

THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1140710

Details

Other names	THE CENTRE PROJECT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07409088
Registered	2011-03-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Centre Project 1 Alfred Place Leicester LE1 1EB
Phone	01162554013
Email	info@centreproject.org
Website	www.centreproject.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE COMPANY ARE SUCH ACTIVITIES AS SHALL BE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE TO THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY IN LEICESTER AS THE DIRECTORS SHALL FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE

Activities: The Centre Project aims to reduce isolation and promote well-being. Current activities include- My connect ' Community Hub'- Centre Kitchen - Social eating- Support, information, advocacy, signposting and referrals- Day services for adults with learning difficulties- Activities such as, games, art therapy, day trips and IT classes- The Freedom Youth Club - Community Food bank

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LEICESTER
- Leicester City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£285,671	£189,396	-	-
2024-03-31	£204,955	£200,258	-	-
2023-03-31	£245,694	£211,526	-	-
2022-03-31	£151,800	£132,492	-	-
2021-03-31	£133,517	£118,802	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ADRIAN OPPON		
Akua Sai		2023-11-16
Dr Abiodun Egbetokun		2023-11-16
Hannah Cobb		2022-10-26

THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1140710

Accounts



Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Centre Project Limited
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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The Board of Trustees presents its report and the independently examined financial statements for year ended 31 March 20245

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name: THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

Charity Registration Number: 1140710

Company Registration Number: 07409088

Board of Trustees:
Dr R.I. Norman
Mr A. Egbetokun
Mr A. Oppon
Mrs A. Sai
Mrs H. Cobb
Mrs V. Frimpong

Company Secretary and Chief Executive: Mr E. Waweru

Registered Office and Operational Address: 1 Alfred Place
Leicester
LE1 1EB

Bankers:
Bank of Scotland
Pentland House
8 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh Park,
South Gale, Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Cooperative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Southway, Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner: Mr Darren Warren - FMAAT
Paxton Independent Examiners
61a High Street South, Rushden, Northants. NN10 0RA

Annual Trustees Report for The Centre Project, Leicester

For the year ending 31 March 2025

About The Centre Project

The Centre Project is a Leicester city-centre charity providing an open-access hub that reduces isolation, promotes wellbeing and supports people who are homeless, living in poverty, experiencing loneliness, or who have newly arrived in the city. Core services delivered from the central hub include a day centre (warm space), weekly foodbank, social and creative activities, keep-fit and cooking sessions, and one-to-one support and signposting to statutory and voluntary services.

Governance and trustees

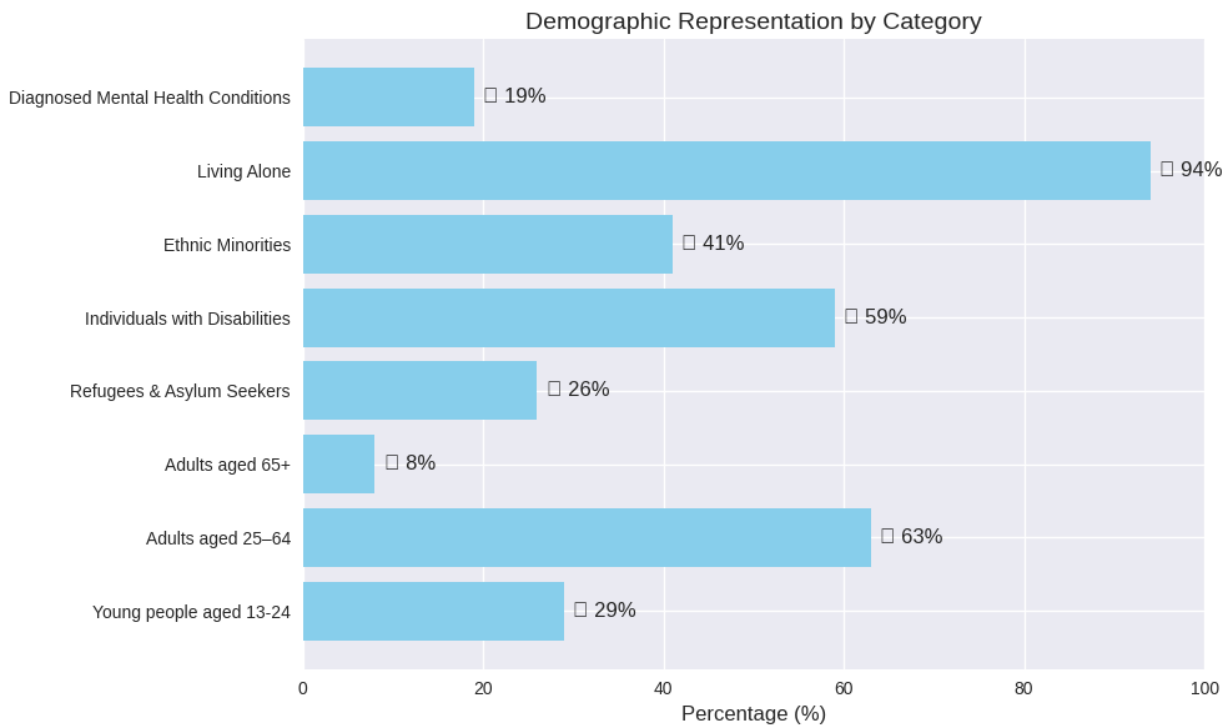
- The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duties under the Charities Act and the governing document, and that decisions taken during the year were made in line with the charity's charitable object to benefit the local community
 - Trustee responsibilities included strategic oversight, financial scrutiny, safeguarding oversight, risk review and staff support.
 - Key governance developments this year: refreshed safeguarding policy and training rollout for all staff and volunteers; updated risk register with mitigations for volunteer capacity and funding volatility.
-

Activities and reach

- Weekly services ran across five days, combining drop-in sessions, organised group activities and targeted support appointments. Core weekly offers included the day centre/warm space, foodbank, keep-fit, arts & crafts, and cooking sessions.
 - Outreach and partnership work included referrals and joint work with local housing providers, health services and welfare advice agencies to support clients into accommodation, health appointments and benefits advice.
-

Demographics of people supported

Our service users reflect the rich diversity and complex needs of Leicester's adult population. Between April 2024 and March 2025, we supported 1,031 individuals, with the following demographic breakdown:



- Total number of visits made during the year: 14,591 (Day Centre – 9,201, Youth club 5,390)
- Principal presenting needs (multiple per person allowed):
 - Food insecurity 59%.
 - Housing related support 29%.
 - Social isolation/mental health concerns 52%.
 - Unemployment/financial hardship 70%.
 - Physical health or disability 27%.
 - Recent migration/new arrival 15%.

These demographic figures are based on routine client registration and monitoring data collected throughout the year.

Outcomes and impact

We measure impact through attendance, client-reported outcomes, service outcomes (housing, health, work) and case management resolutions. Key outcomes for the year:

- Wellbeing and social connection
 - Average weekly attendances: 185 visits; 80% of regular attendees reported reduced loneliness on repeat wellbeing checks.
 - Social activities (arts, cooking, keep-fit, mini golf, haircuts): 1,218 attendances across the year; 74% of participants said they made at least one new supportive connection.
 - Freedom Youth Club: 110 average weekly attendance. Helping to build confidence, improve English language skills, and foster friendships across cultures. 92% of attendees reported being more socially connected and less isolated.
- Food security and immediate needs

- Foodbank interactions: 3,752 parcels/meals provided. 87% of foodbank users reported that the provision prevented immediate hunger and helped stabilise finances that week.
- Free hot meals 3 days a week: 6,251 meals provided, with free drinks as part of our warm welcome initiative.
- Practical outcomes (benefits, housing, health access)
 - Welfare and signposting outcomes: 420 one-to-one support actions recorded; of these, 145 resulted in benefits applications or appeals being submitted with Centre support; 97 clients were supported to engage with debt and money management.
 - Digital Support – Wi-Fi access, email setup, scanning documents: 232 people supported to access digital services enabling them to access other services like housing applications benefits.
 - Telephone Access – to reach services such as housing, DWP, GP: 1,247 people
 - Housing support: 286 people supported into longer-term or more stable accommodation through joint working with housing partners – including housing repairs, preventing evictions and small grants applications.
- Progress towards employment and training
 - 24 people were offered work or volunteering placements in the year.
- Safeguarding and crisis support
 - 194 referrals made to multi-agency partners, and all were appropriately actioned in accordance with policy. The Centre’s closed-loop casework practice ensured follow-up and resolution wherever possible.

Qualitative impact (case studies)

- S.T. came to us on the final day to respond to his Universal Credit migration notice. At the time, he was homeless and did not have access to a phone, email, or bank card. We supported him to make his Universal Credit claim over the phone and helped him visit his bank to obtain proof of his account details. He was also supported to accept his claimant commitment and prompted to attend his first face-to-face appointment at the Jobcentre. Due to long waiting times on the Universal Credit phone line, we continue to offer ongoing support to ensure his payments are maintained and that he doesn’t experience further financial hardship.
- B.W. first joined us after taking part in an activity taster session — and has been coming along ever since! She says, *“It gets me out on a Thursday, away from the stress of staying in with an anti-social neighbour.”* The group has become a positive routine for her, offering both company and a chance to relax.
- A regular attendee with chronic health issues was supported to re-register with a GP and accessed medication and specialist referral; they report improved health management and a greater sense of stability.

Overall, monitoring shows that for regular users the Centre is effective at reducing immediate harms (hunger, exposure, isolation) and at helping people to access longer-term supports that address housing, health and income.

Safeguarding, equality and inclusion

- Safeguarding: policy review and mandatory training for all staff and volunteers were completed. All safeguarding concerns were logged and escalated appropriately; lessons learned were reviewed by trustees.
- Inclusion: services remain low-barrier and non-judgemental. The Centre collects equality monitoring data and adapts activities to address accessibility and cultural needs. Interpreting support and targeted outreach were increased for newer migrant communities during the year.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

- **Income:** The Centre continued to draw on a mix of small grants, local authority partnership funding, donations and church support. Restricted and unrestricted funds were managed to prioritise frontline service continuity.
- **Legacy and bequest:** A legacy of 124,387 was received from the estate of David Williamson, a long serving volunteer with the Centre.
- **Expenditure:** The majority of expenditure was on staffing for frontline delivery, food and consumables, premises and safeguarding/compliance overheads.
- **Reserves policy:** Trustees maintained a modest reserves position to secure three months' core running costs while seeking multi-year funding to reduce future volatility.

The charity received income of £ 263,131, compared to £204,955 in the previous year.

Expenditure of £ 187,142 compared to £200,258 in the previous year.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's free reserves level is currently equivalent to 4 months running costs. This will allow the Charity to cover operating costs for administration of the charity and day-to-day running costs; provide against redundancies/winding up costs if a substantial part of the charity is faced with financial loss; and to assist in maintaining cash flow.

A review of the policy is undertaken annually within which the Charity's financial forecast and results of financial performance are considered to ensure that Trustees are satisfied that an adequate level of reserves is maintained without detriment to the objectives of the Charity.

The Trustees have decided to create a designated fund for building refurbishment. The bulk of the build costs will be met by fundraising.

Investment Policy

Apart from ensuring that there are sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the Charity's Reserves Policy most funds received are to be expended in the short term and there is little or no scope for long term investment. The Charity has maximised opportunities to accrue bank interest on account balances and any interest received will be used in the furtherance of the Charity's work.

Principal risks and mitigations

- **Funding uncertainty:** mitigation through diversified income-seeking, development of a 3-year funding plan and stronger local partnerships.
- **Volunteer capacity:** mitigation through targeted recruitment, simplified induction, and a volunteer-coordinator role to improve retention.
- **Safeguarding complexity:** mitigation through continuous training, clear reporting pathways and multi-agency relationships.

Plans for 2025/26

- Stabilise core funding with at least one multi-year grant to underwrite daycentre and food provision.
- Expand employability pathways in partnership with local training providers.

- Improve outcome measurement with a simple digital client-record system for better longitudinal tracking.
- Partnerships: Deepen collaboration with NHS mental health teams, refugee support networks, and local housing providers.
- Continue to strengthen safeguarding practice and extend trauma-informed training to all partners who deliver on-site.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Board of Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law are also Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Audit:

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The Centre Project Limited
Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	General funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and Legacies	141,272	100	141,372	10,113
Charitable activities	23,591	96,917	120,508	192,436
Other income	1,251	-	1,251	2,406
Total	166,114	97,017	263,131	204,955
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	75,682	110,509	186,191	199,595
Depreciation	951	-	951	663
Total	76,633	110,509	187,142	200,258
Net income/(Expenditure)	89,481	(13,492)	75,989	4,697
Transfers between funds			-	-
Net movement in funds	89,481	(13,492)	75,989	4,697
Total funds brought forward	61,285	137,969	199,254	194,557
Total funds carried forward	150,766	124,477	275,243	199,254

Note
3

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All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

There are no gains and losses other than those recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities

The Centre Project Limited
Balance sheet
as at 31st March 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	2,547	3,498
Current assets			
Debtors	8	5,242	9,802
Cash at bank and in hand		285,329	203,172
Total current assets		290,571	212,974
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(17,875)	(17,218)
Net current assets		272,696	195,756
Net assets		275,243	199,254
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	10	124,477	137,969
Unrestricted funds			
General		133,219	42,787
Designated		15,000	15,000
Fixed Assests		2,547	3,498
Total unrestricted funds		150,766	61,285
Total funds		275,243	199,254

Approved by the Management Committe and is signed on its behalf by:

Adrian Oppon - Treasurer

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities"
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

1.4 Fund Accounting

Unrestricted Funds	These are funds available for general use for any or all of the charity's permitted activities.
Restricted Funds	These are funds that can only be expended in accordance with specific restrictions. These arise either by the wishes of the donor or by the nature of the appeal.

Note 2: Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the charity becomes entitled to the resources;• the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and• the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Incoming resources with related expenditure	Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.
Volunteer help	The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.
Depreciation	Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at the rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Kitchen equipment 10%, Furnishing, Fittings and Equipment 15% and Office Equipment - 25%

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.
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The Centre Project Limited
 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Note 3 : Analysis of incoming resources

	General	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations and Grants				
Gifts and donations	16,885	100	16,985	10,113
Bequests and legacies	124,387	-	124,387	-
Total	141,272	100	141,372	10,113
Charitable Activities				
Grants for Charitable Activities	16,760	96,917	113,677	186,124
Centre Activities	1,430	-	1,430	1,413
Community Opportunities	5,401	-	5,401	4,899
Total	23,591	96,917	120,508	192,436
Other income				
Other	1,251	-	1,251	2,406
Total	1,251	-	1,251	2,406

Grants for charitable activities

	2025		2024
	General	Restricted	Total
B&Q Foundation		10,000	0
Central Baptist Church			6,105
Community Matters Fund			8,300
Coventry B S	1,000		0
DMU Community Challenge Fund	1,260		2,000
Edith Murphy FDN	5,000		0
Henry Smith Charity			6,040
LCC - Community Grant	2,000		0
LCC Homelessness Grant			24,500
LCC Youth Services		10,000	10,000
LLR Integrated Care Board (ICB)		47,367	45,901
National Lottery			50,278
Neighbourly	5,500		0
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire		10,000	10,000
Reaching People		19,550	22,000
Sported Foundation	2,000		0
The Hedley Foundation			1,000
TOTAL	16,760	96,917	186,124

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Note 4: Total resources expended

	General	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities (exp.)				
Costs directly allocated to activities				
Kitchen costs	106	-	106	623
Activities & events	2,616	11,030	13,646	28,006
	2,722	11,030	13,752	28,629
Support costs				
Staff Costs	56,078	90,461	146,538	142,156
Training	-	433	433	496
Travel & Parking	892	892	1,784	2,035
Volunteer expenses	348	122	470	1,226
Insurance	400	351	751	1,563
Premises costs	6,994	6,243	13,237	15,886
General office & finance	4,807	925	5,732	5,961
Publicity and promotion	2,478	-	2,478	724
Bank charges	33	-	33	-
Other fees	931	52	983	919
Total	72,960	99,479	172,439	170,966
Total expenditure for charitable activities	75,682	110,509	186,191	199,595
Other resources expended				
Depreciation	951	-	951	663
Loss on asset disposal	-	-	-	-
Total depreciation & asset disposal	951	-	951	663
TOTAL	76,633	110,509	187,142	200,258

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Note 5: Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No trustees or directors received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or member of the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period

During the year, the charity paid £5,736 (2023/24: £5,736) to Central Baptist Church for utilities and cleaning charges. The charity does not pay for use of church premises.

