Charity 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's financial statements	8,000	10,425	5,000	6,925
Operating lease costs	42.747	42,082	42,747	42,082
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	33,793	33,298	26,324	25,010
Amortisation of intangible assets	140,110	138,693	15,110	13,693

10. Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them), except for the Managing Director, received any remuneration during the year. Trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses in the year of £295 (2021: nil).

Please see note 11 for further disclosure of remuneration of key management personnel.

11. Employees

Number of employees
The average monthly number employees during the year were:

	Group 2022 Number	Group 2021 Number	**Charity 2022 Number**	Charity 2021 Number
Professional and administrative	74	66	36	31

Employment costs	**2022**	2021	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Wages and salaries	2,609,074	2,455,395	1,232,126	1,189,970
Social security costs	278,162	254,732	128,692	122,947
Other pension costs	649,636	612,836	599,601	565,941
	3,536,872	3,322,963	1,960,419	1,878,858

Included within other pension costs are current services costs and associated interest expense on defined benefit pension plans. During the year, the company recognised current service costs and interest expenses from defined benefit pension plans of £480,000 (£2021: £462,000).

Included within support costs are wages to the value of £725,116 for the Human Resources, Finance and Communications departments through virtue of shared service to all the charitable activities.

11. Employees (continued)

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more

	Group 2022 Number	Group 2021 Number	**Charity 2022 Number**	Charity 2021 Number
Directors	1	2	1	1
Employees	6	-	3	-

Darren Lowe (Managing Director) is the only key management personnel associated with the direct running of the charity. Darren Lowe was paid total remuneration of £109,715 (2021: £111,722). The remuneration for Darren Lowe was provided in his capacity of Managing Director of the charitable activities and not in his capacity of trustee of the charity. Included within total remuneration were pension contributions totalling £9,229 (2021: £8,739).

12. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the taxes act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Group intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill	**Customer relationship**	**Brand**	**Total**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Cost				
At 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 August 2021	1,602,236	43,254	229,510	1,875,000
Amortisation charged for the year	70,000	8,750	46,250	125,000
At 31 July 2022	1,672,236	52,004	275,760	2,000,000
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2022	132,238	16,999	90,763	240,000
At 31 July 2021	202,238	25,749	137,013	365,000

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2021	1,250,000
Amortisation charged for the year	-
At 31 July 2022	1,250,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2022	-
At 31 July 2021	-

14. Group other intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2021	15,899	283	16,182
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2022	29,309	1,983	31,292
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2022	51,183	6,517	57,700
At 31 July 2021	64,593	8,217	72,810

Charity intangible fixed assets

	Customer relationship management system	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2021	15,899	283	16,182
Amortisation charged for the year	13,410	1,700	15,110
At 31 July 2022	29,309	1,983	31,292
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2022	51,183	6,517	57,700
At 31 July 2021	64,593	8,217	72,810

15. Group tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2021	58,757	55,670	29,417	143,844
Additions	-	24,311	-	24,311
Less Disposals	-	(17,938)	-	(17,938)
At 31 July 2022	58,757	62,043	29,417	150,217
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2021	30,187	35,350	15,162	80,699
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	18,115	5,883	33,793
Less disposals	-	(17,789)	-	(17,789)
At 31 July 2022	39,982	35,676	21,045	96,703
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2022	18,775	26,367	8,372	53,514
At 31 July 2021	28,570	20,320	14,255	63,145

Charity tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2021	58,757	29,836	29,417	118,010
Additions	-	11,210	-	11,210
Less Disposals	-	(7,850)	-	(7,850)
At 31 July 2022	58,757	33,196	29,417	121,370
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2021	30,187	18,234	15,162	63,583
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	10,646	5,883	26,324
Less disposals	-	(7,701)	-	(7,701)
At 31 July 2022	39,982	21,179	21,045	82,206
Carrying amount At 31 July 2022	18,775	12,017	8,372	39,164
At 31 July 2021	28,570	11,602	14,255	54,427

16. Charity fixed asset investments

	Other Investments
	£
Cost or valuation At 1 August 2021 & 31 July 2022	1,377,962
Carrying amount At 31 July 2022	1,377,962
At 31 July 2021	1,377,962

	2022	2021
Other investments comprise:	**£**	£
Investments in subsidiaries	1,377,962	1,377,962

17. Financial instruments

	Group 2022	Group 2021	**Charity 2022**	Charity 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Carrying amount of financial assets Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	422,799	320,592	90,430	54,630
Carrying amount of financial liabilities Measured at amortised cost	414,285	429,103	323,013	352,664

18. Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2022	Group 2021	**Charity 2022**	Charity 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade debtors	416,099	317,721	25,132	51,743
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	-	61,270	16
Other debtors	6,700	2,871	4,028	2,871
Prepayments and accrued income	862,858	725,510	848,008	700,600
	1,285,657	1,046,102	938,438	755,230

19. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2022	Group 2021	**Charity 2022**	Charity 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Other taxation and social security	273,175	231,345	99,986	102,424
Trade creditors	43,532	73,095	41,422	68,010
Amounts owed to subsidiary	-	-	1,143	32
Other creditors	39,802	15,492	28,021	8,238
Accruals and deferred income	330,951	346,794	252,427	276,534
	687,460	666,726	422,999	455,238

Deferred income within the charity relates to supplier sponsorship of the CPL village within external exhibitions, namely the Schools and Academies Show (SAAS). During the pandemic these were postponed or held virtually. The balance of £5,000 will be utilised in the November 2022 SAAS. The deferred income of £1,800 within the Group subsidiary relates to a delay until December 2022 in a project which had been invoiced during the year.

Deferred income

	Group	**Charity**
	£	**£**
Balance at 1 August 2021	30,200	30,200
Released from previous years	(25,200)	(25,200)
Resources deferred in the year	1,800	-
Balance at 31 July 2022	6,800	5,000

20. Defined benefit pension surplus / provision for liabilities

The WYPF pension scheme value as at 31 July 2022 has been determined by the actuary which is now showing the company as having a pension asset as at 31 July 2022. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been deemed to be recognisable on the basis that the company has expectations of reduced future employer contributions at some point during the life of the plan. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

		Group 2022 £	Group 2021 £	Charity 2022 £	Charity 2021 £
Retirement benefit asset / obligations	Note 21	492,000	(2,192,000)	492,000	(2,192,000)
		492,000	(2,192,000)	492,000	(2,192,000)

21. Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

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

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £71,000 (2021: £47,000).

Defined benefit schemes

Key assumptions

	2022 %	2021 %
Discount rate	3.40	1.70
Expected rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.50	2.50
Expected rate of salary increases	3.75	3.75
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.50	2.50

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2022 Years	2021 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.8	21.9
- Females	24.6	24.7
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.5	22.6
- Females	25.7	25.8

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	563,000	530,000
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	107,000	81,000
Other costs and income	(71,000)	(47,000)
Total costs	599,000	564,000

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Actual return on scheme assets	(442,000)	(626,000)
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	(442,000)	(626,000)
Actuarial changes related to obligations	(2,722,000)	(69,000)

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Present value of defined benefit obligations	4,185,000	6,397,000
Fair value of plan assets	(4,677,000)	(4,205,000)
(Surplus)/deficit in scheme	(492,000)	2,192,000

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Liabilities at 1 August 2021	6,397,000	5,665,000
Current service cost	563,000	530,000
Benefits paid	(234,000)	119,000
Contributions from scheme members	74,000	71,000
Actuarial gains and losses	(2,722,000)	(69,000)
Interest cost	107,000	81,000
At 31 July 2022	4,185,000	6,397,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.
Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fair value of assets at 1 August 2021	4,205,000	3,240,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net)	442,000	626,000
Benefits	(234,000)	119,000
Contributions by the employer	119,000	102,000
Contributions by scheme members	74,000	71,000
Other	71,000	47,000
At 31 July 2022	4,677,000	4,205,000

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Equity instruments	3,709,000	3,368,000
Debt instruments	524,000	521,000
Property	187,000	156,000
Cash	187,000	97,000
Other	70,000	63,000
	4,677,000	4,205,000

22. Designated funds

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

	Balance at 01 August 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 July 2022
	£	£	£	£
Provision of e-Learning courses for members	2,278	(2,278)	-	-
Subsidised costs for Tenet On-Demand	71,680	-	39,650	32,030
Collaboration tender exercise	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Regional Procur.Ed Conferences	45,000	-	-	45,000
Sponsorship of Student Events/Activities	409,103	15,985	288,309	136,779
Free Review of In-House FM Service	40,000	-	40,000	-
Educom	3,707	(3,707)	-	-
Facilitate Procurement Advisory Group (PAG)	5,000	-	-	5,000
Facilitate Estate Group	2,708	-	-	2,708
Marketing and materials	10,000	-	-	10,000
	599,476	-	367,959	231,517

23. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2022	Designated 2022	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2022 are Represented by:				
Intangible fixed assets -goodwill	240,000	-	240,000	365,000
Intangible fixed assets – other	57,700	-	57,700	72,810
Tangible assets	53,514	-	53,514	63,144
Current assets	4,654,991	231,517	4,886,508	4,215,653
Pensions and Provisions	492,000	-	492,000	(2,192,000)
	5,498,205	231,517	5,729,722	2,524,607

24. Operating lease commitments

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

	Group 2022	Group 2021	**Charity 2022**	Charity 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Within one year	43,676	42,082	43,676	42,082
Between two and five years	33,199	72,757	33,199	72,757
In over five years	-	-	-	-
	76,875	114,839	76,875	114,839

25. Related party transactions

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption available in Section 33.1A of FRS 102 whereby it has not disclosed transactions with the ultimate parent company or any wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of the group.

The Trustees are employed by institutions that are also members of CPL and benefit from the usage of its frameworks and CPL Learning activities. A Trustee is associated to Hopwood Hall College which also access the procurement managed service provided by Tenet.

Grants payable from designated funds are available to all member institutions that pass the relevant criteria. This is therefore open to institutions which employ the trustees of the charity. No Trustees are involved in the review and approval of grant applications. Leeds College of Building received grant funding of £5,250 during the year. Hopwood Hall College was paid £500 for sponsorship of their Annual Student Awards.

26. Subsidiaries

Consolidated financial statements for parent charitable companies are required under the Charity SORP (FRS102)

Details of the Charity's subsidiaries on 31 July 2022 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	**Registered office**	**Nature of business**	**Class of shares held**	**% Held**
				Direct
Tenet Education Services Limited (No. 03049474)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00
Tenet Procurement Services Limited (No. 10021398)	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00

All investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less provision for impairment and are eliminated upon consolidation.

27. Cash generated from operations

	2022	2021
	£	£
Surplus for the year	41,115	63,769
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(10,412)	(9,077)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	140,110	138,693
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	33,793	33,298
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	480,000	462,000
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(239,555)	(194,533)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	20,734	(444)
Cash generated from operations	465,785	493,706

Haines Watts

Report to the trustees and summary of audit findings

Crescent Purchasing Limited t/a Crescent Purchasing Consortium (“the Group”)

Year ended 31 July 2022

1. Introduction

We are pleased to set out in this document our report to the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited for the year ended 31 July 2022.

Our responsibilities as auditors are set out in the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) ("ISAs"). We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance.

The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We have carried out our audit in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 02 August 2018 in order to express an audit opinion for UK statutory purposes on the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited for the year ended 31 July 2022.

In this report, we present the key findings from our audit, together with a commentary on the significant matters arising.

This report has been discussed comprehensively and agreed with David Owen and Mon-Yee Ackers.

