

THE RIVER MANCHESTER
A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
(CHARITY No. 1153700)
Annual Report & Accounts
For the year ending MARCH 2022

THE RIVER MANCHESTER
SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION

Registered Name
Charity Incorporated
Organisation The River
Manchester

Registration no. 1153700

Trustees
Terry Carthy, Chairman
Sefadzi Kofi Amesu
Lesley Wiseman (stepped down on 11/2/2022)
Deborah Fuller

Registered Office
3 Pepperhill Road
Moss Side
Manchester M16 7PD

Independent Examiners
Rana & Co
P O Box 145
Manchester M19 1UY

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank
Delf House, Southway,
Skelmersdale, Lancashire WN8 6NY

The River Manchester Trustees Annual Report YEAR ENDED 31ST March 2022

Charity Incorporated Organisation registered with The Charity Commission on 6th September 2013.

The Trustees, present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The Trustees throughout the Year and to the date of this report and their advisors are set out on the accompanying Information Page.

Structure, Governance and Management

The management and administration is carried out by the Chief Executive, Mrs Lydia Chan who reports to the board of trustees. She is assisted in the day to day operation by 2 staff members Project Co-ordinator Janet Wong and Food Development cum Driver Andre Gordon-Ollivierre and a core of 10 volunteers. Andre's funded position ended in March 2021 and Janet Wong resigned in July 2021. Donna Barber joined us in September 2021 as Project Coordinator.

The board of Trustees meet quarterly, also regularly at other times to review progress, and to plan for the future development of the Charity. Lesley Wiseman stepped down as trustee due to health reasons on 1/2/22.

Trustees Statement - Public benefit

Our objectives, as outlined below, have been designed with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in mind. Throughout this year we have pursued these objectives as we have reviewed our activities both informally and in our official trustees meetings. At all times we have had regard to the Commission's guidance on the public benefit requirement.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity has the following objectives which are:

The relief and support of persons who have suffered or are in danger or suffering, from social and emotional difficulties, whether fleeing domestic violence from sex related violence or abuse, their children and dependants by the provision of food, clothing, furniture, friendship, training and other assistance.

Activities

Fundamental to the work of the charity is our faith in Jesus Christ; our Christian faith brings hope and change, where faith and action can bring freedom to those who are captives and victims of domestic abuse. We demonstrate our faith in practical ways where we are able to offer a safe place for connections to be made, a place where practical provision of food, clothing, furniture and practical training is made available to help people move on in their lives and most importantly in prayer.

The covid-19 pandemic affected us in late March 2020 where we had to observe government guidelines in closing our retail shop, our cafe, training in house, outreaches in refugees and external activities. With much uncertainty with the government guidelines, the shop could only start operating from July 2021 onwards. As many charities faced a dire situation of not being operational, we chose to keep our frontline key services open to meet the emergencies which meant that our services escalated in referrals. Our frontline services were kept opened 2 days a week to cater for the need of providing the following: food parcels, move to safety and collection/deliveries for essential furniture whilst office staff worked from home. The following services took place:

1. provision of emergency food parcels. We saw a slight decline of food parcels from 2026 referrals (2021) to 1700 referrals (2022) for women, children and men.

2. furniture and collections and deliveries of furniture and starter packs for electrical items i.e. washing machines. We continued with collection for beds, washers, etc as there was a growth in demand due to charity shops not being open during the pandemic and clients' were being rehoused escalated.
3. work experience and training and a safe place to connect – we moved away from digital online activity back to face to face with when things were back to normal on a weekly basis and began a series of training in mental health workshops.
4. Move to safety-supporting 80 moves for single mothers and their children.
5. Cooking in refugees: this was discontinued due to social distancing.
6. Painting project: due to social distancing, we could not provide this service as it was dependent on volunteers' time.

Activities in the year

With the covid pandemic in the last 2 years, the charity received emergency grants to deliver covid-19 support, increasing our revenue by 50%. This new income level was

maintained in 2022 even though these covid grants were not repeated. The grants helped us provide 1700 emergency food parcels, helped move 80 families to safety, funded a staff's position and covered costs for staff on furlough.

We also began to strategise developing the charity's intervention programme where we started providing 1-2-1 emotional support and mental health workshops.