The Church is connected to the charity but has no significant influence over the charity though some board members are also members of the Central Baptist Church, Leicester.

Note 6: Staff costs and numbers

6.1 Staff Costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	132,907	129,551
Employer's National Insurance costs	6,847	5,823
Pension costs	6,785	6,782
Total staff costs	146,538	142,156

6.2 Average number of employees in the year

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	6	6
Executive staff	1	1
Total	7	7

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Note 7: Tangible fixed assets

7.1 Cost or valuation

	Kitchen	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	20,866	24,434	6,138	51,438
Additions				-
Disposals on revaluation		-	-	-
Balance carried forward	20,866	24,434	6,138	51,438

7.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions

Rate	10%	15%	25%
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Balance brought forward	19,857	23,817	4,266	47,940
Disposal	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year	149	176	626	951
Balance carried forward	20,006	23,993	4,892	48,891

7.3 Net book value

Brought forward - 01/04/2024	1,009	617	1,872	3,498
Carried forward - 31/03/2025	860	441	1,246	2,547

Note 8: Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Debtors	3,656	9,802
Recoverable Gift Aid	1,586	-
Total	5,242	9,802

Note 9: Creditors (Amounts falling due within one year)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	(13,368)	(15,552)
Other creditors	(4,507)	(1,666)
Total	(17,875)	(17,218)

The Centre Project Limited
 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Note 10: Movements of major funds

	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Fixed Asset Fund	Total Funds
Balance at 1 April 2024	42,787	15,000	137,969	3,498	199,254
Income resources	166,114	-	97,017	-	263,131
Outgoing resources	(75,682)	-	(110,509)	(951)	(187,142)
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2025	133,219	15,000	124,477	2,547	275,243

Trustee acknowledgements and thanks

The trustees thank staff, volunteers, partner agencies, funders, Central Baptist Church (premises partner) and the many donors whose support makes the Centre's work possible. The trustees recognise the commitment and compassion of the team who sustain a safe, welcoming and practical service for some of Leicester's most excluded residents.

THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1140710

Accounts



Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Charity Registration No. 1140710

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No. 07409088

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The Centre Project Limited
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Board of Trustees presents its report and the independently examined financial statements for year ended 31 March 2024

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name:	THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED
Charity Registration Number:	1140710
Company Registration Number:	07409088
Board of Trustees:	Dr R.I. Norman Mr A. Egbetokun (Appointed November 2023) Mr A. Oppon (Treasurer) Mr M. Gage (Chair) Mrs A. Sai (Appointed November 2023) Mrs H. Cobb Mrs R. Nelson (Resigned November 2023) Mrs V. Frimpong Rev. Craig Sweeney-Essex (Resigned June 2023)
Company Secretary and Chief Executive:	Mr E. Waweru
Registered Office and Operational Address:	1 Alfred Place Leicester LE1 1EB
Bankers:	Bank of Scotland Pentland House 8 Lochside Avenue Edinburgh Park, South Gale, Edinburgh EH12 9DJ Cooperative Bank P O Box 250 Delf House Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
Independent Examiner:	Mr Hamid Ravat Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)

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

The trustees confirm that the annual report and the financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements and the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 16.

Structure, governance and management

The Centre Project is a registered charity and is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, registered in England. It was incorporated in October 2010 under a Memorandum of Association which established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The trustees are also the directors for the purpose of company law.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

In line with the Articles of Association the company may by ordinary resolution at an annual general meeting appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director. Additionally, a person may become a Trustee at the invitation of a majority of existing Trustees. A Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next AGM but can stand for election.

Trustees are drawn from an appropriate range of professional and technical skills and reflect the composition of the community within which we operate.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are provided with an induction pack containing relevant information covering the areas of roles and obligations; operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles of Association; resource related information and the current financial position as detailed in the latest set of accounts; and future plans and objectives.

Full Board meetings are held at least 6 times per year to make decisions, set policy, and direct management. Day to day responsibility for the management and provision of services is delegated to the Chief Executive with further delegation to managers for services, resources, administration and finance.

Risk Management

The material, financial and non-financial risks that the Charity is exposed to have been identified and the risk register is updated annually. An action plan is in place to regularly review and update those items considered to be High risk.

Objectives and activities

Our aims:

- To provide or assist in the provision, in the interest of social welfare, of holistic services which will promote social inclusion and enhance the quality of life for men, women and young people with the object of promoting health and wellbeing
- To serve people who are vulnerable, including refugees and asylum seekers, those affected by, or are at risk of, homelessness, loneliness and social isolation, those with learning difficulties, mental health problems, and those affected by drug and alcohol misuse
- To deliver client-centred services which are responsive to the changing needs of those we serve, whilst demonstrating Christian love through our thoughts and action
- To provide access to support, befriending and signposting to improve access to services and advice

Our Values and approach

- **Equality and inclusion** – we ensure that everyone is treated equally, with fairness and impartiality and feels valued and accepted, regardless of their background or identity.
- **Empowerment** – we aim to give individuals the tools, resources, and support they need to take control of their lives and make decisions, fostering a sense of self-reliance and independence.
- **Love and Compassionate** – we have empathy, understanding, and a genuine concern for the welfare of others. We treat everyone with kindness and respect.
- **Respect** – we treat others with dignity and valuing their perspectives, contributions, and rights.
- **Encourage and uplift others** – we offer support, build confidence, and foster a positive environment that helps people overcome challenges and strive for their best.

Objectives

- **To help reduce loneliness and isolation:** We provide a warm and welcoming community hub open to everyone.
- **To promote overall wellbeing:** We focus on the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual health of the people we serve.
- **To ensure safety and support:** We make sure people feel safe, supported, enabled, and satisfied when interacting with our services.
- **To provide timely care and support:** We aim to prevent, reduce, or delay crises or long-term needs without creating dependency.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees can confirm that it has regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on **public benefit** and that its work is reflective of this. The Charity's services were centrally based, and all services were open and freely accessible to all mainly via drop-in or by telephone.

Our main activities and beneficiaries are described in this annual report. All our charitable work is undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our work is supported by appropriate policies, procedures, guidelines and governance documentation.

Achievements and performance

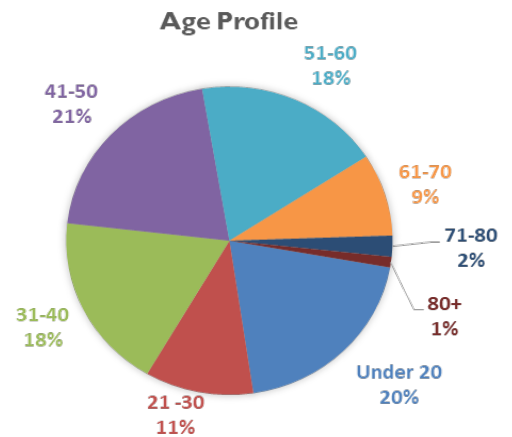
Review of the period

Our primary objective is to create a safe community space that fosters connections and reduces isolation and loneliness. We aim to support individuals facing various life challenges such as debt, homelessness, poor housing, unemployment, food insecurity, welfare benefits and poverty - factors that contribute to poor mental health.

Over the year, we supported more than 1,100 individuals ranging from 14 to 93 years old, a 10% increase from the previous year. This highlights the ongoing and significant need for a safe, welcoming space where people can receive in-person support and find a community hub to help reduce loneliness and social isolation.

We are conveniently located in the city centre of Leicester, making it easy for people from diverse backgrounds to access our services. We support individuals from all Leicester neighbourhoods and the county.

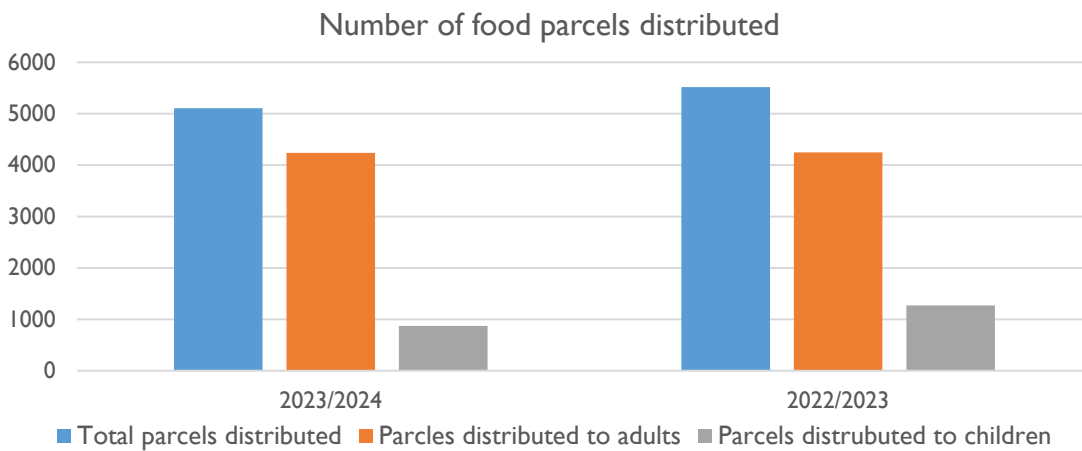
Who we support



♀ **78%** ♂ **22%**

OUR IMPACT

Food Bank



We distributed over 5,108 food parcels to those in crisis – a 7% decrease compared to the previous year. This reduction is thanks to our collaboration with partners to address some of the root causes of foodbank usage. Key reasons people turn to the foodbank include benefit delays or sanctions, debt, long-term unemployment, chronic health conditions, changes in work hours, rising essential costs, homelessness, insecure housing and loss of support from friends or family.

We partner with Leicester South Foodbank, part of the Trussell Trust network, which supplies most of our dry food items. Reaching People has supported us with grants for fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as cupboard staples like bread, milk, cooking oil, and microwave meals. Additionally, we receive generous food donations from Whitehall Primary School, One Roof Leicester, and individual donors. Hays Recruitment Agency Leicester continues to support us by enabling their staff to volunteer with us every Monday morning.

Case Study

KT, a 41-year-old Polish woman with settled status, has worked for various agencies in the city. She has a physical disability, making it difficult to find work. Her husband works intermittently, and they rent privately. She visited the foodbank weekly to support their household, ensuring any income could go towards keeping a roof over their heads. Despite hesitancy due to a prior Universal Credit refusal, we encouraged her to apply for PIP and referred her to Helping Hands for assistance. Thanks to our guidance, KK's PIP application was successful, significantly reducing her visits to the foodbank.

Youth Work

Our work with young people is targeted at young refugees and unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people. The Freedom Youth club runs on Tuesday and Friday evenings 5.00pm – 8.00pm. Being city centre based, the sessions are open to young people across the city.

The youth club works to prevent isolation and boredom, sustain social networks, improve physical and mental health, and enhance emotional well-being for young people. It raises aspirations, builds resilience, and establishes long-term positive relationships.

For the young people, activities at The Freedom Club are essential. They keep them safe, provide engaging activities, and offer someone trusted to talk to. One young person shared, "Coming to the youth club stops me from hanging around all the time on Granby St. We already spend a lot of time there, so to have somewhere else to go and feel safe is wicked."

In the past year, we supported 235 young people—a 35% increase from the previous year. Attendance rose by 39% to 4,573, with an average of 40 young people per session. Our Youth Club welcomed members from 20 different countries and nationalities.

Case Study

AR (19) joined us at 16, shortly after arriving in the country. He quickly became an active youth club member, attending most sessions over two years. We assisted with his college applications, helped him build relationships with social services, and supported him in gaining confidence as a young man new to the United Kingdom. As AR turned 18, he attended less frequently, and we saw him less often. Recently, he reached out regarding issues with his asylum claim. He said, "You were so helpful when I used to come. I thought you'd be the only one who could help me now with this complicated claim. Last time I left feeling so happy. Last time, A helped me way more than I thought she could, and I really appreciate the support."

Targeted work was supported by Police and Crime Commissioners Violence Reduction Network and Leicester City Council's Youth Service.

Day Centre (Warm Space)

One of our primary aims is to offer an open-access, warm, and welcoming space for the community. Since 1996, we've provided a warm space. Over the past year, 655 individuals visited the day centre 6,655 times to stay warm, socialize, and enjoy food and drink. We offered:

- **Social activities:** quizzes, bingo, music, art and craft, etc.
- **Physical activities:** table tennis, pool, walking, crazy golf, keep fit sessions.
- **Social eating:** sharing free food and drink with others including summer BBQ and Christmas dinner
- **Emotional support:** someone to talk to

It's all about creating a supportive environment where people feel connected and cared for.

Activities and sessions	Attendees
Summer barbeque	80
Trips – summer trip to Skegness	50
Christmas meal	60
Bingo sessions	117
Meaningful activities e.g. cooking, art & craft sessions	550
Socialising/Peer Interaction, games & activities	2,444

Support work/ information & signposting

Our team addresses a wide range of support needs for our clients. Those seeking our help often have multiple needs, and our goal is to ensure they feel safe, supported, empowered, and satisfied when engaging with other services. We take a person-centred approach – placing the individual at the core of our efforts – and ensure that the support provided achieves the right outcomes, manages any risks, and delivers high client satisfaction.

The support offered include:

Support/service provided	Attendees
Appointments with external agencies (at the Centre Project)	75
Bus pass applications	25
Debt/money management – help with budgeting and managing debts	78
Digital support – access Wi-Fi, creating email accounts, scanning documents	158
Energy issues – fuel top-up vouchers, warm home discounts, meter readings	35
Homelessness – preventing evictions and accessing emergency accommodation	45
Housing issues – dealing with complaints, repairs, finding suitable place to live	199
Signposting & referrals to other agencies e.g. Adult social care, emergency food	120
Small grant applications – for household items e.g. cooker, fridge, washing machine	18
Telephone Access – to reach other services e.g. Housing options, DWP	1,024
Welfare benefits – application, dealing with sanctions, late payments	95

Case Study

EH is a 43-year-old man with a history of non-engagement with the LCC Housing team, despite multiple attempts to engage him. This led to rent arrears of over £2,000 and a possession order by the LCC. We facilitated a meeting between EH and the LCC housing support officer at The Centre, where he felt comfortable, and supported him during the meetings. We also assisted him in attending Leicester Crown Court. With our support, EH developed a rapport with his LCC Housing Support Officer and Rent Officer. They supported him to apply for PIP and a Charity Link grant for furniture items. EH continued to access the foodbank while making regular payments towards his rent. Consequently, EH's LCC Housing Support Officer helped him to apply for a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP). EH adhered to the payment arrangement and maintained engagement, resulting in the DHP being honoured and all his housing arrears being wiped out.

Case Study

GF is a 55-year-old man. Although he has lived in the UK for over 40 years, he has not applied for EU settlement status and refuses to complete any paperwork, despite being offered immigration advice. Due to his condition, he has lost all documentation to prove his identity for UK settlement and reacts aggressively to practical support, believing his long residence means he doesn't need it.

We worked with him for over 5 months, initially to arrange a telephone appointment for Universal Credit/PIP, as he is unable to attend in-person meetings due to his behaviour and frequently missed calls because his phone was either uncharged or lost. We managed to speak to the required department, but he failed to provide enough evidence to claim benefits or prove his right to reside in the UK. He has legal troubles, is rough sleeping, and has poor relationships with his ex-wife and children, all of which could seriously affect his application to remain in the UK. He faces losing his existing benefits and potential deportation. After consistent support and encouragement, GE has submitted his latest application for UK settlement but still needs his passport for the claim to proceed. He is now prepared to pay for a passport and is gathering photographs and other necessary documents to make this happen.

Health and wellbeing

Our health and well-being support aims to help individuals improve their physical and mental health, cope with stress, anxiety, or depression, and access support for specific conditions or issues. This is part of the Getting Help in the Neighbourhood (GHIN) initiative, which seeks to provide more opportunities and places for people to seek help, build resilience, and prevent adult mental health issues from developing or worsening by getting support in the community.