This report has been provided to the trustees to consider and ratify on behalf of Crescent Purchasing Limited.

We do not owe a duty of care however it should be noted that information within this report will be shared internally within The Charity Commission for decision making purposes. We accept no duty, responsibility or liability to any other parties, since this report has not been prepared, and is not intended, for any other purpose. It should not be made available to any other parties without our prior written consent.

2. Statutory audit communication

2.1 Objectivity and independence

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and the Ethical Standards published by the United Kingdom Auditing Practices Board.

We have considered our independence and objectivity in respect to the audit for the year ended 31 July 2022.

In addition to auditing the financial statements we also provided, through other individuals, the following services to Crescent Purchasing Limited ("The Group") for the year ended 31 July 2022:

- Corporation tax advisory, compliance and submission services

We have outlined below the safeguards that we have put in place to ensure that these services do not cause any breaches in our independence and objectivity in relation to the audit.

Non audit service provided	Safeguards put in place to reduce the threat to our integrity, independence and objectivity
Corporation tax advisory, compliance and submission services	This service is provided by a separate individual from those who have audited the financial statements.

Haines Watts charged £8,000 for completion of the statutory audit of the group.

To maintain our independence as auditors we can also confirm that:

- Haines Watts, its partners and the audit team have no family, financial, employment, investment or business relationship with the company; and
- Audit and non-audit fees paid by the company do not represent a significant proportion of total fee income for either the firm or office.

We confirm that, in our professional judgement, the firm is independent within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff is not impaired.

Legal and regulatory requirements

In undertaking our audit work we considered compliance with the following legal and regulatory requirements, where relevant:

- Companies Act 2006.
- Charities Act 2011.
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.
- Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102).
- Applicable accounting standards.

2.2 Audit approach and materiality

Our audit planning has taken account of the issues highlighted through discussions with David Owen, together with our knowledge and understanding of the charitable group.

We confirm that there were no restrictions on the scope of our audit procedures and we have been able to undertake our work as set out in our planning meeting.

In our planning we have taken account of the results of our risk assessments made in accordance with the guidance set by the ISAs. Our consideration of high risk areas is documented in full within section 3 of this report.

Based on this rigorous process we have used our professional judgement and formed a materiality level. A matter is material if its omission or misstatement would reasonably influence the economic decisions of a user of the financial statements and the value at which if errors, on their own or in aggregate, were uncorrected would result in a potential qualified audit opinion. The audit materiality of the financial statements as a whole has been set at approximately 1% of total incoming resources. We have considered this level of materiality based on the draft accounts for the year ended 31 July 2022 and are satisfied that it continues to be appropriate.

Underpinning materiality is a level of triviality, £1,000, at which any error or omission in excess of this value is recorded and reported to management.
In planning and carrying out our work, we applied a group materiality level to the Charitable Group of £45,000 based on 1% of income.

2.3 Accounting policies

In preparing the financial statements of the charitable group, directors/trustees are required under FRS 102 to review the charitable group's accounting policies on an annual basis to ensure they remain appropriate to the charitable group's circumstances and are properly applied.

We have reviewed the accounting policies selected and operated by the charitable group, and are satisfied that they are acceptable.

2.4 Significant findings

There were no significant findings made during the audit procedures.

2.5 Accounting estimates and judgements

Depreciation and amortisation is provided on a straight line basis on the cost of the assets, to write them down to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives.

The principal annual rates used were as follows:

Leasehold Improvements	6 years straight line
Plant and equipment	3 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5 years straight line
Customer relationship	Up to 8 years straight line
Brand	Up to 8 years straight line
Cloud-based server	5 years straight line

Local Government Pension Scheme - the charity's share of the LGPS assets is measured at fair value at each balance sheet date. Liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. The net of these two figures is recognised as an asset or liability on the balance sheet. Any movement in the asset or liability between balance sheet dates is reflected in the statement of financial activities. Details of the major assumptions used by the actuary in its calculation are shown in note 21 to the financial statements.

2.6 Funding position at 31 July 2021

Unrestricted funds are funds to which the governing body may use in the pursuance of the charity's objectives and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees. The balance carried forward on this fund is £5,729,722. Of these funds £231,517 has been designated for certain charitable objectives.

Individually, the general reserves carried forward in Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited are £6,451,565, £403,340 and £12,780 respectively. Following consolidation journals of £1,137,963 this brings the group general reserve balance to £5,729,722.

2.7 Reconciliation of audited surplus/deficit

The surplus/(deficit) per the financial statements has been derived as follows:

	Crescent Group	Crescent	Tenet Education	Tenet Procurement
Surplus/(deficit) per the trial balance	3,205,115	3,295,980	31,731	2,404
Surplus/(deficit) per the financial statements	3,205,115	3,295,980	31,731	2,404

There are £1,800 uncorrected errors detailed on A27.

2.8 Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We did not encounter any significant difficulties during the audit.

2.9 Accounting and financial control systems

During our audit we examined the design and implementation of the internal controls relevant to the accounting systems and procedures.

The review of internal controls was carried out with a view to expressing an opinion on the financial statements for the year and was not directed primarily towards discovering weaknesses or towards the detection of fraud. Therefore our comments on these systems include only those matters that have come to our attention as a result of our normal audit procedures, and consequently our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all weaknesses that may exist or of all improvements that might be made. Please refer to section 4 of this report.

2.10 Management representations

We include a copy of the draft management representation letter. There are certain specific representations which we are required by auditing standards to obtain from management as part of our audit procedures. In addition, we are required to obtain other representations on matters material to the financial statements where other sufficient appropriate audit evidence cannot be reasonably expected to exist.

2.11 Audit opinion

Based upon the findings and conclusions of our work, we expect to issue an unmodified audit opinion on the financial statements.

High risk audit areas

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Revenue Recognition	Under/overstatement of revenues due to the unique nature of market premium recognition, and the large accrued income figure recognised in the year.	We reviewed the systems and controls associated with the recognition of revenue for the Group. A sample of income was tested from source documentation through to the final accounts.	Correct income recognition criteria met, with no material under/overstatement of revenues. New revenue stream income has been reviewed and confirmed to be correctly accounted for.
FRS 102 Accounting for Pensions Treatment of the charity's share of pension scheme assets and deficits	Incorrect treatment of the pension valuation. Financial statements are not prepared in accordance with appropriate accounting standards.	We obtained the FRS 102 pension valuation as at 31 July 2019 and assessed the disclosures and accounting entries made by the charity. We confirmed that the basis of valuation was appropriate and that the disclosures made in the financial statements were prepared in accordance with FRS 102.	Movement was correctly recognised, disclosure in financial statements was amended accordingly.
Intangible Assets	Recognition of Intangible Assets (including goodwill) and the application of appropriate accounting policies.	We assessed the identifiable intangible assets against appropriate recognition criteria under FRS102, and assessed the reasonableness and valuation of the disclosure of intangibles within the financial statements.	The acquisition of Tenet Education and Tenet Procurement gives rise to goodwill in the consolidation. This has been correctly accounted for.

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
			In addition the remaining assets of customer relationship and the cloud-cased server have been accounted for correctly.
Going concern	It is the responsibility of the Trustees to assess the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern for a period of not less than 12 months following the anticipated date of sign off. This is a key risk given the current economic climate and pressures on government spending.	We have reviewed the considerations of management in relation to the going concern assumptions made.	The charity and associated subsidiaries are prepared correctly under the going concern basis.
Management override of internal controls	All control systems present the risk that they can be by-passed by senior members of the management team, leading to accounting entries and transactions being made without the need to follow the established systems and procedures	A suitable level of professional scepticism was applied throughout all areas of audit testing. We examined the significant accounting estimates and judgements applied to the accounts for evidence management bias that may represent a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.	The risk of management override was deemed low.

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Payments made to connected parties	The payments made to related parties and trustees' are not made in line with the Charity SORP (FRS102)	Obtain a register of interests from the client for all associated entities for the trustees' and record any transactions and balances with each entity. Record all expenses paid on behalf of the trustees' and review the reasonableness of the expense	All payments to related parties were reasonable and on an arms-length basis.

4. Report of significant weaknesses in systems and internal controls

4.1 Introduction

We set out below the significant matters we became aware of during our audit, which relate to the effectiveness of the company's accounting and financial control systems. We have used the following grading system to indicate the significance of the issues we have raised and the priority that we believe should be given to our recommendations.

Rating	Description
High	Should be urgently attended to by the directors and management. These are significant issues that may result in a qualification in the audit report in future periods if not satisfactorily addressed.
Moderate	Issues requiring the attention of the directors and management. Issues ranked as moderate require close monitoring by the board and senior management to ensure timely resolution.
Low	Issues requiring management attention and correction. Issues ranked as low are generally routine in nature and should be resolved by general management. The board and senior management should be aware of these issues to enable monitoring of progress with their resolution. These issues may be reported to management in less detail than more highly rated issues.

Audit finding and recommendation	Priority	Management response
During our testing it was noted that authority from the Financial Controller in relation to purchase invoices is given by amending the title of the relevant PDF copy of the invoice to include their initials. This is subject to potential misuse.		It was agreed that the finance team would review the system for approval.
During our testing of other income it was noted that a sales invoice was raised over 3 weeks after the terms and conditions had been signed by the customer. This was in relation to the exhibition stallholders. We would advise that invoices are raised in a timely manner for all income streams.		

5. Status of audit recommendations from previous year

No audit recommendations were stated in the prior year.

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1130461

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1130461

Company Registration No. 06774578 (England and Wales)

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2UT

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Crescent Purchasing Ltd (CPL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. CPL trades as Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC). The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.
The trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Nominated Chair
D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Trustees and Directors
J C Bentley, Executive Director of Finance and Estates, Hopwood Hall College
F Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia (from 11/11/20)
P Brewer, Manager Director, CPL (resigned on 31/07/21)
N Cassidy, Procurement Manager, Cambridge Regional College (Chair of Purchasing Advisory Group)
A Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College
J Howard, Director of Estates, Wakefield College
L Jenkins, Deputy Principal Finance and Resources, North Kent College
P Kane, Deputy Head of Estate, Belfast Metropolitan College (co-opted with voting rights)
R Kilcoyne, Head of Procurement, Leeds City College (resigned 31/12/20)
D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL (from 01/04/21)
D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Registered Office

Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ.

Auditors

Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT.

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD.

Website

www.thecpc.ac.uk
https://cpl.group

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

The Trustees present their report together with the consolidated financial statements for the charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report for Companies House purposes.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Vision and Mission

The vision of the charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through its work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning. The mission of the charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Report of the Trustees

Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL) was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education and Higher Education and University Purchasing Consortia. CPL also works in partnership with TUCO, a specialist consortium for catering supplies and with Dukefield Procurement Group on joint frameworks.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPL Group.

The Board of Trustees consists of nominated representatives of member colleges incorporating, four Directors of Finance, the Chair of the Purchasing Advisory Group (PAG) plus one nominated officer from PAG, two Heads of Estates and the Managing Director. Board membership movements for the year are listed below:

Appointments
F Bensihem Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia (from 11/11/20)
D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL (from 01/04/21)

Resignations
P Brewer, Manager Director, CPL (resigned on 31/07/21)
R Kilcoyne, Head of Procurement, Leeds City College (resigned 31/12/20)

The board meets three times a year to determine policy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPL is delegated to the Managing Director and his staff. The Group leadership team is made up of seven senior managers, four from CPL and three from Tenet plus the Managing Director.