Case study

RV, a 54-year-old woman, has struggled with anxiety, low self-esteem, depression, and drug addiction. She regularly visited the Centre Project to talk to our Mental Health Support Worker. Her issues stem from various environments, family problems, physical health issues, and domestic abuse. RV expressed a desire to address her drug and alcohol problems. She was referred to local services for the necessary support and encouraged to keep attending meetings.

She also joined the drama and creative writing groups, which she enjoyed, rarely missing creative writing classes except for appointments. She even started coming to the centre before her appointments to continue writing. Her focus improved, and her drinking and smoking levels decreased. Writing the script for the BBC's competition gave her a sense of purpose, reducing her need to visit pubs or hang out with friends she used to smoke with. She felt that creative writing significantly helped her mental health, clarifying her thoughts and understanding her feelings. Writing also helped her focus on important tasks, breaking them down into manageable parts and visualizing them to make them more achievable.

Our activities and events promoting wellbeing included

- 1:1 Mental health support
- Alcohol awareness week - alcohol health and wellbeing (mock tail making)
- Cancer awareness – breast, cervical and prostate cancer awareness
- Cooking sessions (50 sessions)
- Drama and creative writing sessions
- Emotional support - drop-in
- Free eye checks and glasses
- Get in the Know, information awareness minor ailments /access to GP service support, wound care
- Healthy teeth and smiles
- Look good feel-good events (4 sessions) - haircuts, pampering, manicures, cloths
- Making appointments with GP/Dentist/ hospital/NHS 111

Mental health awareness week – events

Our Social support goes beyond practical assistance; it also involves caring, comforting interactions and relationships readily available in times of crisis. We run community drop-in sessions three afternoons a week, where people can come and go as they please, without needing a referral. Additionally, we provide social events based on our clients' requests. These sessions promote:

- The development of new friendships and reduced feelings of loneliness and social isolation
- Increased confidence, social skills, and the ability to engage in new community activities

These efforts foster a strong sense of community and well-being.

Partnerships

- We continue to maintain a strong relationship with Central Baptist Church, who support us by allowing us to use the church building for all our activities.
- The Centre Project is a member of Reaching People – which brings together frontline delivery partners from the Voluntary and Community Sector in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.
- Leicester South Foodbank who continues to provide food parcels for the Foodbank. Their support has been particularly helpful during the lockdown when demand increased and they managed to keep up with our requests for increased supply.
- Our link with Leicester College has enabled us to provide work experience and placement opportunities to 3 students during the year.
- We provide placement opportunities to Students from DMU's BA (Hons) Youth Work and Community Development degree course.
- Zinthiya Trust – provided support with our energy support project
- Helping Hands – provided debt, welfare and housing related support
- Violence Reduction Network.

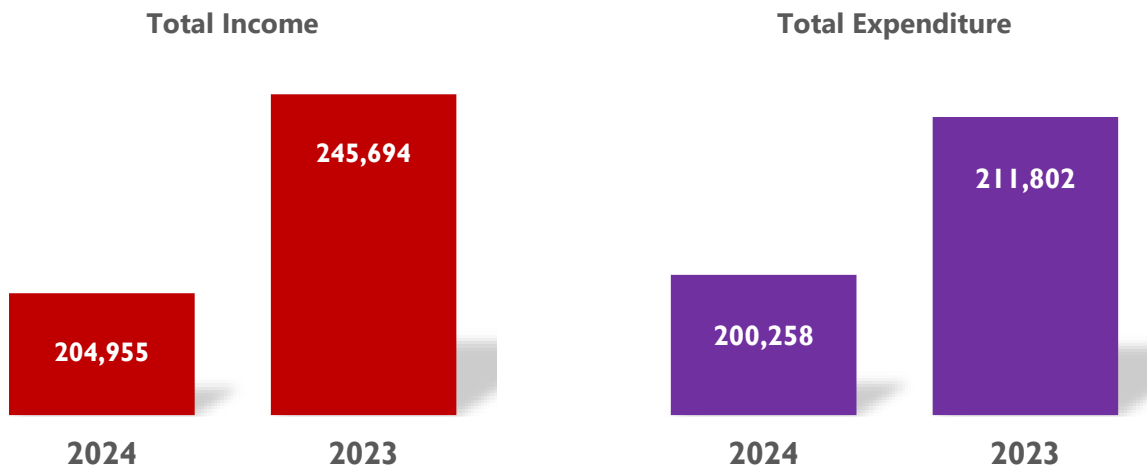
Plans for the future.

- Work in partnership with partners - UHL, ICB, LCC and other health bodies to help reduce health inequalities facing our communities.
- Increase our offer for young people – providing more housing related support
- Refurbish our premises to increase the room space and ventilation to enable us to have unrestricted drop-in sessions that have been impacted by the need for social distancing.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The charity received income of £ 204,955, compared to £245,694 in the previous year. Our income is mainly from grants £180,019 to deliver activities and capital expenses. Delivery of some of the activities will roll over into the next financial year.

Expenditure of £200,258, compared to £211,802 in the previous year.



Reserves Policy

The Charity’s free reserves level is currently equivalent to 4 months running costs. This will allow the Charity to cover operating costs for administration of the charity and day-to-day running costs; provide against redundancies/winding up costs if a substantial part of the charity is faced with financial loss; and to assist in maintaining cash flow.

A review of the policy is undertaken annually within which the Charity’s financial forecast and results of financial performance are considered to ensure that Trustees are satisfied that an adequate level of reserves is maintained without detriment to the objectives of the Charity.

The Trustees have decided to create a designated fund for building refurbishment. The bulk of the build costs will be met by fundraising.

Investment Policy

Apart from ensuring that there are sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the Charity’s Reserves Policy most funds received are to be expended in the short term and there is little or no scope for long term investment. The Charity has maximised opportunities to accrue bank interest on account balances and any interest received will be used in the furtherance of the Charity’s work.



Responsibilities of Trustees

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Board of Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law are also Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Audit:

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011(the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRE PROJECT.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year period ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 13 to 20.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



15th November 2024

Hamid Ravat BA, ACA
4 Clumber Road, Leicester

The Centre Project Limited
Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	General funds	Restricted funds	F. Assets Fund	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Donations and Legacies	4,646	5,467	-	10,113	12,911
Charitable activities	12,417	180,019	-	192,436	232,191
Other income	1,986	420	-	2,406	592
Total	19,049	185,906	-	204,955	245,694
Resources expended					
Charitable activities	20,920	178,675		199,595	210,947
Depreciation	-	-	663	663	855
Total	20,920	178,675	663	200,258	211,802
Net income/(Expenditure)	(1,871)	7,231	(663)	4,697	33,892
Transfers between funds	(1,488)	-	1,488	-	-
Net movement in funds	(3,359)	7,231	825	4,697	33,892
Total funds brought forward	61,270	130,614	2,673	194,557	160,665
Total funds carried forward	57,911	137,845	3,498	199,254	194,557

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.
 There are no gains and losses other than those recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities

The Centre Project Limited
Balance sheet
as at 31st March 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	3,498	2,673
Current assets			
Debtors	8	9,802	3,817
Cash at bank and in hand		203,172	210,105
Total current assets		212,974	213,922
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(17,218)	(22,038)
Net current assets		195,756	191,884
Net assets		199,254	194,557
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	10	137,845	130,614
Unrestricted funds			
General		42,911	46,270
Designated		15,000	15,000
Fixed Assests		3,498	2,673
Total unrestricted funds		61,409	63,943
Total funds		199,254	194,557

Approved by the Management Committe and is signed on its behalf by:

Martin Gage - Chair of Board of Trustees

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities"
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

1.4 Fund Accounting

Unrestricted Funds	These are funds available for general use for any or all of the charity's permitted activities.
Restricted Funds	These are funds that can only be expended in accordance with specific restrictions. These arise either by the wishes of the donor or by the nature of the appeal.

Note 2 : Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources with related expenditure Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Donated services and facilities These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer help The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Investment income This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Depreciation Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at the rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Kitchen equipment 10%, Furnishing, Fittings and Equipment 15% and Office Equipment - 25%

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 3 : Analysis of incoming resources

	General	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations and Grants				
Donations	4,646	5,467	10,113	12,911
Total	4,646	5,467	10,113	12,911

Charitable Activities

Grants for Charitable Activities	6,105	180,019	186,124	227,848
Centre Activities	1,413	-	1,413	929
Community Opportunities	4,899	-	4,899	3,414
Total	12,417	180,019	192,436	232,191

Other income

Other	1,986	420	2,406	592
Total	1,986	420	2,406	592

Grants for charitable activities

	2024		2023
	General	Restricted	Total
BBC Children in Need			10,500
Central Baptist Church	6,105		5,000
Central Co-op's Community Dividend Fund			2,500
Community Matters Fund		8,300	0
David Cook Foundation - Growing Communities			2,000
DMU Community Challenge Fund		2,000	0
DWP KickStart Scheme			2,170
Henry Smith Charity		6,040	8,050
Julia & Hans Foundation			10,000
LCC - Community Grant			10,965
LCC Homelessness Grant		24,500	24,500
LCC Youth Services		10,000	10,000
LLR Integrated Care Board (ICB)		45,901	107,313
National Lottery		50,278	0
Platform Housing			1,350
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire		10,000	10,000
Reaching People		22,000	8,500
Screw Fix Foundation			5,000
The Hedley Foundation		1,000	0
Wesleyan Foundation			10,000
TOTAL	6,105	180,019	227,848

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 4: Total resources expended

	General	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities (exp.)				
Costs directly allocated to activities				
Kitchen costs	623	-	623	-
Activities & events	6,092	21,914	28,006	31,380
	6,715	21,914	28,629	31,380
Support costs				
Staff Costs	8,395	133,761	142,156	129,431
Training	66	430	496	945
Travel & Parking	135	1,900	2,035	1,935
Volunteer expenses	90	1,136	1,226	410
Insurance	563	1,000	1,563	1,208
Premises costs	2,284	13,602	15,886	38,808
General office & finance	1,108	4,853	5,961	5,518
Publicity and promotion	724	-	724	471
Bank charges	-	-	-	32
Other fees	840	79	919	809
Total	14,205	156,761	170,966	179,567
Total expenditure for charitable activities	20,920	178,675	199,595	210,947
Other resources expended				
Depreciation	663	-	663	579
Loss on asset disposal	-	-	-	276
Total depreciation & asset disposal	663	-	663	855
TOTAL	21,583	178,675	200,258	211,802

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 5: Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No trustees or directors received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or member of the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period

During the year, the charity paid £5,736 (2022/23: £5,736) to Central Baptist Church for utilities and cleaning charges. The charity does not pay for use of church premises.

The Church also contributed £6,105 towards the Garden Project.

The Church is connected to the charity but has no significant influence over the charity though some board members are also members of the Central Baptist Church, Leicester.

Note 6: Staff costs and numbers

6.1 Staff Costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	129,551	121,474
Employer's National Insurance costs	5,823	2,540
Pension costs	6,782	5,417
Total staff costs	142,156	129,431

6.2 Average number of employees in the year

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	6	7
Executive staff	1	1
Total	7	8

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 7: Tangible fixed assets

7.1 Cost or valuation

	Kitchen	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	20,866	24,434	4,650	49,950
Additions			1,488	1,488
Disposals on revaluation		-	-	-
Balance carried forward	20,866	24,434	6,138	51,438

7.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions

Rate	10%	15%	25%
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Balance brought forward	19,708	23,641	3,928	47,277
Disposal	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year	149	176	338	663
Balance carried forward	19,857	23,817	4,266	47,940

7.3 Net book value

Brought forward - 01/04/2023	1,158	793	722	2,673
Carried forward - 31/03/2024	1,009	617	1,872	3,498

Note 8: Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors	9,802	3,817
Recoverable Gift Aid	-	-
Total	9,802	3,817

Note 9: Creditors (Amounts falling due within one year)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	(15,552)	(18,935)
Other creditors	(1,666)	(3,103)
Total	(17,218)	(22,038)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 10: Movements of major funds

	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Fixed Asset Fund	Total Funds
Balance at 1 April 2023	46,270	15,000	130,614	2,673	194,557
Income resources	19,049	-	185,906	-	204,955
Outgoing resources	(20,920)	-	(178,675)	(663)	(200,258)
Transfer between funds	(1,488)	-	-	1,488	(0)
Balance at 31 March 2024	42,911	15,000	137,845	3,498	199,254

Partnerships

- We continue to maintain a strong relationship with Central Baptist Church, who support us by allowing us to use the church building for all our activities
- The Centre Project is a member of Reaching People – which brings together frontline delivery partners from the Voluntary and Community Sector in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland
- Leicester South Foodbank who continues to provide food parcels for the Foodbank.
- Our link with Leicester College has enabled us to provide work experience and placement opportunities to 3 students during the year
- We provide placement opportunities to Students from DMU’s BA (Hons) Youth Work and Community Development degree course
- Zinithiya Trust – provided support with our energy support project
- Pedestrian Arts – supported Freedom Youth Club to run activities for the young people over a 12 week period
- Leicestershire Cares – supported our youth work by providing support with housing related queries and enabling our young people to go for day trips
- Violence Reduction Network (VRN) – for supporting our work with young people and improving relationships with the police.

THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1140710

Accounts



Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Charity Registration No. 1140710

Company No. 07409088

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Notes forming part of the financial statements	16-21

The Centre Project Limited
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Board of Trustees presents its report and the independently examined financial statements for year ended 31 March 2023

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name: THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

Charity Registration Number: 1140710

Company Registration Number: 07409088

Board of Trustees: Rev. Craig Sweeney-Essex
Mr A. Oppon (Treasurer)
Dr R.I. Norman
Mrs R. Nelson
Mrs V. Frimpong
Mr M. Gage (Chair)

Company Secretary and Chief Executive: Mr E. Waweru

Registered Office and Operational Address: 1 Alfred Place
Leicester
LE1 1EB

Bankers: Bank of Scotland
Pentland House
8 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh Park,
South Gale, Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Cooperative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Southway, Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner: Mr Hamid Ravat
Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Centre Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees confirm that the annual report and the financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements and the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 16.

1. About Us

The Centre Project is a registered charity (No. 1140710) that has been in operation since February 1996. Our mission is to support and encourage lonely and socially isolated people in Leicester through the provision of holistic services which enhance their quality of life, reduce isolation and promote wellbeing.

It was incorporated on 15/10/2010 under a Memorandum of Association which established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The board members elect one of their members to be Chair.

The role of Company Secretary is performed by the Chief Executive who has no voting rights.

Full Board meetings are held at least 6 times per year to make decisions, set policy, and direct management.

Day to day responsibility for the management and provision of services is delegated to the Chief Executive with further delegation to managers for services, resources, administration and finance.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees are the Directors of the company for the purpose of company law. In line with the Articles of Association the company may by ordinary resolution at an annual general meeting appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director. Additionally, a person may become a Trustee at the invitation of a majority of existing Trustees. A Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next AGM but can stand for election.

Trustee induction and training

Existing Trustees are familiar with the practical work of the Charity and are encouraged to attend meetings, training and events.

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack containing relevant information covering the areas of roles and obligations; operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles of Association; resource related information and the current financial position as detailed in the latest set of accounts; and future plans and objectives.

Trustees are drawn from an appropriate range of professional and technical skills and reflect the composition of the community within which we operate.

Risk Management

The material, financial and non-financial risks that the Charity is exposed to have been identified and the risk register is updated annually. An action plan is in place to regularly review and update those items considered to be High risk.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the Company are such activities as shall be exclusively charitable to the benefit of the community in Leicester as the directors shall from time to time determine.

The charity aims:

- To provide or assist in the provision, in the interest of social welfare, of holistic services which will promote social inclusion and enhance the quality of life for men, women and young people with the object of promoting health and wellbeing
- To serve people who are vulnerable, including refugees and asylum seekers, those affected by, or are at risk of, homelessness, loneliness and social isolation, those with learning difficulties, mental health problems, and those affected by drug and alcohol misuse
- To deliver client-centred services which are responsive to the changing needs of those we serve, whilst demonstrating Christian love through our thoughts and action
- To provide access to support, befriending and sign-posting to improve access to services and advice

We aim to support individuals to address issues that impact on their health and wellbeing including;

- Loneliness and isolation
- Housing and homelessness related support
- Mental health support
- Emotional support
- Welfare and benefits
- Food bank and poverty
- Digital access

People are supported at a time of crisis or critical moment through our drop-in access model, no appointments needed.

We enable people to develop improved support networks and build resilience and determination.

Public Benefit Statement

The Board of Trustees can confirm that it has regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on **public benefit** and that its work is reflective of this. The Charity's services were centrally based and all services were open and freely accessible to all mainly via drop-in or by telephone.

Our main activities and beneficiaries are described in this annual report. All our charitable work is undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our work is supported by appropriate policies, procedures, guidelines and governance documentation.

4. ANNUAL REVIEW

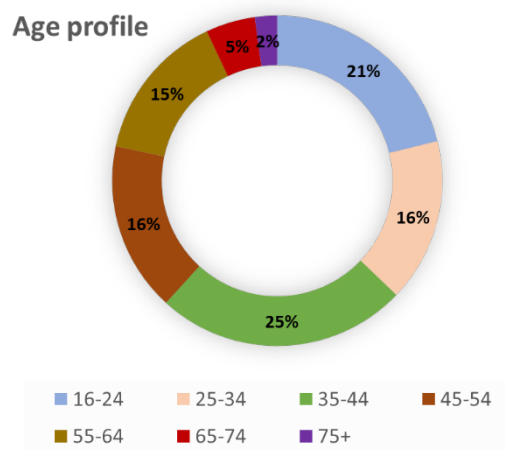
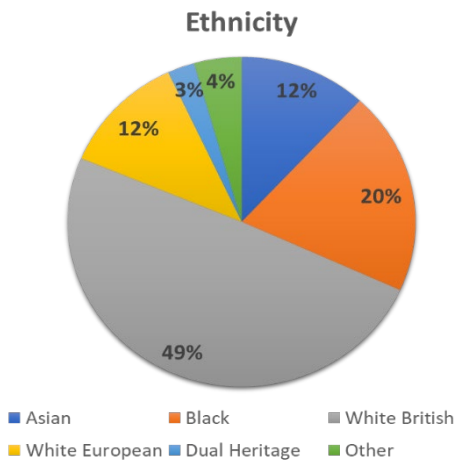
In 2022-23 we worked with 997 people facing loneliness, mental ill health, homelessness, food insecurity, poverty and new arrivals to the city, about 33% more than the year before. Our clients come from the most vulnerable in the city and in 2022-23 the cost of living crisis only served to increase the number of people seeking our support. This illustrates the ongoing and significant need for people to find a safe, welcoming and warm space to get in-person support and a community hub to help reduce loneliness and social isolation.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SUPPORTED



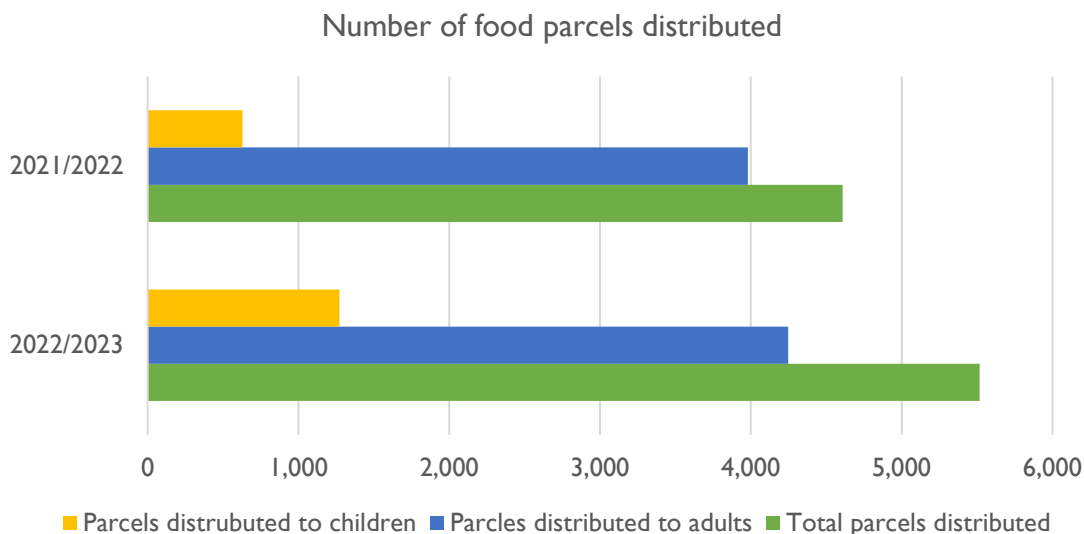
We provided a central access point for services with collaboration with different community agencies and service providers.

Who we support



OUR IMPACT

I. Food Bank



We distributed over 5,520 food parcels to people in crisis last year, 20% more compared to the year before. The need for emergency food aid continues to grow with about 2/3rds of all phone calls to the charity enquiring about accessing the foodbank. Our foodbank continues to be accessible to all in need. We do not need referrals from third parties. The person in need just needs to drop-in and talk to us about their needs.

We partner with Leicester South Foodbank (part of Trussell Trust network), who supply most of the dry food items. Due to increased energy costs, there's a growing demand for easy-to-cook items. As a result, the charity begun purchasing additional food supplies and essentials to supplement donations. These include fresh fruits and vegetables and cupboard items like bread, milk, cooking oil, and microwave meals. This was made possible by grants from Reaching People (Winter Food Grant-Foodbank), The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust and Central Co-op's Community Dividend Fund. We also received food donations from Whitehall Primary School, One Roof Leicester and generous individuals. We also want to extend our thanks to Hays Recruitment Agency Leicester for enabling their staff to volunteer at our foodbank.

II. DAY CENTRE (WARM SPACE)

One of our primary aims is to provide an open-access, warm & welcoming space for people facing loneliness, mental ill health, homelessness, food insecurity, poverty and new arrivals to the city. We have been providing a warm space since 1996 and over the past year, 280 individuals came to the day centre 3,992 times to keep warm, meet other people and have something to eat and drink.

Many people cited feeling the pressure of increased energy costs and the rising cost of living. This led to increased demand for hot meals. People are choosing to come in for a cooked meal instead of cooking themselves as they make decisions between eating and heating.

Consequently, the charity decided to resume running the kitchen 3 days a week (this had been suspended during Covid-19 lockdown) and not to charge for food and refreshments. This provision has been supported by a grant from Wesleyan Foundation and regular food donations from Jalaram Sadavrat Leicester.

Our hospitality



No of hot meals served – over 4,400
 plates of food



No of teas & coffees served – over
 18,000 cups

III. Support work/ information & sign-posting

Our team helps meet a diverse range of support needs facing our clients. People seeking support from us always have multiple needs and our aim is to ensure that people feel safe, supported, enabled and satisfied when coming into contact with other services.

We adopt a person centred approach – the person at the centre, and ensure that the support they receive delivers the right outcome, manages any risks and delivers good client satisfaction.

The support offered include:

Support/service provided	Attendees
Housing issues – dealing with complaints, repairs, finding suitable place to live	199
Homelessness – preventing evictions and accessing emergency accommodation	45
Debt/money management – help with budgeting and managing debts	73
Telephone Access – to reach other services e.g. Housing options, DWP	1,224
Digital support – access Wi-Fi, creating email accounts, scanning documents	208
Energy issues – fuel top-up vouchers, warm home discounts, meter readings	60
Small grant applications – for household items e.g. cooker, fridge, washing machine	18
Employment support – job search, form filling, cv writing	15
Welfare benefits – application, dealing with sanctions, late payments	75
Bus pass applications	15
Appointments with external agencies (at the Centre Project)	41
Signposting & referrals to other agencies e.g. Adult social care, emergency food	120

IV. Health and wellbeing

Our health and well-being support aim to help people improve their physical and mental health, coping with stress, anxiety, or depression, and accessing support for specific conditions or issues. We received funding from East Leicestershire & Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group on behalf of West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group and Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG) to provide small group activities geared at promoting both physical and mental health. This is part of the Getting Help in the Neighbourhood (GHIN) initiative which aims to provide more opportunities and places for people to seek help, build resilience and prevent adult mental health issues from developing or becoming worse. It also aims to support people recovering or living with long-term mental health challenges to live as independently as possible.

We were also involved in the Covid-19 Vaccine Confidence Programme, supported Leicester City Council’s Community Grant, to promote Covid-19 vaccine guidance and support, and with the aim of developing community based initiatives tailored to help increase Covid-19 vaccine take up by people who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated.

In March 2023 we partnered with Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board (ICB) to help reduce the pressure on A&E department during winter months through engaging with our clients and communities to:

- Guide and advise people on how to prevent illness/injury
- Support people to look after their own health
- Raise awareness of local services and when/how to access them
- Raise awareness of what to expect if people need to receive care
- Promoting Get In The Know campaign – how to get appropriate treatment elsewhere.

We received funding from NHS #Project Launch to install 2 pods at the Centre, part of our digital inclusion initiative. The pods provide a quiet, soundproof and confidential meeting space which is important because health information and services are increasingly being delivered digitally. The ability to access and use digital technology is increasingly a form of health literacy. The meeting pods are being used by other partners and agencies to meet with their clients.

Activities and sessions	Attendees
Cooking sessions (50 sessions)	314
Blood pressure checks	35
Look good feel good events (4 sessions) - haircuts, pampering, manicures, cloths	180
Drama and creative writing	128
Free eye checks and glasses	45
Vaccine confidence events	75
Emotional support - drop-in	1,135
1:1 Mental health support	300
Making appointments with GP/Dentist/ hospital/NHS 111	32

V. Community and social activities.

Social support is not only about providing an individual with practical assistance, but also consists of interactions and relationships that are felt to be caring, comforting and readily available in times of crisis. We run community drop-in sessions 3 afternoons a week where people can come and go as they like, without needing a referral in addition to providing social events as per our clients’ requests. The sessions promote;

- the development of new friendships and reduced feelings of loneliness and social isolation
- increased confidence, social skills and ability to engage in new community activities
- increased self-belief and value to society

Activities and sessions	Attendees
Summer barbeque	70
Trips – summer trip to Skegness	50
Birmingham Christmas market	45
Canal boat cruise	15
Christmas meal	57

Bingo sessions	117
Karaoke	108
Meaningful activities e.g. art & craft sessions	350
Socialising/Peer Interaction, games & activities	1,950

VI. Gardening Project

During the year we started work on our gardening project supported by Central Baptist Church, Henry Smith Charity, Castle Ward Funding and Growing Communities – David Cook Foundation.

The Centre Project uses the premises of Central Baptist Church in Leicester. The front yard of the church is largely unused, (The Church only meets on a Sunday morning) so the charity is able to utilise the space to create a garden space to help people enhance their mental health and wellbeing.

The goal of the Community Garden project is to create a multi-use community centrepiece. It will be an open and welcoming space that encourages people to not just sow the seeds of herbs and vegetables, but to sow the seeds of community, connectivity and creativity.

We are looking to develop a community garden and a therapeutic space for individuals to relax or actively engage in a range of horticultural settings and activities to promote positive mental health. We are surrounded by blocks of flats providing social housing in the City Centre, with more office buildings being converted into flats with no outdoor space. People using the Centre Project experience mental health problems caused by loneliness, isolation and poor physical health.

This space will form part of our Crisis café to help ensure that people experiencing mental health difficulties are supported in a relaxed and friendly environment within the local community

VII. Freedom Youth Club

The youth club helps prevent isolation and boredom and sustain social networks for young refugees, unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people and new arrivals. The Youth club runs on Tuesday and Friday evenings 5.00pm – 8.00pm. Being city centre based, the sessions are open to young people across the city.

Over the past year, we supported 170 young people (77% increase from the previous year) from 21 countries/nationalities. Attendances increased by 142% to 3,525, an average of 35 young people per session.

Activities and sessions	Attendees
Summer barbeque	25
Trips – summer trip to Skegness & Alton towers	60
Vaccine confidence events	45
Football sessions	180
Cricket training	15
Community dinners	225
A Conversation with Rob Nixon - Chief Constable of Leicestershire Police	44
Stop & Search information session – with police	55
Bike safety	19

Support **No**

The Centre Project Limited

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Housing - e.g. moving into independent living/emergency accomodation	19
Emergency food parcels	12
Independent living skills & money management	15
Homework	22
Health and wellbeing support, emotional support	45
Advocacy and practical support	22
Work, employability and careers advice	10
Informal educational activities, learning support to improve language skills	16

The youth club continues to be very busy, with new referrals and registrations being received at every session. We currently have some of the young people being housed in hotels in and around the city centre. They do not have anywhere else to go or activities to join in, so they all look forward to coming to the youth club in the evening.

Targeted work was supported by Children in Need and Leicester City Council's Youth Service.

Partnerships

- We continue to maintain a strong relationship with Central Baptist Church, who support us by allowing us to use the church building for all our activities.
- The Centre Project is a member of Reaching People – which brings together frontline delivery partners from the Voluntary and Community Sector in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.
- Leicester South Foodbank who continues to provide food parcels for the Foodbank. Their support has been particularly helpful during the lockdown when demand increased and they managed to keep up with our requests for increased supply.
- Our link with Leicester College has enabled us to provide work experience and placement opportunities to 3 students during the year.
- We provide placement opportunities to Students from DMU's BA (Hons) Youth Work and Community Development degree course.
- Zinithiya Trust – provided support with our energy support project
- Pedestrian Arts – supported Freedom Youth Club to run activities for the young people over a 12 week period.
- Leicestershire Cares – supported our youth work by providing support with housing related queries and enabling our young people to go for day trips.

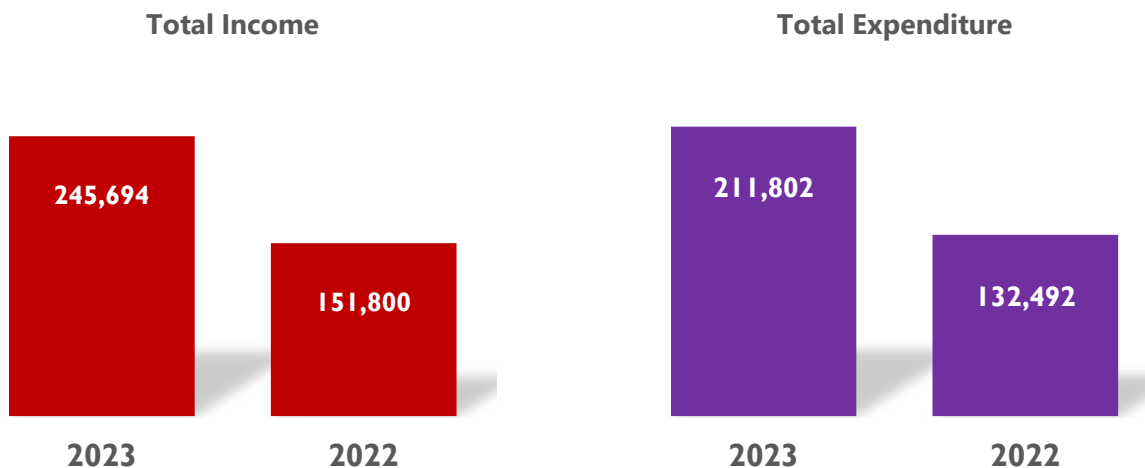
Plans for the future.

- Increase our mental health offer, with everything we do having a mental health and wellbeing focus. Working with UHL, ICB and other health bodies to help reduce health inequalities facing our communities.
- Garden project - provide a therapeutic space for individuals to relax or actively engage in a range of gardening activities. Creating an Edible garden by providing planters for our gardening group.
- Refurbish our premises to increase the room space and ventilation to enable us to have unrestricted drop-in sessions that have been impacted by the need for social distancing.

5. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The charity received income of £ 245,694, compared to £151,800 in the previous year. Our income is mainly from grants £227,848 to deliver activities and capital expenses. Delivery of some of the activities will roll over into the next financial year.

Expenditure of £211,802, compared to £132,492 in the previous year. Overall, there was a surplus of £33,892 for the year.