On 31 July 2021 CPL had 8,181 members, an increase in the year of 865. 170 members have confirmed their status as "owner members" of the charitable company, limited by guarantee. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Charitable objectives

The charity's objects are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

1. Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities

The CPL frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by outstanding procurement placement service (which in the year recorded £8.3M of savings over contract terms for 37 customers) and on-demand tendering services provided by Tenet.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 £1 Million has been identified as Designated Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £343,262 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £68,133 spent during 20/21.

Re-Investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest within the sector. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions. The national lockdowns during the past 18 months have meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding "window" was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £301k awarded to 71 institutions which will be payable in the first quarter of the new financial year.

The criteria for grant funding is deliberately wide in scope though the majority of applications this year fell into three main themes:

- ICT Hardware for disadvantaged learners.
- Student wellbeing programmes.
- Innovative learning technology, namely around virtual reality.

The Trustees and CPL Group staff are proud of the contribution they can make to these causes.

The Trustees each work in educational institutions which are members of CPL and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

Another popular project is the subsidised fees for Tenet on-demand services. This is aimed at those institutions that may not normally access such a service. To date 57 institutions have taken advantage of this service.

2. Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published

Crescent Learning is the banner under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to education and research activities.

The charity continues to fulfil its commitment to advancing education through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party providers for member staff. During the year 38 courses were funded covering subjects such as Writing a tender specification, Ethical procurement and supply, and Developing and managing contracts.

293 members have taken or are in the process of completing a free e-learning course comprising 5 modules, produced inhouse and covering the basics of procurement within an educational institution. This course is CPD accredited and has received excellent reviews from participants.

Further e-learning courses are in planning and will be launched in due course. Each course is aimed at advancing the education of the learner.

CPL Group continue to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and are making significant progress in setting up and supporting similar groups specifically for Heads of Estates within educational institutions.

These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on new frameworks and procurement developments whilst enabling productive feedback on current services.

CPL Group have continued to develop the FELP (Further Education Library of Procurement) which is a free to access online learning resource portal for all members. The research undertaken by CPL Group is published via the library in a variety of different templates and advice/guidance documents. To compliment the library, all of the CPL framework agreements have a comprehensive user-guide with embedded templates and guidance documents to help the member utilise a framework with ease.

Financial and business review

Group income for the year ended 31 July 2021 was £3,945,508 (2020: £3,446,600). The year-end surplus before pension costs was £63,769 (2020: £324,811 loss).

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2021 a gift aid payment of £267,015 (2020: £180,000) was received from Tenet Education Services and £7,316 (2020: £11,731) from Tenet Procurement Services.

The charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with Tenet staff participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme liability is £2,192,000 (2020: £2,425,000) a reduction of £233k. The most recent formal actuarial valuation of the scheme was undertaken in 2019. The Trustees have committed additional year on year employer contributions over the next 5 years.

Income from marketing premiums from framework usage has increased by £283k during the year despite continual restrictions and a further national lockdown. Frameworks which did not perform well due to lack of student numbers in schools and colleges were compensated by frameworks such as ICT Hardware and peripherals brought about by an increase in home-schooling.

17 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Tenet income from procurement placements increased by £158k during the year while the on-demand tendering service increased its income by £107k.

CPL Group has managed to maintain, if not improve upon a high level of service across all business areas during a challenging 18 months. During the year the Group moved to a permanent agile working policy which allows staff to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and staff wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the Group.

CPL Group was very pleased to achieve "Great Place to Work" accreditation and "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women" in May 2021 and have been advised to seek similar accreditation in relation to wellbeing.

The year ended with the retirement of Peter Brewer on 31 July 2021. Peter had been the Managing Director of CPL since its conception. Peter has been replaced by Darren Lowe, previously the Managing Director of Tenet, who covers both positions. This is made possible by the strengthening of the senior management team within Tenet.

Coronavirus

The national lockdown of 2019/20 had a direct impact on income with a reduction in framework usage and the Tenet on-demand tendering service. The Group has sufficient reserves and cash to withstand events such as these though a more cautious business plan was put in place for 2020/21. This proved prudent with further lockdowns and restrictions throughout the year.

Thresholds have been put in place to ensure that should forecasted income levels drop again, appropriate responses are triggered to ensure business continuity.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process. The policy is based on retaining enough reserves to cover six months operational activity in addition to pension liability, committed projects and designated reserves. Excess reserves are reinvested into the education sector in fulfilment of charitable objectives.

The Trustees have decided that in the ever more likely event that a similar global pandemic could happen, then more reserves would be needed to ensure that the Group can continue to provide its services whilst maintaining as many jobs as possible to enable a base for the subsequent recovery.

The policy has therefore been amended to move toward having 12-months of operational cover from 2022/23 onwards. This will be brought in gradually with cover being set at nine-months for 2021/22.

Looking ahead

CPL Group intends to continue its growth over the coming years. A new vision and 5-year strategy will be developed during the year that will detail how the business will achieve its aim of being the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector.

Within the strategy will be a new Social Value strategy detailing how the Group will achieve financial, economic, environmental, and social and human sustainability. This will include an aim to achieve ISO 14001 accreditation within 3 years and go beyond net carbon emissions (carbon offsetting).

Further and sustained investment in staff wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely.

Post balance sheet events

There have been no events since the year-end that have had a significant effect on the Charity's financial position.

Equality diversity and inclusion

The Charity has, and continually reappraises, a full and comprehensive policy of diversity inclusion and equal opportunities.

Health and safety

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The charity has prepared detailed health and safety policies and provides staff training and education on health and safety matters. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

Internal controls assurance

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that the Charity's assets and money are safeguarded and properly accounted for, and that they are being used economically, efficiently and effectively.

A wide range of internal control mechanisms are in place and being operated to help the company meet its strategic objectives, to operate within the law, to make effective use of the Charity's money and to report activities accurately. These bring together information from all significant parts of the business and provide assurance to the Trustees that an effective system of internal controls is in place. The most significant sources are through:

- The external auditors.
- Financial and non-financial performance monitoring and management.
- Appropriate communications structures.
- Effective strategies, policies and procedures: and
- External stakeholders, including the Charity Commission and accreditation bodies.

The main forms of assurance are:

Operational controls

- Effective recruitment and selection processes are in place to ensure suitable people are employed (including the completion of Disclosure and Barring Service checks for staff working in educational institutions) with senior managers responsible for ensuring that standards of conduct and behaviour are maintained to the highest levels.
- Annual appraisals (based around the Charity's vision and values) and half year interim reviews, with regular team and one to one meetings undertaken to maintain high standards of performance, and HR processes are in place to address any gaps or failings.
- Formal policies and procedures are in place for both financial and operational activities. These include (but are not exclusive to) Financial Regulations, IT and Communications Access Policy, Group Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Treasury Management Policy.
- Appropriate separations of duties are in place across key operational functions e.g. purchase order process to mitigate risks around fraud.
- Role based access controls are in place to ensure that staff only have access to systems and data that is pertinent to their requirements.
- Financial forecasts and budgets are in place which allow the leadership team to monitor spend in terms of achieving budgets in the short, medium and long term.

Risk management and compliance checks

Significant work has been undertaken during 2020/21 to update and improve the CPL Group risk register. Risks are collated under four main headings:

- Financial, assets, premises, H&S and charitable status.
- Suppliers, partners, competition, frameworks and all Group procurement services.
- Group operational, legal and regulatory matters.
- Membership, customers, reputational issues and the marketplace.

The risk register is reported to every Board meeting, supplemented by detailed reviews throughout the year by the Group Leadership Team. The risk appetite is reviewed during this process.

A range of surveys are undertaken of customer satisfaction and employee satisfaction, including detailed analysis of the results with actions taken to address areas of concern.

There is appropriate independent oversight of compliance within specific areas of the business such as Health & Safety and Data Protection.

- CPL Group recently maintained its green light rating in its annual Health & Safety inspection with particular attention brought to its processes in relation to Covid-19. A Health and Safety Executive (HSE) spot check in March 2021 on the company's covid-19 control measures in specific relation to Tenet staff achieved recognition for going "above and beyond".
- CPL Group were awarded "Great Place to Work" accreditation and "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women" in May 2021 and have been advised to seek similar accreditation in relation to wellbeing.
- CPL Group achieved Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation in July 2021.

Internal controls assurance conclusion

The Trustees can take assurance that the CPL Group is reacting appropriately to the challenges it is facing and has acted proactively to identify, investigate and communicate issues and management actions in an accessible, transparent manner.

The Trustees can confirm that the CPL Group has suitable internal controls for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the charity, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. They also confirm that no weaknesses have been identified from the external audit which would have resulted in material misstatement or loss and which would have required disclosure in the financial statements.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 16 November 2021. The event will be online via Microsoft Teams.

External auditors

Haines Watts were reappointed at the 2020 AGM for a three-year period.

Statement of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. The trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as each Trustee is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report of the Trustees was approved by the Board on 16 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

.....

D N Pullein,
Chair of Trustees

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 July 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the auditor use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The COVID-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the company's trade, customers, supplier and wider economy.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Auditor report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Auditor responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Haines Watts

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

Date: 16/11/2021

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	Notes	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		-	-	274,331	191,731
Charitable activities	3	3,928,717	3,394,186	2,237,533	1,892,982
Investments	4	9,077	15,658	6,204	12,186
Other income	5	7,714	36,756	4,375	25,267
Total income		3,945,508	3,446,600	2,522,443	2,122,166
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	3,881,739	3,771,411	2,329,316	2,330,439
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources		63,769	(324,811)	193,127	(208,273)
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit pension schemes		695,000	(1,497,000)	695,000	(1,497,000)
Net movement in funds		758,769	(1,821,811)	888,127	(1,705,273)
Fund balances at 1 August 2020		1,765,838	3,587,649	2,267,458	3,972,731
Fund balances at 31 July 2021		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2021

	Notes	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	13	365,000	490,000	-	-
Intangible assets	13a	72,810	78,003	72,810	78,003
Tangible assets	14	63,144	85,563	54,426	75,010
Investments	15	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
		500,954	653,566	1,505,198	1,530,975
Current assets					
Debtors	17	1,046,102	851,569	755,231	613,103
Cash at bank and in hand		3,836,276	3,352,873	3,542,394	2,939,759
		4,882,378	4,204,442	4,297,625	3,552,862
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(666,726)	(667,170)	(455,238)	(391,379)
Net current assets		4,215,052	3,537,272	3,842,387	3,161,483
Net assets excluding pension liability		4,716,606	4,190,838	5,347,585	4,692,458
Provisions for liabilities	19	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)
Net assets		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated	21	599,476	656,738	599,476	656,738
Unrestricted funds - general		4,117,131	3,534,100	4,748,109	4,035,720
Unrestricted funds - pension		(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)
		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2021, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 November 2021

D N Pullein
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration No. 06774578

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**26**		493,706		460,022
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(20,827)		(105,415)	
Sale of fixed assets		1,447		-	
Interest received		9,077		15,658	
Net cash used in investing activities			(10,303)		(89,757)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			483,403		370,265
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			3,352,873		2,982,608
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			3,836,276		3,352,873

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Crescent Purchasing Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Procurement House, Lesley Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ.

The Crescent Group consists of Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

The charity is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS102 and the Charity SORP, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements which are intended to give a true and fair view (of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss) and that member is included in the consolidation. The charity has therefore taken the advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements;

- Section 7 "Statement of Cash Flows" - Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes disclosures
- Section 33 "Related Party Disclosures" - Compensation for key management personnel.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

1 Accounting policies

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is included within the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT has been charged as a cost against the activity in which the expenditure was incurred. All expenditure is solely for the purpose of achieving the charities objectives and has been disclosed within those cost categories.