Reserves Policy

The Charity's free reserves level is currently equivalent to 7 months running costs. This will allow the Charity to cover operating costs for administration of the charity and day-to-day running costs; provide against redundancies/winding up costs if a substantial part of the charity is faced with financial loss; and to assist in maintaining cash flow.

A review of the policy is undertaken annually within which the Charity's financial forecast and results of financial performance are considered to ensure that Trustees are satisfied that an adequate level of reserves is maintained without detriment to the objectives of the Charity.

The Trustees have decided to create a designated fund for building refurbishment. The pandemic highlighted the need to create more spacious and better ventilated community spaces and the designated fund will be used to meet part of the cost of making the building fit for purpose. The bulk of the build costs will be met by fundraising.

Investment Policy

Apart from ensuring that there are sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the Charity's Reserves Policy most funds received are to be expended in the short term and there is little or no scope for long



term investment. The Charity has maximised opportunities to accrue bank interest on account balances and any interest received will be used in the furtherance of the Charity's work.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Board of Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law are also Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Audit:

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011(the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRE PROJECT.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year period ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 14 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Hamid Ravat BA, ACA
4 Clumber Road, Leicester
3rd December 2023

The Centre Project Limited
Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	General funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and Legacies	11,145	1,766	12,911	9,663
Charitable activities	26,158	206,033	232,191	142,137
Other income	592	-	592	-
Total	37,895	207,799	245,694	151,800
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	43,329	167,618	210,947	131,997
Other	855	-	855	495
Total	44,184	167,618	211,802	132,492
Net income/(Expenditure)	(6,289)	40,181	33,892	19,308
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	(6,289)	40,181	33,892	19,308
Total funds brought forward	70,232	90,433	160,665	141,357
Total funds carried forward	63,943	130,614	194,557	160,665

Note
3

4

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

There are no gains and losses other than those recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities

The Centre Project Limited
Balance sheet
as at 31st March 2023

		2023	2022
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	2,673	3,528
Current assets			
Debtors	8	3,817	5,706
Cash at bank and in hand		210,105	166,829
Total current assets		213,922	172,535
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(22,038)	(15,398)
Net current assets		191,884	157,137
Net assets		194,557	160,665
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	10	130,614	90,433
Unrestricted funds			
General		46,270	51,704
Designated		15,000	15,000
Fixed Assests		2,673	3,528
Total unrestricted funds		63,943	70,232
Total funds		194,557	160,665

Approved by the Management Committe and is signed on its behalf by:

Mr. Martin Gage

Chairperson

Mr. Adrian Oppon

Treasurer

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities"
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

1.4 Fund Accounting

Unrestricted Funds These are funds available for general use for any or all of the charity's permitted activities.

Restricted Funds These are funds that can only be expended in accordance with specific restrictions. These arise either by the wishes of the donor or by the nature of the appeal.

Note 2: Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources with related expenditure Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Donated services and facilities These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer help The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Investment income This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Depreciation Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at the rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Kitchen equipment 10%, Furnishing, Fittings and Equipment 15% and Office Equipment - 25%

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. However, amounts less than these maybe capitalised if required as a condition of restricted funds. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Note 3 : Analysis of incoming resources

	General £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Donations and Grants				
Donations	11,145	1,766	12,911	9,663
Total	11,145	1,766	12,911	9,663

Charitable Activities

Grants for Charitable Activities	21,815	206,033	227,848	140,191
Centre Activities	929	-	929	449
Community Opportunities	3,414	-	3,414	1,497
Total	26,158	206,033	232,191	142,137

Other income				
Other	592	-	592	-
Total	592	-	592	-

Grants for charitable activities

	2023		2022
	General	Restricted	Total
Arnold Clark Foundation			2,500
B&Q Foundation			5,000
BBC Children in Need		10,500	10,000
Central Baptist Church	5,000		
Central Co-op's Community Dividend Fund	2,500		
Church Urban Fund			2,500
Covid-safe Communities Fund			5,000
David Cook Foundation - Growing Communities	2,000		
DWP KickStart Scheme		2,170	10,797
Groundworks			2,000
Henry Smith Charity		8,050	
Julia & Hans Foundation		10,000	
LCC - Community Grant	10,965		
LCC Castle Ward Fund			3,750
LCC Homelessness Grant		24,500	24,500
LCC Youth Services		10,000	10,000
LLR Integrated Care Board (ICB)		107,313	53,488
Other grants			3,905
Platform Housing	1,350		
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire		10,000	
Reaching People		8,500	
Screw Fix Foundation		5,000	
Sporting Equals			1,001
Wesleyan Foundation		10,000	
Western Power Distribution			5,750
TOTAL	21,815	206,033	140,191

Note 4: Total resources expended

	General	Restricted	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities (exp.)				
Costs directly allocated to activities				
Kitchen costs	-	-	-	-
Activities & events	10,670	20,710	31,380	4,150
	10,670	20,710	31,380	4,150
Support costs				
Staff Costs	23,617	105,814	129,431	106,531
Training	45	900	945	1,718
Travel & Parking	835	1,100	1,935	1,711
Volunteer expenses	63	347	410	475
Insurance	308	900	1,208	1,001
Premises costs	5,189	33,619	38,808	10,205
General office & finance	1,853	3,665	5,518	5,133
Publicity and promotion	71	400	471	157
Bank charges	32	-	32	32
Other fees	646	163	809	884
Total	32,659	146,908	179,567	127,847
Total expenditure for charitable activities	43,329	167,618	210,947	131,997
Other resources expended				
Depreciation	579	-	579	495
Loss on asset disposal	276	-	276	
Total depreciation & asset disposal	855	-	855	495
TOTAL	44,184	167,618	211,802	132,493

Note 5: Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No trustees or directors received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or member of the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period

During the year, the charity paid £5,736 (2021: £5,736) to Central Baptist Church for utilities and cleaning charges. The charity does not pay for use of church premises. The Church also contributed £5,000 towards the Garden Project.

The Church is connected to the charity and has significant influence over the charity as most board members are also members of the Central Baptist Church, Leicester.

Note 6: Staff costs and numbers

6.1 Staff Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	121,474	99,473
Employer's National Insurance costs	2,540	2,761
Pension costs	5,417	4,297
Total staff costs	129,431	106,531

6.2 Average number of employees in the year

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	7	6
Executive staff	1	1
Total	8	7

Note 7: Tangible fixed assets

7.1 Cost or valuation

	Kitchen	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	20,866	26,046	7,664	54,576
Additions				-
Disposals on revaluation		(1,612)	(3,014)	(4,626)
Balance carried forward	20,866	24,434	4,650	49,950

7.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions

Rate	10%	15%	25%
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Balance brought forward	19,559	25,077	6,412	51,048
Disposal	-	(1,612)	(2,738)	(4,350)
Depreciation charge for year	149	176	254	579
Balance carried forward	19,708	23,641	3,928	47,277

7.3 Net book value

Brought forward - 01/04/2022	1,307	969	1,252	3,528
Carried forward - 31/03/2023	1,158	793	722	2,673

Note 8: Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	3,817	3,910
Recoverable Gift Aid	0	1,797
Total	3,817	5,707

Note 9: Creditors (Amounts falling due within one year)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	(18,935)	(14,120)
Other creditors	(3,103)	(1,278)
Total	(22,038)	(15,398)

Note 10: Movements of major funds

	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Balance at 1 April 2022	55,232	15,000	90,433	160,665
Income resources	37,895	-	207,799	245,694
Outgoing resources	(44,184)	-	(167,618)	(211,802)
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2023	48,943	15,000	130,614	194,557

The Trustees have created a designated fund to cover capital building expenses and refurbishment.

Partnerships

- We continue to maintain a strong relationship with Central Baptist Church, who support us by allowing us to use the church building for all our activities
- The Centre Project is a member of Reaching People – which brings together frontline delivery partners from the Voluntary and Community Sector in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland
- Leicester South Foodbank who continues to provide food parcels for the Foodbank. Their support has been particularly helpful during the lockdown when demand increased and they managed to keep up with our requests for increased supply
- Our link with Leicester College has enabled us to provide work experience and placement opportunities to 3 students during the year
- We provide placement opportunities to Students from DMU’s BA (Hons) Youth Work and Community Development degree course
- Zinithiya Trust – provided support with our energy support project
- Pedestrian Arts – supported Freedom Youth Club to run activities for the young people over a 12 week period
- Leicestershire Cares – supported our youth work by providing support with housing related queries and enabling our young people to go for day trips

THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1140710

Accounts



REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Charity Registration No. 1140710

Company No. 07409088

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Notes forming part of the financial statements	17-21

The Centre Project Limited
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Board of Trustees presents its report and the independently examined financial statements for year ended 31 March 2022

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name: THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

Charity Registration Number: 1140710

Company Registration Number: 07409088

Board of Trustees: Rev. Craig Sweeney-Essex
Mr A. Oppon (Treasurer)
Dr R.I. Norman
Mrs R. Nelson
Mrs V. Frimpong
Mr M. Gage (Chair)

Company Secretary and Chief Executive: Mr E. Waweru

Registered Office and Operational Address: 1 Alfred Place
Leicester
LE1 1EB

Bankers: Bank of Scotland
Pentland House
8 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh Park,
South Gale, Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Cooperative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Southway, Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner: Mr Hamid Ravat
Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Centre Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees confirm that the annual report and the financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements and the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 17.

1. About Us

The Centre Project is a registered charity (No. 1140710) that has been in operation since February 1996. Our mission is to support and encourage lonely and socially isolated people in Leicester through the provision of holistic services which enhance their quality of life, reduce isolation and promote wellbeing.

It was incorporated on 15/10/2010 under a Memorandum of Association which established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The board members elect one of their members to be Chair.

The role of Company Secretary is performed by the Chief Executive who has no voting rights.

Full Board meetings are held at least 6 times per year to make decisions, set policy, and direct management.

Day to day responsibility for the management and provision of services is delegated to the Chief Executive with further delegation to managers for services, resources, administration and finance.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees are the Directors of the company for the purpose of company law. In line with the Articles of Association the company may by ordinary resolution at an annual general meeting appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director. Additionally, a person may become a Trustee at the invitation of a majority of existing Trustees. A Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next AGM but can stand for election.

Trustee induction and training

Existing Trustees are familiar with the practical work of the Charity and are encouraged to attend meetings, training and events.

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack containing relevant information covering the areas of roles and obligations; operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles of Association; resource related information and the current financial position as detailed in the latest set of accounts; and future plans and objectives.

Trustees are drawn from an appropriate range of professional and technical skills and reflect the composition of the community within which we operate.

Risk Management

The material, financial and non-financial risks that the Charity is exposed to have been identified and the risk register is updated annually. An action plan is in place to regularly review and update those items considered to be High risk.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the Company are such activities as shall be exclusively charitable to the benefit of the community in Leicester as the directors shall from time to time determine.

The charity aims:

- To provide or assist in the provision, in the interest of social welfare, of holistic services which will promote social inclusion and enhance the quality of life for men, women and young people with the object of promoting health and wellbeing
- To serve people who are vulnerable, including refugees and asylum seekers, those affected by, or are at risk of, homelessness, loneliness and social isolation, those with learning difficulties, mental health problems, and those affected by drug and alcohol misuse
- To deliver client-centred services which are responsive to the changing needs of those we serve, whilst demonstrating Christian love through our thoughts and action.
- To provide access to support, befriending and sign-posting to improve access to services and advice

We aim to support individuals to address issues that impact on their health and wellbeing including;

- Loneliness and isolation
- Housing and homelessness related support
- Mental health support
- Emotional support
- Welfare and benefits
- Food bank and poverty
- Digital access

People are supported at a time of crisis or critical moment through our drop-in access model, no appointments needed.

We enable people to develop improved support networks and build resilience and determination.

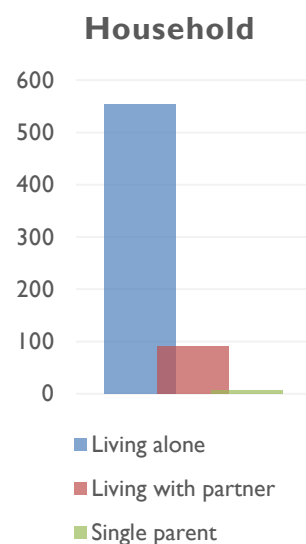
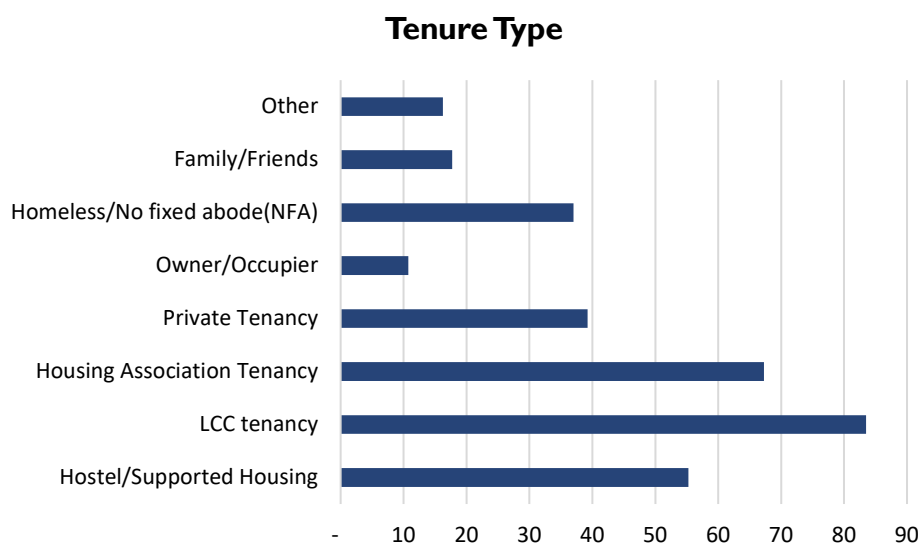
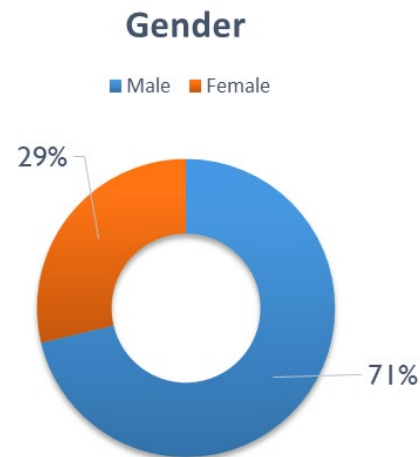
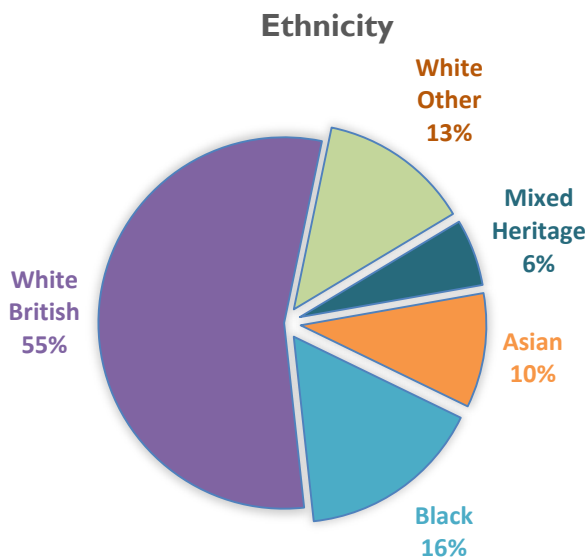
Public Benefit Statement

The Board of Trustees can confirm that it has regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on **public benefit** and that its work is reflective of this. The Charity's services were centrally based and all services were open and freely accessible to all mainly via drop-in or by telephone.

Our main activities and beneficiaries are described in this annual report. All our charitable work is undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our work is supported by appropriate policies, procedures, guidelines and governance documentation.