Governance costs are recognised when, and to the extent that, the charity can identify activities in which are associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to being directly associated with its charitable activities.

Support costs are recognised when the charity can identify centralised services that benefit all areas of the charity's operations.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of unincorporated businesses over the fair value of net assets acquired. It is initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill shall be considered to have a finite useful life, and shall be amortised on a systematic basis over its life.

1.7 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Customer relationships	Over 8 years
Brand	Over 8 years

1 Accounting policies

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	Between 3 and 6 years
Fixtures and fittings	Over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

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

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

1.10 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.12 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

1 Accounting policies

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.13 Employee benefits

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

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

1.14 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method, and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee cost. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Re-measurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1 Accounting policies

1.15 Basis of consolidation

In the parent company financial statements, the cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill. The cost of the combination includes the estimated amount of contingent consideration that is probable and can be measured reliably, and is adjusted for changes in contingent consideration after the acquisition date. Provisional fair values recognised for business combinations in the previous periods are adjusted retrospectively for final fair values determined in the 12 months following the acquisition date. Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are accounted for at cost less impairment.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Crescent Purchasing Limited and all of its subsidiaries (ie entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up to 31 July 2021. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used in line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services have been included in the group financial statements using the purchase method of accounting. Accordingly, the group statement of financial activities and statement of cash flows include the results and cash flows of Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

During the current or preceding financial statements, no critical judgements or estimates were used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3 Charitable activities

	Group 2021	Group 2020	Charity 2021	Charity 2020
	£	£	£	£
Marketing premiums	2,058,857	1,775,807	2,055,067	1,775,807
Services rendered	1,864,370	1,599,841	-	-
Other income	5,490	18,538	182,466	117,175
	3,928,717	3,394,186	2,237,533	1,892,982

4 Investments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest receivable	9,077	15,658

All of the Group's investment income of £9,077 (2020: £15,658) arises in Crescent Purchasing Limited from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

5 Other Income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Coronavirus job retention scheme	7,714	36,756

6 Charitable activities

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Staff costs	2,697,114	2,324,940	1,253,009	1,044,654
Occupancy costs	69,676	68,783	69,676	68,783
Telephone	24,856	23,443	16,036	15,976
Postage and stationery	5,234	5,965	3,221	4,305
Insurance	38,225	34,115	38,225	24,121
Legal costs	314	6,380	314	2,120
Travel costs	11,954	72,192	499	18,587
Recruitment and training	47,912	30,767	37,637	16,309
Marketing and advertising	32,109	50,343	24,165	15,837
Crescent learning	4,165	20,943	4,165	20,943
Procurement partner and member shared income	10,529	12,275	103,351	168,408
Consultancy fees	11,581	34,140	6,391	4,600
Provision for bad debts	(25,616)	23,410	(25,616)	25,574
Bank charges	2,971	2,486	1,839	1,351
Other expenditure	18,818	23,405	16,363	12,718
ICT costs	43,127	36,567	32,253	22,263
	2,992,969	2,770,154	1,581,528	1,466,549
Grant Funding Activities (see note 7)	68,133	325,477	68,133	325,477
Share of support costs (see note 8)	797,840	653,781	664,552	522,934
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	22,797	21,999	15,103	15,479
	3,881,739	3,771,411	2,329,316	2,330,439
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds – general	3,813,606	3,445,933	2,261,183	2,004,962
Unrestricted funds - designated	68,133	325,477	68,133	325,477
	3,881,739	3,771,411	2,329,316	2,330,439

7 Grants payable

Reinvestment activities payable into the education sector is expenditure made from the charity's designated funds toward agreed projects detailed in the Trustees report and note 21.

This expenditure falls outside of standard operational costs and may lead to deficits in some years. The operational surplus that would have been stated had this reinvestment into the sector not happened is stated.

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Net income for the year	63,769	(324,811)	193,127	(208,273)
Expenditure from designated funds	68,133	325,477	68,133	325,477
Operational surplus	131,902	666	261,260	117,204

8 Group Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	2020 £	Basis of allocation
Staff costs	625,849	-	625,849	497,771	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	171,991	-	171,991	156,010	Support
Audit fees	-	10,425	10,425	12,875	Governance
Legal and professional	-	5,483	5,483	3,884	Governance
Accounting services	-	6,889	6,889	5,240	Governance
	797,840	22,797	820,637	675,780	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	797,840	22,797	820,637	675,780	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £10,425 (2020: £12,875) for audit fees.

Charity	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	2020 £	Basis of allocation
Staff costs	625,849	-	625,849	497,771	Support
Depreciation and amortisation	38,703	-	38,703	25,163	Support
Audit fees	-	6,925	6,925	7,725	Governance
Legal and professional	-	4,982	4,982	3,884	Governance
Accounting services	-	3,196	3,196	3,870	Governance
	664,552	15,103	679,655	538,413	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	664,552	15,103	679,655	538,413	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £6,925 (2020: £7,725) for audit fees.

9 Net movement in funds

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's financial statements	10,425	12,875	6,925	7,725
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	33,298	31,010	25,010	25,163
Amortisation of intangible assets	138,693	127,489	13,693	2,489

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them), except for the Managing Director, received any remuneration during the year, no trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses in the year (2020: £1,768).

Please see note 11 for further disclosure of remuneration and key management personnel.

11 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number employees during the year was:

	Group 2021 Number	Group 2020 Number	Charity 2021 Number	Charity 2020 Number
Professional and administrative staff	66	65	31	33

Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	2,455,395	2,166,494	1,189,970	1,044,729
Social security costs	254,732	220,395	122,947	106,284
Other pension costs	612,836	435,823	565,941	391,412
	3,322,963	2,822,712	1,878,858	1,542,425

Included within other pension costs are current service costs and associated interest expense on defined benefit pension plans. During the year, the company recognised current service costs and interest expenses from defined benefit pension plans of £462,000 (2020: £312,000).

Included within support costs are wages to the value of £625,849 for the Human Resources, Finance, Marketing and IT departments through virtue of shared service to all of the charitable activities.

11 Employees (continued)

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	Group 2021 Number	Group 2020 Number	Charity 2021 Number	Charity 2020 Number
Directors	2	2	1	1
Employees	-	1	-	-

Peter Brewer (Managing Director) is the only key management personnel associated with the direct running of the charity. Peter Brewer was paid total remuneration of £111,722 (2020: £110,958). The remuneration for Peter Brewer was provided in his capacity of Managing Director of the charitable activities and not in his capacity of trustee of the charity. Included within total remuneration were pension contributions totalling £8,739 (2020: £7,824). Peter Brewer retired from his position as managing director on 31 July 2021.

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the taxes act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13 Group intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill	Customer relationships	Brand	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2020 and 31 July 2021	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 August 2020	1,532,236	34,504	183,260	1,750,000
Amortisation charged for the year	70,000	8,750	46,250	125,000
At 31 July 2021	1,602,236	43,254	229,510	1,875,000
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2021	202,238	25,749	137,013	365,000
At 31 July 2020	272,238	34,499	183,263	490,000

13 Charity intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2020 and 31 July 2021	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2020	1,250,000
Amortisation charged for the year	-
At 31 July 2021	1,250,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2021	-
At 31 July 2020	-

13a Group other intangible fixed assets

	Customer Relationship Management System	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2020 (re -stated)	80,492	-	80,492
Additions		8,500	8,500
At 31 July 2021	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2020	2,489	-	2,489
Amortisation charged in the year	13,410	283	13,693
At 31 July 2021	15,899	283	16,182
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2021	64,593	8,217	72,810
At 31 July 2020	78,003	-	78,003

13b	Charity intangible fixed assets	Customer Relationship Management System	Cloud based server	Total
		£	£	£
	Cost			
	At 1 August 2020 (re -stated)	80,492	-	80,492
	Additions		8,500	8,500
	At 31 July 2021	80,492	8,500	88,992
	Amortisation and impairment			
	At 1 August 2020	2,489	-	2,489
	Amortisation charged in the year	13,410	283	13,693
	At 31 July 2021	15,899	283	16,182
	Carrying amount			
	At 31 July 2021	64,593	8,217	72,810
	At 31 July 2020	78,003	-	78,003

14 Group tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2020	58,757	45,470	29,417	133,643
Additions	-	12,327	-	12,327
Less Disposals		(2,127)		(2,127)
At 31 July 2021	58,757	55,670	29,417	143,843
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2020	20,392	18,410	9,279	48,081
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	17,620	5,883	33,298
Less disposals		(680)		(680)
At 31 July 2021	30,187	35,351	15,162	80,699
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2021	28,570	20,319	14,255	63,144
At 31 July 2020	38,365	27,061	20,137	85,563

14 Charity tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At 1 August 2020	58,757	25,822	29,416	113,995
Additions	-	5,091	-	5,091
Less disposals		(1,077)		(1,077)
At 31 July 2021	58,757	29,836	29,416	118,009
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2020	20,392	9,315	9,279	38,986
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	9,332	5,883	25,010
Less Disposals		(413)		(413)
At 31 July 2021	30,187	18,234	15,162	63,583
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2021	28,570	11,602	14,254	54,426
At 31 July 2020	38,365	16,508	20,137	75,010

15 Charity fixed asset investments

	Other investments
Cost or valuation	
At 1 August 2020 & 31 July 2021	1,377,962
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2021	1,377,962
At 31 July 2020	1,377,962

	2021	2020
Other investments comprise:	£	£
Investments in subsidiaries	1,377,962	1,377,962

16 Financial instruments

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Carrying amount of financial assets				
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	320,592	264,998	54,631	74,830
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost	429,103	324,667	352,664	259,222

17 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Trade debtors	317,721	262,127	51,743	65,132
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	-	16	6,827
Other debtors	2,871	2,871	2,871	2,871
Prepayments and accrued income	725,510	586,571	700,600	538,273
	1,046,102	851,569	755,230	613,103

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Other taxation and social security	237,623	342,503	102,574	132,157
Trade creditors	73,095	92,742	68,010	59,632
Amounts owed to subsidiary	-	-	32	-
Other creditors	9,214	13,552	8,088	5,663
Accruals and deferred income	346,794	218,373	276,534	193,927
	666,726	667,170	455,238	391,379

19 Provision for liabilities

		Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Retirement benefit obligations	**Note 20**	2,192,000	2,425,000	2,192,000	2,425,000
		2,192,000	2,425,000	2,192,000	2,425,000

20 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

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

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £47,000 (2020: £73,000).

Defined benefit schemes

Key assumptions

	2021 %	2020 %
Discount rate	1.70	1.40
Expected rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.50	2.20
Expected rate of salary increases	3.75	3.45
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.50	2.20

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.9	21.8
- Females	24.7	24.6
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.6	22.5
- Females	25.8	25.7

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	530,000	337,000
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	81,000	86,000
Other costs and income	(47,000)	(33,000)
Total costs	564,000	390,000

20 Retirement benefit schemes (continued)

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Actual return on scheme assets	(626,000)	256,000
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	(626,000)	256,000
Actuarial changes related to obligations	(69,000)	1,241,000

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Present value of defined benefit obligations	6,397,000	5,665,000
Fair value of plan assets	(4,205,000)	(3,240,000)
(Surplus)/deficit in scheme	2,192,000	2,425,000

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2021	2020
		£
Liabilities at 1 August 2020	5,665,000	3,869,000
Current service cost	530,000	337,000
Past service cost	-	40,000
Benefits paid	119,000	33,000
Contributions from scheme members	71,000	59,000
Actuarial gains and losses	(69,000)	1,241,000
Interest cost	81,000	86,000
At 31 July 2021	6,397,000	5,665,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.

Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2021	2020
		£
Fair value of assets at 1 August	3,240,000	3,253,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net	626,000	(256,000)
Benefits	119,000	33,000
Contributions by the employer	102,000	78,000
Contributions by scheme members	71,000	59,000
Other	47,000	73,000
At 31 July 2021	4,205,000	3,240,000

20 Retirement benefit schemes (continued)

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Equity instruments	3,368,000	2,518,000
Debt instruments	521,000	486,000
Property	156,000	139,000
Cash	97,000	52,000
Other	63,000	45,000
	4,205,000	3,240,000

21 Designated funds

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

	Balance at 01 August 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 July 2021
	£	£	£	£
E-Learning sourses for member	5,878	-	3,600	2,278
Subsidised costs for Tenet On Demand	14,380	100,000	42,700	71,680
Collaboration tender exercise	10,000	-	-	10,000
Regional Procur.Ed Conferences	45,000	-	-	45,000
Sponsorship of Student Events/Activities	397,980	11,123	-	409,103
Free Review of In-House FM Service	40,000	-	-	40,000
Educom	4,707	-	1,000	3,707
Facilitate Procuremnet Advisory Group (PAG)	5,000	-	-	5,000
Facilitate Estate Group	2,708	-	-	2,708
Marketing and Materials	100,000	(100,000)	-	-
Free Delivery of Tenders	10,000	-	-	10,000
Project Support - Admin	21,085	(252)	20,833	-
	656,738	10,871	68,133	599,476

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2021	Designated 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2021 are represented by:				
Intangible fixed assets - goodwill	365,000	-	365,000	490,000
Intangible fixed assets – other	72,810		72,810	
Tangible assets	63,144	-	63,144	163,566
Current assets	3,616,177	599,476	4,215,653	3,537,272
Provisions and pensions	(2,192,000)	-	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)
	1,925,131	599,476	2,524,607	1,765,838

23 Operating lease commitments

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

	Group 2021	Group 2020	Charity 2021	Charity 2020
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	42,082	36,224	42,082	36,224
Between two and five years	72,757	114,838	72,757	114,838
In over five years	-	-	-	-
	114,839	151,062	114,839	151,062

24 Related party transactions

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption available in Section 33.1A of FRS 102 whereby it has not disclosed transactions with the ultimate parent company or any wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of the group.

The trustees are employed by institutions that are also members of CPL and benefit from the usage of its frameworks. A trustee in CPL is associated to Hopwood Hall College who also access the procurement placement service provided by Tenet.

Grants payable from designated funds are available to all institutions that pass the relevant criteria. This is therefore open to institutions which employ the trustees of the charity. No trustees are involved in the review and approval of grant applications. During the year Leeds College of Building utilised the subsidised fees for Tenet on-demand services (£1,000) for assistance with a tender.

25 Subsidiaries

Consolidated financial statements for parent charitable companies are required under the Charity SORP (FRS102)

Details of the charity's subsidiaries at 31 July 2020 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held Direct	% Held Indirect
Tenet Education Services Limited	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00	
Tenet Procurement Services Limited	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services.	Ordinary	100.00	

All investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less provision for impairment, and are eliminated upon consolidation.

26 Cash generated from operations

	2021 £	2020 £
Surplus for the year	63,769	(324,811)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(9,077)	(15,658)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	138,693	125,000
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	33,298	31,010
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	462,000	312,000
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(194,533)	284,383
Increase in creditors	(444)	48,098
Cash generated from operations	493,706	460,022

Charity Registration No. 1130461

Company Registration No. 06774578 (England and Wales)

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants
Bridge House
157 Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2UT

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

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CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Crescent Purchasing Ltd (CPL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. CPL trades as Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC). The registered charity number is 1130461 and the company number is 06774578.

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.
The trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Nominated Chair
D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Trustees and Directors
J C Bentley, Executive Director of Finance and Estates, Hopwood Hall College
F Bensihem, Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia (from 11/11/20)
P Brewer, Manager Director, CPL (resigned on 31/07/21)
N Cassidy, Procurement Manager, Cambridge Regional College (Chair of Purchasing Advisory Group)
A Comyn, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer, Nottingham College
J Howard, Director of Estates, Wakefield College
L Jenkins, Deputy Principal Finance and Resources, North Kent College
P Kane, Deputy Head of Estate, Belfast Metropolitan College (co-opted with voting rights)
R Kilcoyne, Head of Procurement, Leeds City College (resigned 31/12/20)
D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL (from 01/04/21)
D N Pullein, Vice Principal – Finance and Resources, Leeds College of Building

Registered Office

Procurement House, Unit 23-25 Leslie Hough Way, Salford M6 6AJ.

Auditors

Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT.

Bankers

NatWest, Leeds City Office, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HD.

Website

www.thecpc.ac.uk
https://cpl.group

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

The Trustees present their report together with the consolidated financial statements for the charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 July 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report for Companies House purposes.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Vision and Mission

The vision of the charity is to be the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector and through its work, help the sector to enhance teaching and learning. The mission of the charity is to provide outstanding procurement services to members and clients.

Report of the Trustees

Crescent Purchasing Limited (CPL) was established in 1999 as Crescent Further Education Limited by the University of Salford to facilitate collaborative purchasing in the Further Education sector.

CPL was established as a charity in November 2009 following a buy out from the University of Salford, to enable the Further Education sector to operate and develop CPL and to promote professional purchasing. CPL works to this end in collaboration with the Department for Education and Higher Education and University Purchasing Consortia. CPL also works in partnership with TUCO, a specialist consortium for catering supplies and with Dukefield Procurement Group on joint frameworks.

CPL purchased Tenet Education Services (Tenet) and its wholly owned subsidiary Tenet Procurement Services (TPS) in 2017 and are collectively known as CPL Group.

The Board of Trustees consists of nominated representatives of member colleges incorporating, four Directors of Finance, the Chair of the Purchasing Advisory Group (PAG) plus one nominated officer from PAG, two Heads of Estates and the Managing Director. Board membership movements for the year are listed below:

Appointments
F Bensihem Finance and Procurement Officer, College of West Anglia (from 11/11/20)
D Lowe, Managing Director, CPL (from 01/04/21)

Resignations
P Brewer, Manager Director, CPL (resigned on 31/07/21)
R Kilcoyne, Head of Procurement, Leeds City College (resigned 31/12/20)

The board meets three times a year to determine policy and to monitor progress. Day to day administration of CPL is delegated to the Managing Director and his staff. The Group leadership team is made up of seven senior managers, four from CPL and three from Tenet plus the Managing Director.

On 31 July 2021 CPL had 8,181 members, an increase in the year of 865. 170 members have confirmed their status as "owner members" of the charitable company, limited by guarantee. Membership consists primarily of English colleges, schools, academies and academy trusts and there are also institutions from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Charitable objectives

The charity's objects are to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public by:

1. Providing services for further education, higher education, schools and other educational institutional bodies to promote good practice and enhance and improve their procurement activities

The CPL frameworks continue to provide excellent Value for Money for all members supported by a free helpdesk facility and personal technical support from the field based Regional Procurement Advisor team.

This is supported by outstanding procurement placement service (which in the year recorded £8.3M of savings over contract terms for 37 customers) and on-demand tendering services provided by Tenet.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that any excess surpluses are reinvested into the education sector. Since 2019 £1 Million has been identified as Designated Funds for the purpose of reinvestment. £343,262 had been expended prior to the financial year with a further £68,133 spent during 20/21.

Re-Investment into the education sector takes the form of several projects with the grant funding to sponsor student events/activities generating particular interest within the sector. The first round of grant funding during 2019/20 saw £259k awarded to 33 institutions. The national lockdowns during the past 18 months have meant that no further funding was possible though, with the easing of restrictions, a second funding "window" was opened in May 2021. The result of the second round was £301k awarded to 71 institutions which will be payable in the first quarter of the new financial year.

The criteria for grant funding is deliberately wide in scope though the majority of applications this year fell into three main themes:

- ICT Hardware for disadvantaged learners.
- Student wellbeing programmes.
- Innovative learning technology, namely around virtual reality.

The Trustees and CPL Group staff are proud of the contribution they can make to these causes.

The Trustees each work in educational institutions which are members of CPL and therefore benefit from its services. Their institutions are therefore eligible for grant funding. It is stated in the related party transactions that no trustees sit on the evaluation panel which reviews and approves funding applications and any grant funding paid will be identified and listed in the financial statements.

Another popular project is the subsidised fees for Tenet on-demand services. This is aimed at those institutions that may not normally access such a service. To date 57 institutions have taken advantage of this service.

2. Advancing education and research in procurement provided that all the useful results of such research are published

Crescent Learning is the banner under which the charity fulfils its charitable objectives in relation to education and research activities.

The charity continues to fulfil its commitment to advancing education through the funding of free procurement courses with 3rd party providers for member staff. During the year 38 courses were funded covering subjects such as Writing a tender specification, Ethical procurement and supply, and Developing and managing contracts.

293 members have taken or are in the process of completing a free e-learning course comprising 5 modules, produced inhouse and covering the basics of procurement within an educational institution. This course is CPD accredited and has received excellent reviews from participants.

Further e-learning courses are in planning and will be launched in due course. Each course is aimed at advancing the education of the learner.

CPL Group continue to provide full administrative and technical support to regional and national Procurement Advisory Groups (PAG) and are making significant progress in setting up and supporting similar groups specifically for Heads of Estates within educational institutions.

These groups provide an excellent forum for members to advance their education through the transfer of knowledge with peers from other educational establishments and provide feedback on new frameworks and procurement developments whilst enabling productive feedback on current services.

CPL Group have continued to develop the FELP (Further Education Library of Procurement) which is a free to access online learning resource portal for all members. The research undertaken by CPL Group is published via the library in a variety of different templates and advice/guidance documents. To compliment the library, all of the CPL framework agreements have a comprehensive user-guide with embedded templates and guidance documents to help the member utilise a framework with ease.

Financial and business review

Group income for the year ended 31 July 2021 was £3,945,508 (2020: £3,446,600). The year-end surplus before pension costs was £63,769 (2020: £324,811 loss).

In respect of the year ended 31 July 2021 a gift aid payment of £267,015 (2020: £180,000) was received from Tenet Education Services and £7,316 (2020: £11,731) from Tenet Procurement Services.

The charity participates in the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) with Tenet staff participating in the NEST pension scheme.

The WYPF pension scheme liability is £2,192,000 (2020: £2,425,000) a reduction of £233k. The most recent formal actuarial valuation of the scheme was undertaken in 2019. The Trustees have committed additional year on year employer contributions over the next 5 years.

Income from marketing premiums from framework usage has increased by £283k during the year despite continual restrictions and a further national lockdown. Frameworks which did not perform well due to lack of student numbers in schools and colleges were compensated by frameworks such as ICT Hardware and peripherals brought about by an increase in home-schooling.

17 frameworks are currently signposted by the Department for Education (DfE).

Tenet income from procurement placements increased by £158k during the year while the on-demand tendering service increased its income by £107k.