Annual review

Our beneficiaries



652



Number of unique beneficiaries supported

281

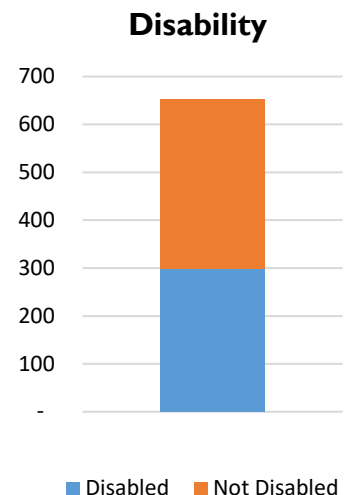
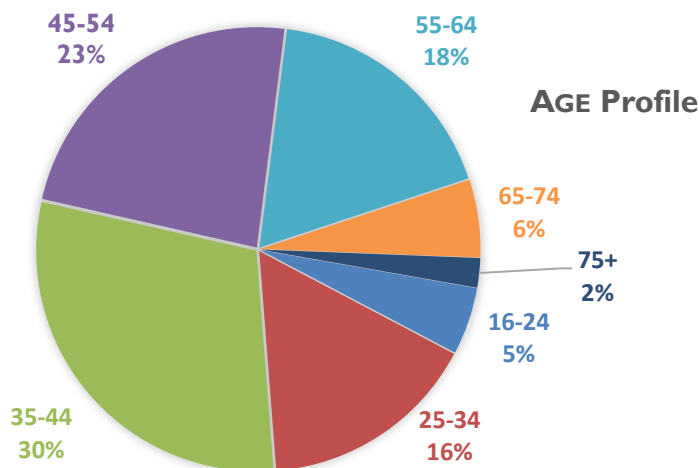


New registrations

5,696



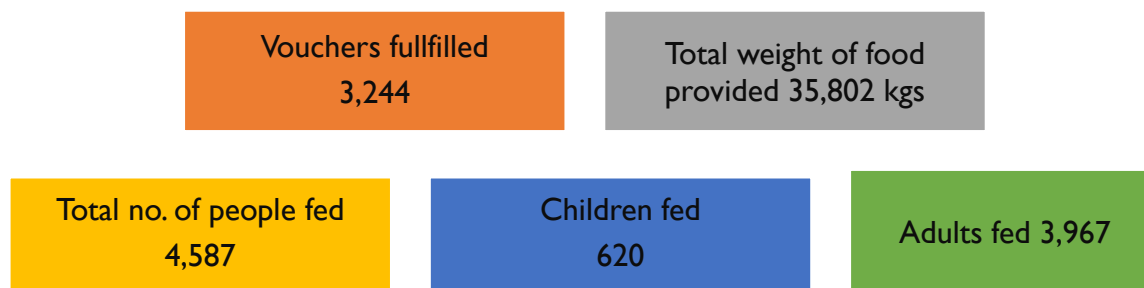
Number of visits made



Projects and Activities

Our key projects and activities for the year were as follows:

Food Bank



The Foodbank operates every Monday morning 10:00am – 1:00pm. We partner with Leicester South Foodbank (part of the Trussel Trust) who provide most of the food parcels. We saw an average of 80 people every week. Total people fed was 4% higher compared to the previous year. Our food bank presents an opportunity to talk to people about additional support needs to help reduce dependency on food banks.

Food bank users have multiple challenges, including debt, ill-health, relationship breakdown, mental health problems, gambling, substance abuse, benefits stopped or reduced because of a sanction.

In addition to getting a food parcel, people are also able to have a cup of tea and chat with our volunteers from Central Baptist Church, Leicester.

Mental health & emotional support

About 70% of people coming to the Centre Project have a mental health need and often want someone to talk to. Our activities to promote mental wellbeing are organised around the '5 ways to wellbeing' – Connecting, Being Active, Taking Notice, Learning and Giving. The group members contribute to the themes and activities.

Activities and sessions	No. attending
Cooking sessions	24
A moment for me - mindfulness, relaxation and aromatherapy	15
Look good feel good sessions- haircuts, pampering, manicures	40

Sense and savour walk - walking in nature	12
Arm chair exercises	20
'Are you well' phone calls	200
Drop-in: emotional support	179

“I enjoy wellbeing sessions especially art. They helped me to stay focused and calm. Such a dedicated team who genuinely help and care about you”

“I never let anyone touch my hair, I’ve had a bad experience before so am not bothered with getting my hair done. Today I had a good connection with staff at the salon, got a trim and I am going back for a colour. I feel uplifted” – client attending a look good feel good session.

Community Hub.

Social support is not only about providing an individual with practical assistance, but also consists of interactions and relationships that are felt to be caring, comforting and readily available in times of crisis. We have an open access model, people can come and go as they like, without needing a referral. The sessions promote;

- the development of new friendships and reduced feelings of loneliness and social isolation
- increased confidence and ability to engage in new community activities
- increased self-belief and value to society

Activities and sessions	No. attending
Summer barbeque	70
Trip to Skegness	50
Birmingham Christmas market	35
Canal boat cruise	13
Coffee mornings	106
Christmas meal	57
Roll Call - Music workshop in collaboration with DMU music department	10
Meaningful activities e.g. art & craft sessions	128
Drop-in: socialising/Peer Interaction	256

“I am glad the staff encouraged to me come for the trip, it was nice seeing the market and getting to know other people”

Health Wellbeing

To promote general health and wellbeing, we started a Self-care initiative, funded by LCCCG, to encourage and assist people to adopt behaviours that improve well-being, preserve health, and delay or prevent people needing more resource intensive care. Key outputs included

- Self-care skills and life skills guidance sessions
- Provision of self-care information and sign-posting
- Working with health providers such as Diabetes Prevention Programme, eye tests, smoking cessation, etc. to enable people to know their health status
- Facilitating access to care by providing telephone facilities for people to call their GP and other health providers
- Emotional support, reminders or encouragement. (Most of our clients are single and lack family support)
- GP registration service promotion

Activities and sessions	No. attending
Eye tests & free glasses	45
Diabetes prevention checks	21
Healthy eating - Foods to lift your mood	56
Support to contact GP/CPN	15
Stop smoking	20
Covid-19 testing kits distribution	150
Covid-19 vaccine uptake	10

A 63 year old man came to the food bank and was then offered a free eye test. He was found to have very high intraocular pressure (IOP) and was immediately referred to the hospital. He was reluctant to go to the hospital because it meant not having food when he got back home. He was encouraged to attend his appointment and a food parcel was reserved for him and asked to call us anytime. He continues to receive support e.g. to apply medication, to maintain good eye health.

Practical 1-2-1 support, information and sign-posting

We provide practical support and referrals to enable people to deal with a wide range of life experiences such as debt, threatened homelessness, accessing benefits which contribute to poor mental health. Many people seeking help at the Centre Project are at a point of crisis brought about by multiple issues such as poverty, debt, no heating, no phone credit or mobile data, long-term unemployment, poor housing and lack of social support. Some of the services included:

- Meeting with letting agent to prevent tenancy breakdown after a breakdown in communication between the client and agent/landlord.
- Visiting client's home to take meter readings and help to switch energy supplier (client cannot read/write)
- Referrals to local councillor and MP for help with long standing housing related needs
- Referrals for debt and benefit support
- Emotional support due to relationship breakdown and bereavement
- Help to make 111 calls, CPN & GP appointments
- Combating fuel poverty (supported by Western Power Distribution)

Support/service provided	No. supported
Housing/tenancy related support	166
Debt/money management	153
Telephone Access	1,020
Internet and computers access	238
Emergency food referrals	53
Access to fuel payments, tariff switching and fuel efficiency options	60
Small grant applications for household items e.g. cooker, washing machine	18
Employment support	11
DWP : benefits – application, dealing with sanctions, late payments	37
Bus pass applications	25
Appointments with external agencies (at the Centre Project)	31



Freedom Youth Club (FYC) provides a safe space for young refugees and asylum seekers, aged 13-19 year olds, to meet together, have fun as well as practical help and support.

The youth club helps prevent isolation and boredom and sustain social networks for young refugees, unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people and new arrivals.

We aim to

- Support young people's personal and social development
- Improve young people's physical and mental health and emotional well being
- Raise young people's aspirations and build their resilience.

Number of young people supported – 96

Number of contacts made with the young people – 1,458

Number of countries/nationalities represented – 15

Average age of young people attending – 17 years

Number of new registrations – 58

Average attendance per session - 21

The Freedom Youth Club serves young people from across the city. Current breakdown of members by post code is LE1-27%, LE2-23%, LE3-13%, LE4-17%, LE5-9%, and County 10%.

The Centre Project is City Centre based and accessible to all young people.

Activities and projects

The Youth club runs open drop-in sessions on Tuesday and Friday (98 sessions run in the year)

Time: 5.00pm – 8.00pm

Activities include: Table Tennis, Pool, Snooker, Table Football, Various indoor sporting activities, cyber café

The group sessions included;

- Cooking & budgeting skills – Feed yourself for a fiver, batch cooking, one pot cooking, 30-minute meals, balanced diet.
- Colours of Leicester collaboration – online magazine to capture stories of our young people's journeys and aspirations.
- DJ workshop with 2Funky Arts – 2 sessions
- Spoken word - a session around stereotypes and identity
- Community dinners during Ramadan – over 200 people attended over 4 weeks
- Screen printing on t-shirts
- Light printing and polaroid prints
- Day trip to Skegness – 23 young people attended

- Knife Crime workshop
- 26 Football sessions – (“I hadn’t played football in a while and to be back playing with my friends is so exciting, I can’t wait for next week Tuesday”)
- 10 Cricket sessions

Support and information:

- 1-2-1 practical support - Driving applications - provisional and full driving licenses (finding and booking driving tests) – 5 people
- Emergency food parcels – 10
- Clothing support – 4
- Applying for college – 4
- External appointments attended (dentist x2)
- Work, employability and careers advice
- Housing related support e.g. when moving into independent living
- Informal educational activities, one to one learning support to improve language skills
- Independent living skills & money management
- Health and wellbeing support, especially mental health
- Advocacy and practical support to ensure that their voice is heard

The sessions are run and supervised by a qualified Youth Worker supported by a youth support worker and volunteers.

Partnerships

- As part of partnership working, we have been inviting other services to come to the Centre Project to promote services or meet their clients including
 - GP registration service
 - Social prescribers
 - Health watch Leicester
 - Healthier You: Diabetes Prevention Programme
 - Social workers/CPN’s/Enablement workers
 - Drug and alcohol services
 - Opticians
- We continue to maintain a strong relationship with Central Baptist Church, who support us by allowing us to use the church building for all our activities.
- The Centre Project is a member of Reaching People – which brings together frontline delivery partners from the Voluntary and Community Sector in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.
- We continue to be members of One Roof Leicester (ORL).
- Maintained DMU Music Department to run a series of Roll Call projects at the Centre Project
- Leicester South Foodbank who continues to provide food parcels for the Foodbank. Their support has been particularly helpful during the lockdown when demand increased and they managed to keep up with our requests for increased supply.
- Our link with Neighbourly continues to enable us to get surplus products from Aldi and other businesses. This helps to supplement the Foodbank.
- Our link with Leicester College has enabled us to provide work experience and placement opportunities to 3 students during the year.
- We provide placement opportunities to Students from DMU’s BA (Hons) Youth Work and Community Development degree course. 2 students joined in the year.

The Centre Project Limited

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

- We linked with University of Derby to provide a placement opportunity to 1 student on the BA (Hons) Working with Young People and Communities course.
- Leicester College – we provide placement for students taking Health and Social Care courses
- Zinthiya Trust – provided support with our energy support project
- Pedestrian Arts – supported Freedom Youth Club to run activities for the young people over a 12 week period.

Plans for the future.

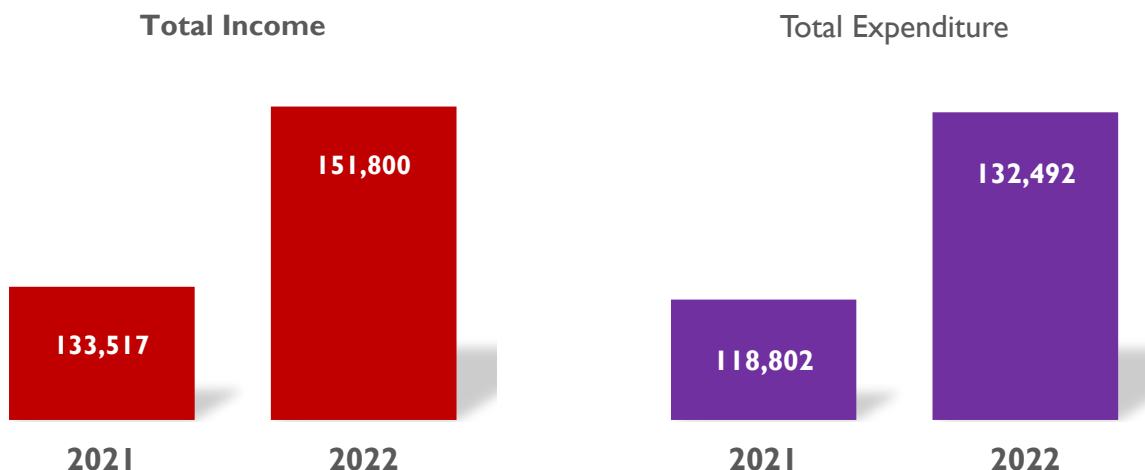
- Increase our mental health offer, with everything we do having a mental health and wellbeing focus
- Outreach and home visiting, supporting those who are not able to come to the Centre.
- Garden project - provide a therapeutic space for individuals to relax or actively engage in a range of gardening activities.
- Refurbish our premises to increase the room space and ventilation to enable us to have unrestricted drop-in sessions that have been impacted by the need for social distancing.

4. Financial Performance

The charity received income of £ 151,800 (a 4% increase over previous year).

Expenditure of £ 132,492 was incurred during the period.

Total expenditure increased by 12% compared to the previous year.



Reserves Policy

The Charity's free reserves level is currently equivalent to 7 months running costs. This will allow the Charity to cover operating costs for administration of the charity and day-to-day running costs; provide against redundancies/winding up costs if a substantial part of the charity is faced with financial loss; and to assist in maintaining cash flow. A review of the policy is undertaken annually within which the Charity's financial forecast and results of financial performance are considered to ensure that Trustees are satisfied that an adequate level of reserves is maintained without detriment to the objectives of the Charity.



The Trustees have decided to create a designated fund for building refurbishment. The pandemic highlighted the need to create more spacious and better ventilated community spaces and the designated fund will be used to meet part of the cost of making the building fit for purpose. The bulk of the build costs will be met by fundraising.

Investment Policy

Apart from ensuring that there are sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the Charity's Reserves Policy most funds received are to be expended in the short term and there is little or no scope for long term investment. The Charity has maximised opportunities to accrue bank interest on account balances and any interest received will be used in the furtherance of the Charity's work.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Board of Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law are also Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Audit:

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

5. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRE PROJECT.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year period ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 15 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Hamid Ravat BA, ACA
4 Clumber Road, Leicester

18/11/2022

The Centre Project Limited
Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	General funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and Legacies	9,663	-	9,663	9,604
Charitable activities	13,352	128,785	142,137	119,223
Other income	-	-	-	4,690
Total	23,015	128,785	151,800	133,517
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	15,837	116,160	131,997	118,661
Other	495	-	495	141
Total	16,332	116,160	132,492	118,802
Net income/(Expenditure)	6,683	12,625	19,308	14,715
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	6,683	12,625	19,308	14,715
Total funds brought forward	63,629	77,728	141,357	126,642
Total funds carried forward	70,312	90,354	160,665	141,357

Note
3

4

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.
 There are no gains and losses other than those recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities

The Centre Project Limited
Balance sheet
as at 31st March 2022

		2022	2021
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	3,528	3,007
Current assets			
Debtors	8	5,706	979
Cash at bank and in hand		166,829	156,368
Total current assets		172,535	157,347
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(15,398)	(18,997)
Net current assets		157,137	138,350
Net assets		160,665	141,357
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	10	90,433	77,729
Unrestricted funds			
General		51,704	45,621
Designated		15,000	15,000
Fixed Assets		3,528	3,007
Total unrestricted funds		70,232	63,628
Total funds		160,665	141,357

Approved by the Management Committee and is signed on its behalf by:

Mr. Martin Gage

Chairperson

Mr. Adrian Oppon

Treasurer

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities"
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

1.4 Fund Accounting

Unrestricted Funds	These are funds available for general use for any or all of the charity's permitted activities.
Restricted Funds	These are funds that can only be expended in accordance with specific restrictions. These arise either by the wishes of the donor or by the nature of the appeal.

Note 2: Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Donated services and facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at the rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Kitchen equipment 10%, Furnishing, Fittings and Equipment 15% and Office Equipment - 25%

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. However, amounts less than these may be capitalised if required as a condition of restricted funds. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Note 3 : Analysis of incoming resources

	General £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Donations and Grants				
Donations	9,663	-	9,663	9,604
Total	9,663	-	9,663	9,604
Charitable Activities				
Grants for Charitable Activities	11,406	128,785	140,191	118,783
Centre Activities	449	-	449	180
Community Opportunities	1,497	-	1,497	260
Total	13,352	128,785	142,137	119,223
Other income				
Other	-	-	-	4,690
Total	-	-	-	4,690

Grants receivable	2022	2021
Arnold Clark Foundation	2,500	-
B&Q Foundation	5,000	-
BBC Children in Need	10,000	10,000
Church Urban Fund 2	2,500	1,500
CLG Homelessness Grant	24,500	24,500
Community Foundation LLR	-	6,000
Covid-safe Communities Fund	5,000	1,050
DWP KickStart Scheme	10,797	921
Edward Gostling Foundation	-	2,000
George Ernest Ellis Foundation	-	1,500
Groundwork UK	2,000	2,000
LCC Castle Ward Fund	3,750	3,275
LCC Youth Services	10,000	10,000
Leicester City CCG	53,488	5,000
National Lottery	-	25,988
Other grants	3,905	14,279
Sporting Equals	1,001	-
The Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	10,770
Western Power Distribution	5,750	-
TOTAL	140,191	118,783

Note 4: Total resources expended

	General	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities (exp.)				
Costs directly allocated to activities				
Kitchen costs	-	-	-	-
Activities & events	594	3,556	4,150	10,299
	594	3,556	4,150	10,299
Support costs				
Staff Costs	10,019	96,512	106,531	84,750
Training	215	1,503	1,718	180
Travel & Parking	211	1,500	1,711	1,625
Volunteer expenses	106	369	475	168
Insurance	51	950	1,001	1,019
Premises costs	2,319	7,886	10,205	15,201
General office & finance	1,733	3,400	5,133	4,133
Publicity and promotion	157	-	157	322
Bank charges	32	-	32	32
Other fees	400	484	884	933
Total	15,243	112,604	127,847	108,362
Total expenditure for charitable activities	15,837	116,160	131,997	118,661
Other resources expended				
Depreciation	495	-	495	141
TOTAL	16,332	116,160	132,492	118,802

Note 5: Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No trustees or directors received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or member of the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period

During the year, the charity paid £5,736 (2021: £5,736) to Central Baptist Church for utilities and cleaning charges. The charity does not pay for use of church premises. The Church is connected to the charity and has significant influence over the charity as most board members are also members of the Central Baptist Church, Leicester.

Note 6: Staff costs and numbers

6.1 Staff Costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Gross wages, salaries	99,473	79,010
Employer's National Insurance costs	2,761	1,760
Pension costs	4,297	3,981
Total staff costs	106,531	84,750

6.2 Average number of employees in the year

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Charitable activities	6	6
Executive staff	1	1
Total	7	7

Note 7: Tangible fixed assets

7.1 Cost or valuation

	Kitchen £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Office equipment £	Total £
Balance brought forward	20,866	34,008	6,648	61,522
Additions			1,016	1,016
Disposals on revaluation	-	(7,962)	-	(7,962)
Balance carried forward	20,866	26,046	7,664	54,576

7.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions

Rate	10%	15%	25%
------	-----	-----	-----

Balance brought forward	19,411	32,826	6,277	58,515
Disposal	-	(7,962)	-	(7,962)
Depreciation charge for year	149	211	135	495
Balance carried forward	19,560	25,076	6,412	51,048

7.3 Net book value

Brought forward - 01/04/2021	1,455	1,180	371	3,007
Carried forward - 31/03/2022	1,306	970	1,252	3,529

Note 8: Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accrued income	-	-
Debtors	3,910	979
Recoverable Gift Aid	1,796	-
Prepayments	-	-
Total	5,706	979

Note 9: Creditors (Amounts falling due within one year)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	(14,120)	(11,878)
Other creditors	(1,278)	(7,119)
Total	(15,398)	(18,997)

Note 10: Movements of funds

	General Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Balance at 1 April 2021	48,549	15,000	77,809	141,358
Incoming resources	23,015	-	128,786	151,801
Outgoing resources	(16,332)	-	(116,162)	(132,494)
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2022	55,232	15,000	90,433	160,665

The Trustees have created a designated fund to cover capital building expenses and refurbishment.

THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1140710

Accounts



The Centre Project

*Reducing isolation
Promoting wellbeing*

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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Statement of financial activities (SoFA)	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12

The Centre Project Limited
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Board of Trustees presents its report and the independently examined financial statements for period ended 31 March 2021

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name: THE CENTRE PROJECT LIMITED

Charity Registration Number: 1140710

Company Registration Number: 07409088

Board of Trustees:
Rev. Craig Sweeney-Essex
Mr A. Oppon (Treasurer)
Dr R.I. Norman
Mrs R. Nelson
Mrs V. Frimpong
Mr M. Gage (Chair)

Company Secretary and Chief Executive: Mr E. Waweru

Registered Office and Operational
Address: 1 Alfred Place
Leicester
LE1 1EB

Bankers:
Bank of Scotland
Pentland House
8 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh Park,
South Gale, Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Cooperative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Southway, Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner: Mr Hamid Ravat
Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)

I. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The organisation was established as a charity in 1996. The Centre Project is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee without a share capital. It was incorporated on 15/10/2010 under a Memorandum of Association which established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The board members elect one of their members to be Chair.

The role of Company Secretary is performed by the Chief Executive who has no voting rights.

Full Board meetings are held at least 6 times per year to make decisions, set policy, and direct management.

Day to day responsibility for the management and provision of services is delegated to the Chief Executive with further delegation to managers for services, resources, administration and finance.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees are the Directors of the company for the purpose of company law. In line with the Articles of Association the company may by ordinary resolution at an annual general meeting appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director. Additionally, a person may become a Trustee at the invitation of a majority of existing Trustees. A Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next AGM but can stand for election.

Trustee induction and training

Existing Trustees are familiar with the practical work of the Charity and are encouraged to attend meetings, training and events.

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack containing relevant information covering the areas of roles and obligations; operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles of Association; resource related information and the current financial position as detailed in the latest set of accounts; and future plans and objectives.

Trustees are drawn from an appropriate range of professional and technical skills and reflect the composition of the community within which we operate.

Risk Management

The material, financial and non-financial risks that the Charity is exposed to have been identified and the risk register is updated annually. An action plan is in place to regularly review and update those items considered to be High risk.

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the Company are such activities as shall be exclusively charitable to the benefit of the community in Leicester as the directors shall from time to time determine.

The charity aims:

- To provide or assist in the provision, in the interest of social welfare, of holistic services which will promote social inclusion and enhance the quality of life for men, women and young people with the object of promoting health and wellbeing
- To serve people who are vulnerable, including refugees and asylum seekers, those affected by, or are at risk of, homelessness, loneliness and social isolation, those with learning difficulties, mental health problems, and those affected by drug and alcohol misuse
- To deliver client-centred services which are responsive to the changing needs of those we serve, whilst demonstrating Christian love through our thoughts and action.
- To provide access to support, befriending and sign-posting to improve access to services and advice

We aim to support individuals to address issues that impact on their health and wellbeing including;

- Loneliness and isolation
- Housing and homelessness related support
- Mental health
- Welfare and benefits
- Food bank and poverty
- Digital access

People are supported at a time of crisis or critical moment through our drop-in access model, no appointments needed.

We enable people to develop improved support networks and build resilience and determination.

Public Benefit Statement

The Board of Trustees can confirm that it has regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on **public benefit** and that its work is reflective of this. The Charity's services were centrally based and all services were open and freely accessible to all mainly via drop-in or by telephone.

Our main activities and beneficiaries are described in this annual report. All our charitable work is undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our work is supported by appropriate policies, procedures, guidelines and governance documentation.

Annual review



Our provision and Activities

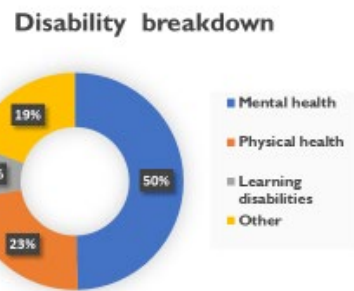
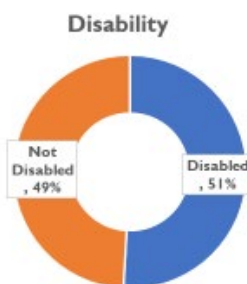
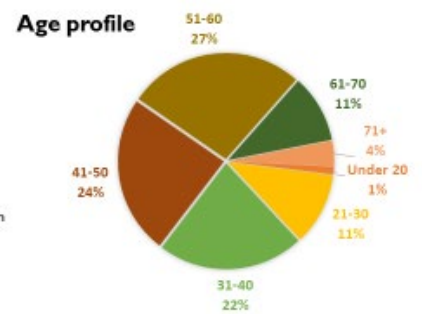
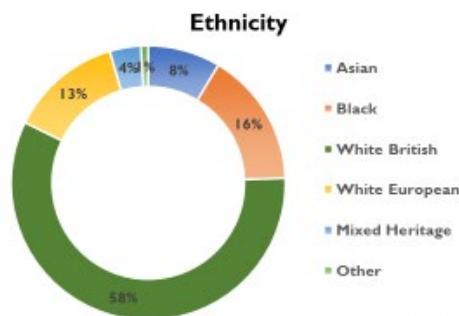


It has been a challenging year. We have seen the restrictions imposed on us as a result of Covid-19 impact on our key activities and the people who rely on us.

Our centre had to close its doors on Friday 20th March 2020 following the Covid-19 outbreak in the UK. Though we had to stop face to face consultation and group activities, we remained on the frontline providing food parcels, staying in touch with clients via telephone and WhatsApp to help them to access support when needed.

We also supported people’s wellbeing during isolation, which we recognise was incredibly tough for many people. We made regular ‘social check-in’ phone calls to check in with clients. As the restrictions lifted we were able to provide in-person support to some of our clients who found the isolation and loneliness of the lockdown particularly difficult to deal with.

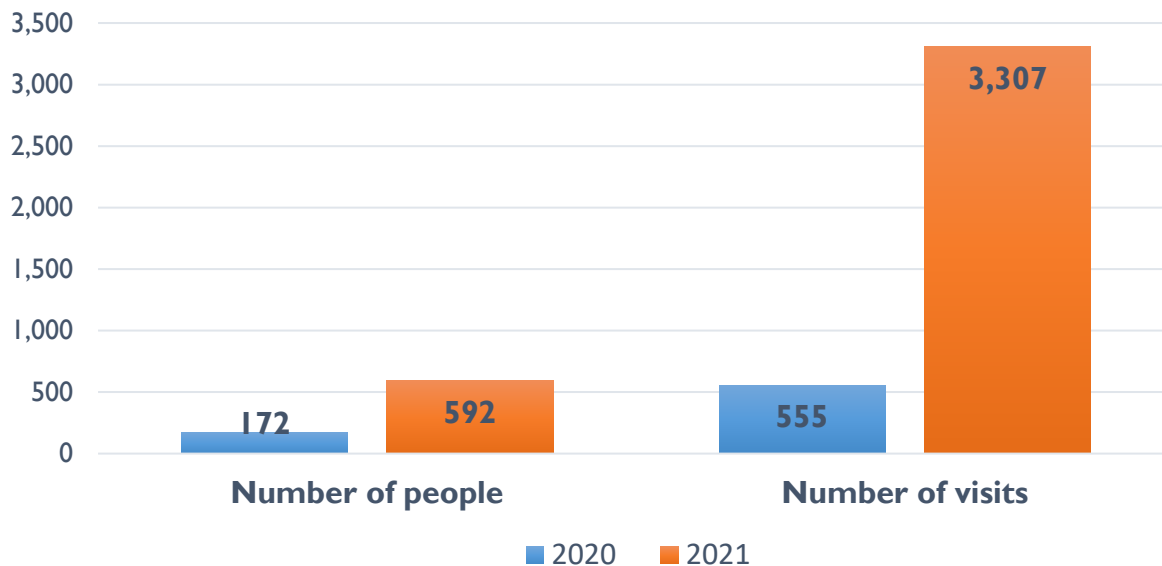
Who we serve



Activity and projects

Food Bank

The beginning of the pandemic in March 2020 was characterised by a shortage of food and household items, which greatly impacted our service users. As covid-19 restrictions forced us to suspend our day centre activities, the demand for emergency food parcels increased significantly and the Board decided to operate a food bank in partnership with South Leicestershire Food Bank to meet this need. The year saw a huge 244% increase in the number of people getting support food and support at our Monday morning Food bank.



People Fed	4,404	Adults 3,680	Children 724
Total weight of food distributed	32,283kgs		

We would like to thank our staff and volunteers for keeping this service open and available to anyone in need of food, including those people who were self-isolating. Our thanks also to all the donors and supporters who have enabled us to scale up our operations to meet the increase in demand. The Foodbank continues to be well used by the community and it will continue to be one of our core activities in 2022.

Community Hub.





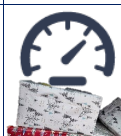



Social support is not only about providing an individual with practical assistance, but also consists of interactions and relationships that are felt to be caring, comforting and readily available in times of need.

Covid-19 restrictions led to closure of the day centre, suspending of face to face support. The closure of community centres, the ban of large gatherings and the advice to people to self-isolate, posed an existential challenge for our service users who struggled to remain at home. Many used our day centre for support and the closure means they were extremely lonely with no support networks. Loneliness featured prominently as one of the key issues affecting most people’s mental and physical welling. Often people just wanted a face to face interaction and group activities.

We responded to the needs of our community by providing

- **1-2-1 support.** We provided in-person support for people seeking general social support, digital and phone access to doctors, dentists, housing, benefits etc.
- **Social check-in.** We have been making weekly phones calls to our members to find out how they are doing. People are pleased to be called and often surprised that someone remembered them.

- **Mental health & emotional support** – Feedback from the weekly calls was that people struggled with loneliness and isolation, complaining of long days and nights, not going out or talking to anyone- which is ‘doing their head in’. So, we started to invited people who are struggling for a coffee and chat (socially distanced and covid-19 safe). We offered active listening, confidence building and working with the client to develop skills and strategies for dealing with issues that may be affecting their mental health.
- **12 Days to Christmas** – prepared and delivered individualised Christmas boxes, including face masks, activity and information packs, to people who would be alone at Christmas. We contacted 110 people about what they needed for Christmas. Sourced, prepared and delivered the boxes within 4 days.