CPL Group has managed to maintain, if not improve upon a high level of service across all business areas during a challenging 18 months. During the year the Group moved to a permanent agile working policy which allows staff to choose their place of work within any customer contractual boundaries. This has had a positive effect on both productivity and staff wellbeing. The company head office in Salford remains partially occupied and is predominately used as a hub for collaborative working with teams across the Group.

CPL Group was very pleased to achieve "Great Place to Work" accreditation and "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women" in May 2021 and have been advised to seek similar accreditation in relation to wellbeing.

The year ended with the retirement of Peter Brewer on 31 July 2021. Peter had been the Managing Director of CPL since its conception. Peter has been replaced by Darren Lowe, previously the Managing Director of Tenet, who covers both positions. This is made possible by the strengthening of the senior management team within Tenet.

Coronavirus

The national lockdown of 2019/20 had a direct impact on income with a reduction in framework usage and the Tenet on-demand tendering service. The Group has sufficient reserves and cash to withstand events such as these though a more cautious business plan was put in place for 2020/21. This proved prudent with further lockdowns and restrictions throughout the year.

Thresholds have been put in place to ensure that should forecasted income levels drop again, appropriate responses are triggered to ensure business continuity.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process. The policy is based on retaining enough reserves to cover six months operational activity in addition to pension liability, committed projects and designated reserves. Excess reserves are reinvested into the education sector in fulfilment of charitable objectives.

The Trustees have decided that in the ever more likely event that a similar global pandemic could happen, then more reserves would be needed to ensure that the Group can continue to provide its services whilst maintaining as many jobs as possible to enable a base for the subsequent recovery.

The policy has therefore been amended to move toward having 12-months of operational cover from 2022/23 onwards. This will be brought in gradually with cover being set at nine-months for 2021/22.

Looking ahead

CPL Group intends to continue its growth over the coming years. A new vision and 5-year strategy will be developed during the year that will detail how the business will achieve its aim of being the procurement services partner of choice for the education sector.

Within the strategy will be a new Social Value strategy detailing how the Group will achieve financial, economic, environmental, and social and human sustainability. This will include an aim to achieve ISO 14001 accreditation within 3 years and go beyond net carbon emissions (carbon offsetting).

Further and sustained investment in staff wellbeing is a priority, with the majority of the workforce working remotely.

Post balance sheet events

There have been no events since the year-end that have had a significant effect on the Charity's financial position.

Equality diversity and inclusion

The Charity has, and continually reappraises, a full and comprehensive policy of diversity inclusion and equal opportunities.

Health and safety

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities on all matters relating to health and safety. The charity has prepared detailed health and safety policies and provides staff training and education on health and safety matters. Further details are provided in this report under Risk Management and Compliance checks.

Internal controls assurance

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that the Charity's assets and money are safeguarded and properly accounted for, and that they are being used economically, efficiently and effectively.

A wide range of internal control mechanisms are in place and being operated to help the company meet its strategic objectives, to operate within the law, to make effective use of the Charity's money and to report activities accurately. These bring together information from all significant parts of the business and provide assurance to the Trustees that an effective system of internal controls is in place. The most significant sources are through:

- The external auditors.
- Financial and non-financial performance monitoring and management.
- Appropriate communications structures.
- Effective strategies, policies and procedures: and
- External stakeholders, including the Charity Commission and accreditation bodies.

The main forms of assurance are:

Operational controls

- Effective recruitment and selection processes are in place to ensure suitable people are employed (including the completion of Disclosure and Barring Service checks for staff working in educational institutions) with senior managers responsible for ensuring that standards of conduct and behaviour are maintained to the highest levels.
- Annual appraisals (based around the Charity's vision and values) and half year interim reviews, with regular team and one to one meetings undertaken to maintain high standards of performance, and HR processes are in place to address any gaps or failings.
- Formal policies and procedures are in place for both financial and operational activities. These include (but are not exclusive to) Financial Regulations, IT and Communications Access Policy, Group Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Treasury Management Policy.
- Appropriate separations of duties are in place across key operational functions e.g. purchase order process to mitigate risks around fraud.
- Role based access controls are in place to ensure that staff only have access to systems and data that is pertinent to their requirements.
- Financial forecasts and budgets are in place which allow the leadership team to monitor spend in terms of achieving budgets in the short, medium and long term.

Risk management and compliance checks

Significant work has been undertaken during 2020/21 to update and improve the CPL Group risk register. Risks are collated under four main headings:

- Financial, assets, premises, H&S and charitable status.
- Suppliers, partners, competition, frameworks and all Group procurement services.
- Group operational, legal and regulatory matters.
- Membership, customers, reputational issues and the marketplace.

The risk register is reported to every Board meeting, supplemented by detailed reviews throughout the year by the Group Leadership Team. The risk appetite is reviewed during this process.

A range of surveys are undertaken of customer satisfaction and employee satisfaction, including detailed analysis of the results with actions taken to address areas of concern.

There is appropriate independent oversight of compliance within specific areas of the business such as Health & Safety and Data Protection.

- CPL Group recently maintained its green light rating in its annual Health & Safety inspection with particular attention brought to its processes in relation to Covid-19. A Health and Safety Executive (HSE) spot check in March 2021 on the company's covid-19 control measures in specific relation to Tenet staff achieved recognition for going "above and beyond".
- CPL Group were awarded "Great Place to Work" accreditation and "Top 100 Great Place to Work for Women" in May 2021 and have been advised to seek similar accreditation in relation to wellbeing.
- CPL Group achieved Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation in July 2021.

Internal controls assurance conclusion

The Trustees can take assurance that the CPL Group is reacting appropriately to the challenges it is facing and has acted proactively to identify, investigate and communicate issues and management actions in an accessible, transparent manner.

The Trustees can confirm that the CPL Group has suitable internal controls for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the charity, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. They also confirm that no weaknesses have been identified from the external audit which would have resulted in material misstatement or loss and which would have required disclosure in the financial statements.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 16 November 2021. The event will be online via Microsoft Teams.

External auditors

Haines Watts were reappointed at the 2020 AGM for a three-year period.

Statement of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. The trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as each Trustee is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report of the Trustees was approved by the Board on 16 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

.....

D N Pullein,
Chair of Trustees

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 July 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the auditor use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The COVID-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the company's trade, customers, supplier and wider economy.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Auditor report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Auditor responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Haines Watts

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

Date: 16/11/2021

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	Notes	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		-	-	274,331	191,731
Charitable activities	3	3,928,717	3,394,186	2,237,533	1,892,982
Investments	4	9,077	15,658	6,204	12,186
Other income	5	7,714	36,756	4,375	25,267
Total income		3,945,508	3,446,600	2,522,443	2,122,166
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	3,881,739	3,771,411	2,329,316	2,330,439
Net income for the year/ Net incoming resources		63,769	(324,811)	193,127	(208,273)
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit pension schemes		695,000	(1,497,000)	695,000	(1,497,000)
Net movement in funds		758,769	(1,821,811)	888,127	(1,705,273)
Fund balances at 1 August 2020		1,765,838	3,587,649	2,267,458	3,972,731
Fund balances at 31 July 2021		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2021

	Notes	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	13	365,000	490,000	-	-
Intangible assets	13a	72,810	78,003	72,810	78,003
Tangible assets	14	63,144	85,563	54,426	75,010
Investments	15	-	-	1,377,962	1,377,962
		500,954	653,566	1,505,198	1,530,975
Current assets					
Debtors	17	1,046,102	851,569	755,231	613,103
Cash at bank and in hand		3,836,276	3,352,873	3,542,394	2,939,759
		4,882,378	4,204,442	4,297,625	3,552,862
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(666,726)	(667,170)	(455,238)	(391,379)
Net current assets		4,215,052	3,537,272	3,842,387	3,161,483
Net assets excluding pension liability		4,716,606	4,190,838	5,347,585	4,692,458
Provisions for liabilities	19	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)
Net assets		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated	21	599,476	656,738	599,476	656,738
Unrestricted funds - general		4,117,131	3,534,100	4,748,109	4,035,720
Unrestricted funds - pension		(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)
		2,524,607	1,765,838	3,155,585	2,267,458

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2021, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 November 2021

D N Pullein
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration No. 06774578

CRESCENT PURCHASING LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**26**		493,706		460,022
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(20,827)		(105,415)	
Sale of fixed assets		1,447		-	
Interest received		9,077		15,658	
Net cash used in investing activities			(10,303)		(89,757)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			483,403		370,265
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			3,352,873		2,982,608
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			3,836,276		3,352,873

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Crescent Purchasing Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Procurement House, Lesley Hough Way, Salford, M6 6AJ.

The Crescent Group consists of Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

The charity is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS102 and the Charity SORP, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements which are intended to give a true and fair view (of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss) and that member is included in the consolidation. The charity has therefore taken the advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements;

- Section 7 "Statement of Cash Flows" - Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes disclosures
- Section 33 "Related Party Disclosures" - Compensation for key management personnel.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

1 Accounting policies

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is included within the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT has been charged as a cost against the activity in which the expenditure was incurred. All expenditure is solely for the purpose of achieving the charities objectives and has been disclosed within those cost categories.

Governance costs are recognised when, and to the extent that, the charity can identify activities in which are associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to being directly associated with its charitable activities.

Support costs are recognised when the charity can identify centralised services that benefit all areas of the charity's operations.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of unincorporated businesses over the fair value of net assets acquired. It is initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill shall be considered to have a finite useful life, and shall be amortised on a systematic basis over its life.

1.7 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Customer relationships	Over 8 years
Brand	Over 8 years

1 Accounting policies

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	Over the life of the lease
Plant and equipment	Between 3 and 6 years
Fixtures and fittings	Over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

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

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

1.10 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.12 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

1 Accounting policies

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.13 Employee benefits

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

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

1.14 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method, and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee cost. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Re-measurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1 Accounting policies

1.15 Basis of consolidation

In the parent company financial statements, the cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill. The cost of the combination includes the estimated amount of contingent consideration that is probable and can be measured reliably, and is adjusted for changes in contingent consideration after the acquisition date. Provisional fair values recognised for business combinations in the previous periods are adjusted retrospectively for final fair values determined in the 12 months following the acquisition date. Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are accounted for at cost less impairment.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Crescent Purchasing Limited and all of its subsidiaries (ie entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up to 31 July 2021. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used in line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services have been included in the group financial statements using the purchase method of accounting. Accordingly, the group statement of financial activities and statement of cash flows include the results and cash flows of Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

During the current or preceding financial statements, no critical judgements or estimates were used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3 Charitable activities

	Group 2021	Group 2020	Charity 2021	Charity 2020
	£	£	£	£
Marketing premiums	2,058,857	1,775,807	2,055,067	1,775,807
Services rendered	1,864,370	1,599,841	-	-
Other income	5,490	18,538	182,466	117,175
	3,928,717	3,394,186	2,237,533	1,892,982

4 Investments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest receivable	9,077	15,658

All of the Group's investment income of £9,077 (2020: £15,658) arises in Crescent Purchasing Limited from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

5 Other Income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Coronavirus job retention scheme	7,714	36,756

6 Charitable activities

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Staff costs	2,697,114	2,324,940	1,253,009	1,044,654
Occupancy costs	69,676	68,783	69,676	68,783
Telephone	24,856	23,443	16,036	15,976
Postage and stationery	5,234	5,965	3,221	4,305
Insurance	38,225	34,115	38,225	24,121
Legal costs	314	6,380	314	2,120
Travel costs	11,954	72,192	499	18,587
Recruitment and training	47,912	30,767	37,637	16,309
Marketing and advertising	32,109	50,343	24,165	15,837
Crescent learning	4,165	20,943	4,165	20,943
Procurement partner and member shared income	10,529	12,275	103,351	168,408
Consultancy fees	11,581	34,140	6,391	4,600
Provision for bad debts	(25,616)	23,410	(25,616)	25,574
Bank charges	2,971	2,486	1,839	1,351
Other expenditure	18,818	23,405	16,363	12,718
ICT costs	43,127	36,567	32,253	22,263
	2,992,969	2,770,154	1,581,528	1,466,549
Grant Funding Activities (see note 7)	68,133	325,477	68,133	325,477
Share of support costs (see note 8)	797,840	653,781	664,552	522,934
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	22,797	21,999	15,103	15,479
	3,881,739	3,771,411	2,329,316	2,330,439
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds – general	3,813,606	3,445,933	2,261,183	2,004,962
Unrestricted funds - designated	68,133	325,477	68,133	325,477
	3,881,739	3,771,411	2,329,316	2,330,439

7 Grants payable

Reinvestment activities payable into the education sector is expenditure made from the charity's designated funds toward agreed projects detailed in the Trustees report and note 21.

This expenditure falls outside of standard operational costs and may lead to deficits in some years. The operational surplus that would have been stated had this reinvestment into the sector not happened is stated.

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Net income for the year	63,769	(324,811)	193,127	(208,273)
Expenditure from designated funds	68,133	325,477	68,133	325,477
Operational surplus	131,902	666	261,260	117,204

8 Group Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	2020 £	Basis of allocation
Staff costs	625,849	-	625,849	497,771	Administration
Depreciation and amortisation	171,991	-	171,991	156,010	Support
Audit fees	-	10,425	10,425	12,875	Governance
Legal and professional	-	5,483	5,483	3,884	Governance
Accounting services	-	6,889	6,889	5,240	Governance
	797,840	22,797	820,637	675,780	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	797,840	22,797	820,637	675,780	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £10,425 (2020: £12,875) for audit fees.

Charity	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	2020 £	Basis of allocation
Staff costs	625,849	-	625,849	497,771	Support
Depreciation and amortisation	38,703	-	38,703	25,163	Support
Audit fees	-	6,925	6,925	7,725	Governance
Legal and professional	-	4,982	4,982	3,884	Governance
Accounting services	-	3,196	3,196	3,870	Governance
	664,552	15,103	679,655	538,413	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	664,552	15,103	679,655	538,413	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £6,925 (2020: £7,725) for audit fees.

9 Net movement in funds

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's financial statements	10,425	12,875	6,925	7,725
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	33,298	31,010	25,010	25,163
Amortisation of intangible assets	138,693	127,489	13,693	2,489

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them), except for the Managing Director, received any remuneration during the year, no trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses in the year (2020: £1,768).

Please see note 11 for further disclosure of remuneration and key management personnel.

11 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number employees during the year was:

	Group 2021 Number	Group 2020 Number	Charity 2021 Number	Charity 2020 Number
Professional and administrative staff	66	65	31	33

Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	2,455,395	2,166,494	1,189,970	1,044,729
Social security costs	254,732	220,395	122,947	106,284
Other pension costs	612,836	435,823	565,941	391,412
	3,322,963	2,822,712	1,878,858	1,542,425

Included within other pension costs are current service costs and associated interest expense on defined benefit pension plans. During the year, the company recognised current service costs and interest expenses from defined benefit pension plans of £462,000 (2020: £312,000).

Included within support costs are wages to the value of £625,849 for the Human Resources, Finance, Marketing and IT departments through virtue of shared service to all of the charitable activities.

11 Employees (continued)

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	Group 2021 Number	Group 2020 Number	Charity 2021 Number	Charity 2020 Number
Directors	2	2	1	1
Employees	-	1	-	-

Peter Brewer (Managing Director) is the only key management personnel associated with the direct running of the charity. Peter Brewer was paid total remuneration of £111,722 (2020: £110,958). The remuneration for Peter Brewer was provided in his capacity of Managing Director of the charitable activities and not in his capacity of trustee of the charity. Included within total remuneration were pension contributions totalling £8,739 (2020: £7,824). Peter Brewer retired from his position as managing director on 31 July 2021.

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the taxes act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13 Group intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill	Customer relationships	Brand	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2020 and 31 July 2021	1,804,474	69,003	366,523	2,240,000
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 August 2020	1,532,236	34,504	183,260	1,750,000
Amortisation charged for the year	70,000	8,750	46,250	125,000
At 31 July 2021	1,602,236	43,254	229,510	1,875,000
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2021	202,238	25,749	137,013	365,000
At 31 July 2020	272,238	34,499	183,263	490,000

13 Charity intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2020 and 31 July 2021	1,250,000
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 August 2020	1,250,000
Amortisation charged for the year	-
At 31 July 2021	1,250,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2021	-
At 31 July 2020	-

13a Group other intangible fixed assets

	Customer Relationship Management System	Cloud based server	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2020 (re -stated)	80,492	-	80,492
Additions		8,500	8,500
At 31 July 2021	80,492	8,500	88,992
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 August 2020	2,489	-	2,489
Amortisation charged in the year	13,410	283	13,693
At 31 July 2021	15,899	283	16,182
Carrying amount			
At 31 July 2021	64,593	8,217	72,810
At 31 July 2020	78,003	-	78,003

13b	Charity intangible fixed assets	Customer Relationship Management System	Cloud based server	Total
		£	£	£
	Cost			
	At 1 August 2020 (re -stated)	80,492	-	80,492
	Additions		8,500	8,500
	At 31 July 2021	80,492	8,500	88,992
	Amortisation and impairment			
	At 1 August 2020	2,489	-	2,489
	Amortisation charged in the year	13,410	283	13,693
	At 31 July 2021	15,899	283	16,182
	Carrying amount			
	At 31 July 2021	64,593	8,217	72,810
	At 31 July 2020	78,003	-	78,003

14 Group tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 August 2020	58,757	45,470	29,417	133,643
Additions	-	12,327	-	12,327
Less Disposals		(2,127)		(2,127)
At 31 July 2021	58,757	55,670	29,417	143,843
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2020	20,392	18,410	9,279	48,081
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	17,620	5,883	33,298
Less disposals		(680)		(680)
At 31 July 2021	30,187	35,351	15,162	80,699
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2021	28,570	20,319	14,255	63,144
At 31 July 2020	38,365	27,061	20,137	85,563

14 Charity tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At 1 August 2020	58,757	25,822	29,416	113,995
Additions	-	5,091	-	5,091
Less disposals		(1,077)		(1,077)
At 31 July 2021	58,757	29,836	29,416	118,009
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2020	20,392	9,315	9,279	38,986
Depreciation charged in the year	9,795	9,332	5,883	25,010
Less Disposals		(413)		(413)
At 31 July 2021	30,187	18,234	15,162	63,583
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2021	28,570	11,602	14,254	54,426
At 31 July 2020	38,365	16,508	20,137	75,010

15 Charity fixed asset investments

	Other investments
Cost or valuation	
At 1 August 2020 & 31 July 2021	1,377,962
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2021	1,377,962
At 31 July 2020	1,377,962

	2021	2020
Other investments comprise:	£	£
Investments in subsidiaries	1,377,962	1,377,962

16 Financial instruments

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Carrying amount of financial assets				
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	320,592	264,998	54,631	74,830
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost	429,103	324,667	352,664	259,222

17 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Trade debtors	317,721	262,127	51,743	65,132
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	-	16	6,827
Other debtors	2,871	2,871	2,871	2,871
Prepayments and accrued income	725,510	586,571	700,600	538,273
	1,046,102	851,569	755,230	613,103

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Other taxation and social security	237,623	342,503	102,574	132,157
Trade creditors	73,095	92,742	68,010	59,632
Amounts owed to subsidiary	-	-	32	-
Other creditors	9,214	13,552	8,088	5,663
Accruals and deferred income	346,794	218,373	276,534	193,927
	666,726	667,170	455,238	391,379

19 Provision for liabilities

		Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Retirement benefit obligations	**Note 20**	2,192,000	2,425,000	2,192,000	2,425,000
		2,192,000	2,425,000	2,192,000	2,425,000

20 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

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

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £47,000 (2020: £73,000).

Defined benefit schemes

Key assumptions

	2021 %	2020 %
Discount rate	1.70	1.40
Expected rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.50	2.20
Expected rate of salary increases	3.75	3.45
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.50	2.20

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.9	21.8
- Females	24.7	24.6
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.6	22.5
- Females	25.8	25.7

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	530,000	337,000
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	81,000	86,000
Other costs and income	(47,000)	(33,000)
Total costs	564,000	390,000

20 Retirement benefit schemes (continued)

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Actual return on scheme assets	(626,000)	256,000
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	(626,000)	256,000
Actuarial changes related to obligations	(69,000)	1,241,000

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Present value of defined benefit obligations	6,397,000	5,665,000
Fair value of plan assets	(4,205,000)	(3,240,000)
(Surplus)/deficit in scheme	2,192,000	2,425,000

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2021	2020
		£
Liabilities at 1 August 2020	5,665,000	3,869,000
Current service cost	530,000	337,000
Past service cost	-	40,000
Benefits paid	119,000	33,000
Contributions from scheme members	71,000	59,000
Actuarial gains and losses	(69,000)	1,241,000
Interest cost	81,000	86,000
At 31 July 2021	6,397,000	5,665,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.

Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2021	2020
		£
Fair value of assets at 1 August	3,240,000	3,253,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net	626,000	(256,000)
Benefits	119,000	33,000
Contributions by the employer	102,000	78,000
Contributions by scheme members	71,000	59,000
Other	47,000	73,000
At 31 July 2021	4,205,000	3,240,000

20 Retirement benefit schemes (continued)

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Equity instruments	3,368,000	2,518,000
Debt instruments	521,000	486,000
Property	156,000	139,000
Cash	97,000	52,000
Other	63,000	45,000
	4,205,000	3,240,000

21 Designated funds

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

	Balance at 01 August 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 July 2021
	£	£	£	£
E-Learning sourses for member	5,878	-	3,600	2,278
Subsidised costs for Tenet On Demand	14,380	100,000	42,700	71,680
Collaboration tender exercise	10,000	-	-	10,000
Regional Procur.Ed Conferences	45,000	-	-	45,000
Sponsorship of Student Events/Activities	397,980	11,123	-	409,103
Free Review of In-House FM Service	40,000	-	-	40,000
Educom	4,707	-	1,000	3,707
Facilitate Procuremnet Advisory Group (PAG)	5,000	-	-	5,000
Facilitate Estate Group	2,708	-	-	2,708
Marketing and Materials	100,000	(100,000)	-	-
Free Delivery of Tenders	10,000	-	-	10,000
Project Support - Admin	21,085	(252)	20,833	-
	656,738	10,871	68,133	599,476

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2021	Designated 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2021 are represented by:				
Intangible fixed assets - goodwill	365,000	-	365,000	490,000
Intangible fixed assets – other	72,810		72,810	
Tangible assets	63,144	-	63,144	163,566
Current assets	3,616,177	599,476	4,215,653	3,537,272
Provisions and pensions	(2,192,000)	-	(2,192,000)	(2,425,000)
	1,925,131	599,476	2,524,607	1,765,838

23 Operating lease commitments

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

	Group 2021	Group 2020	Charity 2021	Charity 2020
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	42,082	36,224	42,082	36,224
Between two and five years	72,757	114,838	72,757	114,838
In over five years	-	-	-	-
	114,839	151,062	114,839	151,062

24 Related party transactions

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption available in Section 33.1A of FRS 102 whereby it has not disclosed transactions with the ultimate parent company or any wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of the group.