 <p>110 people asked if they wanted a special Christmas package. 82 people responded positively and said what they preferred to get. Others people declined because they felt other people needed it more.</p>	 <p>71 people benefited</p>	<p>Items in the box included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas dinner (of choice) , soup, pigs in blanket, fresh vegetables, pudding, mince pies, cheese, crackers, chocolate, soft drink, milk, fresh fruit, tea, drinking chocolate or coffee, cereal, biscuits • Reusable face masks • Hand sanitiser gel & hand wash • Toiletries • Activity pack e.g. puzzle book, drawing book, crosswords, board games • Information on services available over Christmas and where to get help if needed 	<p>Personal considerations included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotel meals - due to lack of cooking facilities or unable to prepare a meal. • Halal meat • Choice of meat – turkey, chicken, beef • Vegan /Vegetarian • Religious reasons e.g. halal, no beef, pork • Fish option • Allergies • Spicy items • Pet food (cat & dog food) • No cheese • Tin openers • Type of activity pack <p>Every box had someone's name on it with their personal requests</p>	
 <p>51 Boxes delivered, 11 collected in person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 153 face masks • 72 bottles of hand gel • 22 hot/ready made meals • 80 activity packs • 150 information flyers 	 <p>49 Miles Distance covered by staff and volunteers making the deliveries</p>	 <p>4 days The time it took to plan, call, purchase, cook, pack and deliver the packages in time for Christmas</p>	
<p>"I was going to be alone over the Christmas now I have something which will enable me to invite my son over and make a meal for us both over the festive period. Thanks" KW</p>	<p>"I was not going to do anything, very grateful you all thought of me Thank you" MA</p>	<p>40 New Year Gift bags distributed</p> 	 <p>The New year gift bags given out to people coming for a hot meal</p>	
<p>DI finds it hard to concentrate for more than a few minutes. He can't put 2 pans on the hob at the same time. He is grateful for a Christmas box for he and his partner can have a full Christmas meal without the stress of cooking. "I will just have to pop it in the microwave!"</p>		<p>A call from the Centre to offer a Christmas box "surprised" her and her partner at Christmas. TT</p>		

- **Small group activities** – Art and Craft and Nutritious Living activity groups. When Covid-19 guidelines eased, we started to have small group activities geared at promoting both physical and mental health. The sessions were organised around the ‘5 ways to wellbeing’ – Connecting, Being Active, Taking Notice, Learning and Giving. The group members contribute to the themes and activities which have included cooking, baking, quizzes, mindfulness, how to..., anger management and friendships.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive with comments such as

- “Enjoyed wellbeing sessions especially art really helps to stay focused and calm. Such a dedicated team who genuinely help and care about you.”
- “Enjoyed the fresh cooked meals, makes a change to the vast amount of processed food.”
- “Very therapeutic and de-stressor – loved it. Helps and encourages me to eat better and socialise with more confidence which is much needed.”



Supporting people and reducing isolation in challenging times

Individuals supported 631	Total contacts made 4,073
In-person support 257	Group sessions 122
Emotional support 346	Mental health support 249
Welfare check-phone calls made 1,184	Hot meals distributed 285



Freedom Youth Club (FYC) provides a safe space for young refugees and asylum seekers, aged 13-19 year olds, to meet together, have fun as well as practical help and support.

Impact of Covid-19

- Suspended all indoor youth club activities as per government guidance between April and June 2020, however we continued to support our young people by phone and social media.
- Resumed limited indoor sessions and in-person support in July 2020 working within government and National Youth Agency (NYA) guidelines.
- Provided outdoor activities like football and cricket, but this was affected by the second lockdown, however indoor club sessions continued by invitation only, targeted at the most vulnerable young people.



What we offered

- **Activities like pool, table tennis, x-box, football**
- **A range of workshops and activities including:**
 - ✓ **Drugs, alcohol and substance misuse**
 - ✓ **Work, employability and careers advice**
 - ✓ **Informal educational activities**
 - ✓ **Art and craft sessions**
 - ✓ **1-2-1 learning support including homework support**
 - ✓ **Independent living skills & money management**
 - ✓ **Health and wellbeing support, focusing on mental health**
 - ✓ **Advocacy and practical support to ensure that their voices are heard**
- **Held consultative meetings with the young people, on an ongoing basis, to determine what their needs are and how best we can go about meeting these needs**

Number of young people supported – 52
Number of contacts made with the young people 582

Partnerships

- We continue to maintain a strong relationship with Central Baptist Church, who support us by allowing us to use the church building for all our activities.
- The Centre Project is a member of Reaching People – which brings together frontline delivery partners from the Voluntary and Community Sector in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.
- The Centre Project is member of Leicester and Leicestershire Citizens.
- We continue to be members of One Roof Leicester (ORL).
- The Sound Café and The Centre Project signed a Memorandum of understanding and agreed to work on developing joint projects that benefit our mutual clients.
- Maintained DMU Music Department to run a series of Roll Call projects at the Centre Project
- Leicester South Foodbank who continues to provide food parcels for the Foodbank. Their support has been particularly helpful during the lockdown when demand increased and they managed to keep up with our requests for increased supply.
- Our link with Neighbourly continues to enable us to get surplus products from Aldi and other businesses. This helps to supplement the Foodbank.
- Our link with Leicester College has enabled us to provide work experience and placement opportunities to 3 students during the year.
- We provide placement opportunities to Students from DMU's BA (Hons) Youth Work and Community Development degree course. 2 students joined in the year.
- We linked with University of Derby to provide a placement opportunity to 1 student on the BA (Hons) Working with Young People and Communities course.
- Leicester College – we provide placement for students in taking Health and Social Care courses

Client involvement

We have worked hard to keep client involvement at the centre of our work during the pandemic. We made weekly wellbeing phone calls to all our clients not only to find out how they were doing, but also how we could best support them cope with the impact of the lockdown. We also used social media to enable our clients, especially the young people to give us feedback and make suggestions on how we deliver our services.

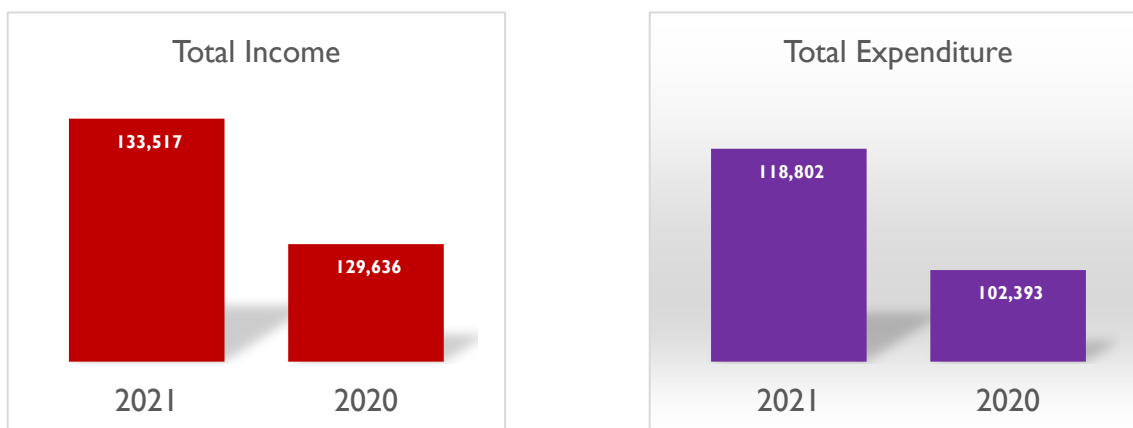
Plans for the future.

- Increase our mental health offer, with everything we do having a mental health and wellbeing focus
- Outreach and home visiting, supporting those who are not able to come to the Centre.
- Garden project - provide a therapeutic space for individuals to relax or actively engage in a range of gardening activities.
- Refurbish our premises to increase the room space and ventilation to enable us to have unrestricted drop-in sessions that have been impacted by the need for social distancing.

3. Financial Performance

The charity received income of £ 133,517 (a 3% increase over previous year).

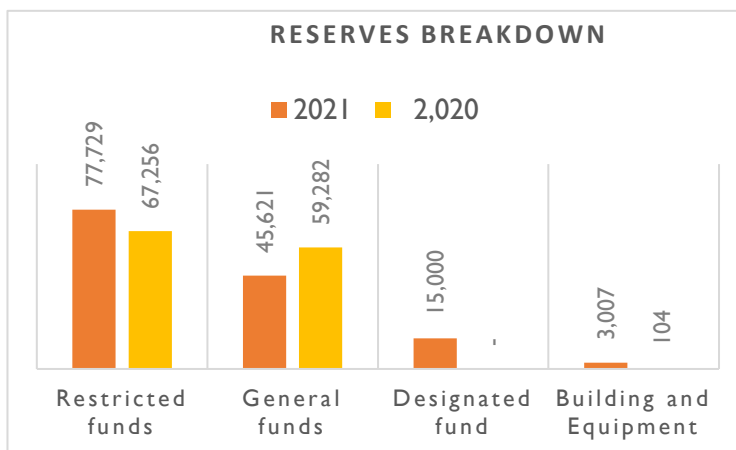
Expenditure of £ 118,802 was incurred during the period.



The principal funding sources for the charity are by way of grants and income from our day opportunities for adults with learning difficulties.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's free reserves level is currently equivalent to 7 months running costs. This will allow the Charity to cover operating costs for administration of the charity and day-to-day running costs; provide against redundancies/winding up costs if a substantial part of the charity is faced with financial loss; and to assist in maintaining cash flow. A review of the policy is undertaken annually within which the Charity's financial forecast



and results of financial performance are considered to ensure that Trustees are satisfied that an adequate level of reserves is maintained without detriment to the objectives of the Charity.

The Trustees have decided to create a designated fund for building refurbishment. The pandemic highlighted the need to create more spacious and better ventilated community spaces and the designated fund will be used to meet part of the cost of making the building fit for purpose. The bulk of the build costs will be met by fundraising.

Investment Policy

Apart from ensuring that there are sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the Charity's Reserves Policy most funds received are to be expended in the short term and there is little or no scope for long term investment. The Charity has maximised opportunities to accrue bank interest on account balances and any interest received will be used in the furtherance of the Charity's work.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Board of Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law are also Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Audit:

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

4. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRE PROJECT.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year period ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 13 to 20.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Hamid Ravat BA, ACA
4 Clumber Road, Leicester

3/12/2021

The Centre Project Limited
Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	General funds	Restricted funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and Legacies	7,719	1,885	9,604	4,125
Charitable activities	16,690	102,533	119,223	125,011
Other income	3,769	921	4,690	500
Total	28,178	105,339	133,517	129,636
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	23,874	94,787	118,661	102,323
Other	141	-	141	70
Total	24,015	94,787	118,802	102,393
Net income/(Expenditure)	4,163	10,552	14,715	27,243
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	4,163	10,552	14,715	27,243
Total funds brought forward	59,386	67,256	126,642	99,399
Total funds carried forward	63,549	77,808	141,357	126,642

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

There are no gains and losses other than those recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities

The Centre Project Limited
Statement of Financial Position
For the year ended 31st March 2021

		2021	2020
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	3,007	104
Current assets			
Debtors	8	979	10,188
Cash at bank and in hand		156,368	128,856
Total current assets		157,347	139,044
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(18,997)	(12,506)
Net current assets		138,350	126,538
Net assets		141,357	126,642
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	10	77,808	67,256
Unrestricted funds			
General		45,542	59,282
Designated	11	15,000	-
Fixed Assets		3,007	104
Total unrestricted funds		63,549	59,386
Total funds		141,357	126,642

Approved by the Management Committee and is signed on its behalf by:

Mr. Martin Gage

Chairperson

Mr. Adrian Oppon

Treasurer

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities"
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

1.4 Fund Accounting

Unrestricted Funds	These are funds available for general use for any or all of the charity's permitted activities.
Restricted Funds	These are funds that can only be expended in accordance with specific restrictions. These arise either by the wishes of the donor or by the nature of the appeal.

Note 2: Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources with related expenditure Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Donated services and facilities These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer help The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Investment income This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Depreciation Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at the rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Kitchen equipment 10%, Furnishing, Fittings and Equipment 15% and Office Equipment - 25%

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. However, amounts less than these may be capitalised if required as a condition of restricted funds. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Note 3 : Analysis of incoming resources

	General £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Donations and Grants				
Donations	7,719	1,885	9,604	4,125
Total	7,719	1,885	9,604	4,125

Charitable Activities

Grants for Charitable Activities	16,250	102,533	118,783	99,978
Centre Activities	180	-	180	2,452
Community Opportunities	260	-	260	15,320
Food and drink	-	-	-	4,211
Partner contributions	-	-	-	3,050
Total	16,690	102,533	119,223	125,011

Other income

	-	-	-	-
Other	3,769	921	4,690	500
Total	3,769	921	4,690	500

Note 4: Total resources expended

	General	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities (exp.)				
Costs directly allocated to activities				
Kitchen costs	-	-	-	1,448
Activities & events	6,928	3,371	10,299	4,076
	6,928	3,371	10,299	5,524
Support costs				
Staff Costs	10,116	74,634	84,750	78,168
Training	180	-	180	1,324
Travel & Parking	625	1,000	1,625	1,500
Volunteer expenses	108	60	168	462
Insurance	189	830	1,019	901
Premises costs	2,529	12,672	15,201	9,408
General office & finance	2,033	2,100	4,133	3,976
Publicity and promotion	322	-	322	182
Bank charges	32	-	32	32
Other fees	732	200	932	847
Total	16,866	91,496	108,362	96,799
Total expenditure for charitable activities	23,794	94,867	118,661	102,323
Other resources expended				
Depreciation	141	-	141	70
TOTAL	23,935	94,867	118,802	70

Note 5: Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No trustees or directors received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or member of the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period

During the year, the charity paid £5,736 (2020: £5,736) to Central Baptist Church for utilities and cleaning charges. The charity does not pay for use of church premises. The Church is connected to the charity and has significant influence over the charity as most board members are also members of the Central Baptist Church, Leicester.

Note 6: Staff costs and numbers

6.1 Staff Costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	79,010	73,475
Employer's National Insurance costs	1,760	1,611
Pension costs	3,980	3,083
Total staff costs	84,750	78,169

6.2 Average number of employees in the year

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	6	5
Executive staff	1	1
Total	7	6

Note 7: Fixed assets

7.1 Cost or valuation

	Kitchen	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	19,379	32,836	8,153	60,368
Additions	1,487	1,172	384	3,043
Disposals on revaluation	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	20,866	34,008	8,537	63,411

7.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions

Rate	10%	15%	25%
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Balance brought forward	19,379	32,730	8,154	60,263
Disposal	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year	32	97	12	141
Balance carried forward	19,411	32,827	8,166	60,404

7.3 Net book value

Brought forward - 01/04/2020	-	104	-	104
Carried forward - 31/03/2021	1,455	1,181	371	3,007

Note 8: Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accrued income	-	6,125
Debtors	979	3,200
Recoverable Gift Aid	-	620
Prepayments	-	243
Total	979	10,188

Note 9: Creditors (Amounts falling due within one year)

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	(11,878)	(9,998)
Other creditors	(7,119)	(2,508)
Total	(18,997)	(12,506)

Note 10: Movements of major funds

Fund name	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
General fund	59,386	28,178	(24,015)	(15,000)	48,549
Capital Fund- Buildings & Equip.	-	-	-	15,000	15,000
BBC Children in Need	4,398	10,000	(9,890)	-	4,508
Carlton Hayes Charity	2,881	-	-	-	2,881
Church Urban Fund 2	2,219	1,500	-	-	3,719
CLG Homelessness Grant	2,984	24,500	(24,611)	-	2,873
Community Development Fund	865	-	-	-	865
Community Foundation LLR	1,550	6,000	(2,265)	-	5,285
DWP KickStart Scheme	-	921	(921)	-	-
Edward Gostling Foundation	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Freedom club	-	11,885	(8,362)	-	3,523
George Ernest Ellis Foundation	367	1,500	-	-	1,867
Groundwork UK	5,531	2,000	-	-	7,531
Judith Sharpe	3,500	-	-	-	3,500
LCC Castle Ward Fund	1,162	3,275	(3,275)	-	1,162
Leicester City CCG	40,599	5,000	(28,325)	-	17,274
National Lottery	-	25,988	(16,596)	-	9,392
The Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	10,770	(542)	-	10,228
Youth Opportunities Fund	1,200	-	-	-	1,200
Total Funds	126,642	133,517	(118,802)	-	141,357

Thank you

- To our Trustees, Staff and volunteers
- Every donation we receive is greatly appreciated. We wish to say a thank you to all our supporters who made donations of their time and energy or gave financial support to The Centre Project during 2020-21.
- We would like to acknowledge the partners and funders we worked with:
 - Leicester City Council
 - Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group
 - BBC Children in Need
 - Pedestrian Arts
 - Central Baptist Church
 - Zinhiya Trust
 - South Leicestershire Food Bank
 - The Barrow Cadbury Trust
 - Groundwork UK
 - Severn Trent Water
 - Whitehall Primary school
 - iStyle Events
 - DMU Music Department and MetamorPhonics
 - HSBC_UK Leicester Clock Tower Team
 - Leicestershire Cares
 - Ward 23 & 31 – Leicester Royal Infirmary
 - One Roof Leicester
 - Nylacast
 - Neighbourly Community Funds
 - The Race Equality Centre –RMVCS
 - National Lottery Community Fund
 - Hinckley & Rugby Building Society
 - The George Ernest Ellis Foundation