The trustees are employed by institutions that are also members of CPL and benefit from the usage of its frameworks. A trustee in CPL is associated to Hopwood Hall College who also access the procurement placement service provided by Tenet.

Grants payable from designated funds are available to all institutions that pass the relevant criteria. This is therefore open to institutions which employ the trustees of the charity. No trustees are involved in the review and approval of grant applications. During the year Leeds College of Building utilised the subsidised fees for Tenet on-demand services (£1,000) for assistance with a tender.

25 Subsidiaries

Consolidated financial statements for parent charitable companies are required under the Charity SORP (FRS102)

Details of the charity's subsidiaries at 31 July 2020 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held Direct	% Held Indirect
Tenet Education Services Limited	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services	Ordinary	100.00	
Tenet Procurement Services Limited	United Kingdom	Provision of advisory and consultancy services.	Ordinary	100.00	

All investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less provision for impairment, and are eliminated upon consolidation.

26 Cash generated from operations

	2021 £	2020 £
Surplus for the year	63,769	(324,811)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(9,077)	(15,658)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	138,693	125,000
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	33,298	31,010
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	462,000	312,000
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(194,533)	284,383
Increase in creditors	(444)	48,098
Cash generated from operations	493,706	460,022

Haines Watts

Local Matters, National Strength.

Report to the trustees and summary of audit findings

Crescent Purchasing Limited t/a Crescent Purchasing Consortium (“the Group”)

Year ended 31 July 2021

1. Introduction

We are pleased to set out in this document our report to the trustees of Crescent Purchasing Limited for the year ended 31 July 2021.

Our responsibilities as auditors are set out in the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) ("ISAs"). We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance.

The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We have carried out our audit in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 02 August 2018 in order to express an audit opinion for UK statutory purposes on the financial statements of Crescent Purchasing Limited for the year ended 31 July 2021.

In this report, we present the key findings from our audit, together with a commentary on the significant matters arising.

This report has been discussed comprehensively and agreed with David Owen and Mon-Yee Ackers.

This report has been provided to the trustees to consider and ratify on behalf of Crescent Purchasing Limited.

We do not owe a duty of care however it should be noted that information within this report will be shared internally within The Charity Commission for decision making purposes. We accept no duty, responsibility or liability to any other parties, since this report has not been prepared, and is not intended, for any other purpose. It should not be made available to any other parties without our prior written consent.

2. Statutory audit communication

2.1 Objectivity and independence

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and the Ethical Standards published by the United Kingdom Auditing Practices Board.

We have considered our independence and objectivity in respect to the audit for the year ended 31 August 2021.

In addition to auditing the financial statements we also provided, through other individuals, the following services to Crescent Purchasing Limited ("The Group") for the year ended 31 July 2021:

- Preparation of the statutory financial statements.
- Corporation tax advisory, compliance and submission services

We have outlined below the safeguards that we have put in place to ensure that these services do not cause any breaches in our independence and objectivity in relation to the audit.

Non audit service provided	Safeguards put in place to reduce the threat to our integrity, independence and objectivity
Preparation of the statutory financial statements	Internally the accounts are reviewed by a separate individual from those who have prepared the financial statements. The accounts are reviewed in full by those charged by governance of the charity to ensure compliance with the Charities Act 2011. Any accounting judgements required are made by the audit client.
Corporation tax advisory, compliance and submission services	This service is provided by a separate individual from those who have audited the financial statements.

Haines Watts charged £10,425 for completion of the statutory audit of the group.

To maintain our independence as auditors we can also confirm that:

- Haines Watts, its partners and the audit team have no family, financial, employment, investment or business relationship with the company; and
- Audit and non-audit fees paid by the company do not represent a significant proportion of total fee income for either the firm or office.

We confirm that, in our professional judgement, the firm is independent within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff is not impaired.

Legal and regulatory requirements

In undertaking our audit work we considered compliance with the following legal and regulatory requirements, where relevant:

- Companies Act 2006.
- Charities Act 2011.
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.
- Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102).
- Applicable accounting standards.

2.2 Audit approach and materiality

Our audit planning has taken account of the issues highlighted through discussions with David Owen, together with our knowledge and understanding of the charitable group.

We confirm that there were no restrictions on the scope of our audit procedures and we have been able to undertake our work as set out in our planning meeting.

In our planning we have taken account of the results of our risk assessments made in accordance with the guidance set by the ISAs. Our consideration of high risk areas is documented in full within section 3 of this report.

Based on this rigorous process we have used our professional judgement and formed a materiality level. A matter is material if its omission or misstatement would reasonably influence the economic decisions of a user of the financial statements and the value at which if errors, on their own or in aggregate, were uncorrected would result in a potential qualified audit opinion. The audit materiality of the financial statements as a whole has been set at approximately 1% of total incoming resources. We have considered this level of materiality based on the draft accounts for the year ended 31 July 2021 and are satisfied that it continues to be appropriate.

Underpinning materiality is a level of triviality, £1,000, at which any error or omission in excess of this value is recorded and reported to management.
In planning and carrying out our work, we applied a group materiality level to the Charitable Group of £45,000 based on 1% of income.

2.3 Accounting policies

In preparing the financial statements of the charitable group, directors/trustees are required under FRS 102 to review the charitable group's accounting policies on an annual basis to ensure they remain appropriate to the charitable group's circumstances and are properly applied.

We have reviewed the accounting policies selected and operated by the charitable group, and are satisfied that they are acceptable.

2.4 Significant findings

There were no significant findings made during the audit procedures.

2.5 Accounting estimates and judgements

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on the cost of tangible fixed assets, to write them down to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives.

The principal annual rates used were as follows:

Leasehold Improvements	6 years straight line
Plant and equipment	3 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5 years straight line

Local Government Pension Scheme - the charity's share of the LGPS assets is measured at fair value at each balance sheet date. Liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. The net of these two figures is recognised as an asset or liability on the balance sheet. Any movement in the asset or liability between balance sheet dates is reflected in the statement of financial activities. Details of the major assumptions used by the actuary in its calculation are shown in note 16 to the financial statements.

2.6 Funding position at 31 July 2021

Unrestricted funds are funds to which the governing body may use in the pursuance of the charity's objectives and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees. The balance carried forward on this fund is £2,524,607. Of these funds £599,476 has been designated for certain charitable objectives.

Individually, the general reserves carried forward in Crescent Purchasing Limited, Tenet Education Services Limited and Tenet Procurement Services Limited is £3,155,585, £371,609 and £10,376 respectively. Following consolidation journals of £1,012,963 this brings the group general reserve balance to £2,524,607.

2.7 Reconciliation of audited surplus/deficit

The surplus/(deficit) per the financial statements has been derived as follows:

	Crescent Group	Crescent	Tenet Education	Tenet Procurement
Surplus/(deficit) per the trial balance	758,769	888,127	(4,733)	376
Surplus/(deficit) per the financial statements	758,769	888,127	(4,733)	376

There are £2,225 uncorrected errors detailed on A27.

2.8 Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We did not encounter any significant difficulties during the audit.

2.9 Accounting and financial control systems

During our audit we examined the design and implementation of the internal controls relevant to the accounting systems and procedures.

The review of internal controls was carried out with a view to expressing an opinion on the financial statements for the year and was not directed primarily towards discovering weaknesses or towards the detection of fraud. Therefore our comments on these systems include only those matters that have come to our attention as a result of our normal audit procedures, and consequently our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all weaknesses that may exist or of all improvements that might be made. Please refer to section 4 of this report.

2.10 Management representations

We include a copy of the draft management representation letter. There are certain specific representations which we are required by auditing standards to obtain from management as part of our audit procedures. In addition, we are required to obtain other representations on matters material to the financial statements where other sufficient appropriate audit evidence cannot be reasonably expected to exist.

2.11 Audit opinion

Based upon the findings and conclusions of our work, we expect to issue an unmodified audit opinion on the financial statements.

3. High risk audit areas

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Revenue Recognition	Under/overstatement of revenues due to the unique nature of market premium recognition, and the large accrued income figure recognised in the year.	We reviewed the systems and controls associated with the recognition of revenue for the Group. A sample of income was tested from source documentation through to the final accounts.	Correct income recognition criteria met, with no material under/overstatement of revenues.
FRS 102 Accounting for Pensions Treatment of the charity's share of pension scheme assets and deficits	Incorrect treatment of the pension valuation. Financial statements are not prepared in accordance with appropriate accounting standards.	We obtained the FRS 102 pension valuation as at 31 July 2019 and assessed the disclosures and accounting entries made by the charity. We confirmed that the basis of valuation was appropriate and that the disclosures made in the financial statements were prepared in accordance with FRS 102.	Profit or loss impact was correctly recognised, disclosure in financial statements was amended accordingly.
Intangible Assets	Recognition of Intangible Assets (including goodwill) and the application of appropriate accounting policies.	We assessed the identifiable intangible assets against appropriate recognition criteria under FRS102, and assessed the reasonableness and valuation of the disclosure of intangibles within the financial statements.	The acquisition of Tenet Education and Tenet Procurement gives rise to goodwill in the consolidation. This has been correctly accounted for.

Issue	Audit risk	Audit procedures undertaken	Conclusion
Going concern	It is the responsibility of the Trustees to assess the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern for a period of not less than 12 months following the anticipated date of sign off. This is a key risk given the current economic climate and pressures on government spending.	We have reviewed the considerations of management in relation to the going concern assumptions made.	The charity and associated subsidiaries are prepared correctly under the going concern basis.
Management override of internal controls	All control systems present the risk that they can be by-passed by senior members of the management team, leading to accounting entries and transactions being made without the need to follow the established systems and procedures	A suitable level of professional scepticism was applied throughout all areas of audit testing. We examined the significant accounting estimates and judgements applied to the accounts for evidence management bias that may represent a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.	The risk of management override was deemed low.
Payments made to connected parties	The payments made to related parties and trustees' are not made in line with the Charity SORP (FRS102)	Obtain a register of interests from the client for all associated entities for the trustees' and record any transactions and balances with each entity. Record all expenses paid on behalf of the trustees' and review the reasonableness of the expense	All payments to related parties were reasonable and on an arms-length basis.

4. Report of significant weaknesses in systems and internal controls

4.1 Introduction

We set out below the significant matters we became aware of during our audit, which relate to the effectiveness of the company's accounting and financial control systems. We have used the following grading system to indicate the significance of the issues we have raised and the priority that we believe should be given to our recommendations.

Rating	Description
High	Should be urgently attended to by the directors and management. These are significant issues that may result in a qualification in the audit report in future periods if not satisfactorily addressed.
Moderate	Issues requiring the attention of the directors and management. Issues ranked as moderate require close monitoring by the board and senior management to ensure timely resolution.
Low	Issues requiring management attention and correction. Issues ranked as low are generally routine in nature and should be resolved by general management. The board and senior management should be aware of these issues to enable monitoring of progress with their resolution. These issues may be reported to management in less detail than more highly rated issues.

No significant weaknesses in systems and internal controls have been identified. No audit recommendations.

5. Status of audit recommendations from previous year

During the course of the audit we revisited the audit recommendations from the previous year's audit management letter and set out below the status of these recommendations.

Systems and controls – observations in 2020	Update in 2021
Dates were incorrectly recorded on some purchase invoices. Ensure that all dates are correctly recorded so that expenditure is recognised in the correct periods.	No issues were identified in the current year.