Retail and cafe:

The charity operates two enterprises i.e. the charity shop and a cafe. With the lockdown over, the charity shop resumed services but the cafe remained closed until we managed to refurbish the cafe area in December 2021. We managed to fundraise £1,100 to help lay the flooring and repaint the area and purchase some new furniture. There were also increased online sales activities on ebay to sell high and unusual products donated to the charity. We managed to source a supplier for new single mattresses and new furniture that helped increase our sales income.

Removal service

With a relatively small and dedicated team of volunteers, we were able to provide an emergency moving service. This service increased in demand and we were able to secure funding to provide this as a low cost/free service to 80 referrals for women and children. This service is provided via our volunteer drivers and 2 assistants throughout the week.

We attempted to increase getting our charity known by getting the charity's logo on our van. This did pose problems as it could jeopardise our moves by disclosing the nature of our business whilst moving clients onwards. The logo was then removed.

Training and skills

With Donna's new post funded, she was able to deliver 1-2-1 emotional support and recruited 45 volunteers/trainees to train in our retail areas. They were offered pre-employment courses, job clubs and mentoring on a 1-2-1 to assist them back to work. We ran training in Living Life to the full, a cognitive behaviour therapy to help our clients who suffer with their mental health improve their mood and coping skills. We also had two five weeks courses on mindfulness with significant improvement in client's mental health.

We ran the following events:

- The International Women's day with celebrating different cultures, craft activities,
- On December 10, a 16 days of action against gender violence themed on an exhibition running away in their shoes which was well attended to commemorate those who were killed due to domestic abuse.
- We took 28 people to attend a pantomime.
- We also created a part-time job to enable our client to progress further to work and empower them.

Impact and achievements

We continue to have an impact in releasing people to recover from their wounds into people who are safe, connected and confident to become independent people who can realise their dreams, move into jobs, feel secure and improved well-being. Beneficiaries felt connected, found 1-2-1 support, were confident, happier and found their own voice and improved outcomes in mental health and job aspirations. Our referrals are mainly from high risk beneficiaries referred from Women's Aid, Independent Domestic Advisors, Early Help, Children's Services, Social Services and WAST.

Testimony: "This place has given me hope again after my trauma of being abused. I felt cared for, nurtured and skills to cope with my mental health. Nobody has cared for me like this place and I want to be here every day."

Plans for the future and challenges

The charity's plan is to continue empowering people through its services and build stronger relationships with other referral agencies to work with these beneficiaries and recruit more trainees to participate in our training programme. We will also attempt to create part-time funded jobs to empower people back to work. The charity continues to operate from a limited space and would like to refurbish the shop floor in the following year.

Financial review

During the initial period 2021-22, The River Manchester's income was affected by the closure of the shop. We diversified our income stream through grants to continue providing emergency help to our beneficiaries. The same corporate funder enabled us to continue to help families flee from their perpetrators and rebuild a new life elsewhere for the 2nd year in succession.

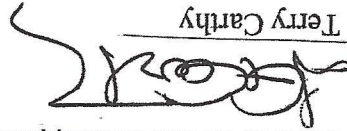
The charity currently has been able to build a 6 months reserve (£60,000) to cover 6 months operating costs, objectives and risks that it might face as well as plans for growth and expansion.

The plan for the next year will be to improve our level of services and to engage with more agencies, local businesses and further presentations to garner support from churches, schools and local communities.

Independent Examiner

Rana & Co has been appointed as independent examiner for the year.

Terry Carthy
Chair of Trustees



Independent Examiner's Report on the Trustees of The River Manchester

I wish to report of the accounts of the River Manchester for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 1 to 6

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 examiner's statement

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 2011 Charities Act;

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting
requirements of the 2011 Charities Act have 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

Rana & Co

 13/9/2022

Independent Examiner
PO Box 145,
Manchester
M19 1UY.

THE RIVER MANCHESTER

Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2022	Total	2021	2021	Total
		Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £		Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	
Incoming Resources							
Incoming resources from generated fun	3						
Voluntary Income	3.1	25228	63609	88837	22696	71943	94639
Activities in generating Incom	3.2	49493		49493	32102	6314	38416
Investment Income	3.3	-	-		-	-	
Incoming Resources from charitable activities			-			-	
Total Incoming Resources		74721	63609	138330	54798	78258	133055
Resources Expended							
Cost of generating Funds	4						
Charitable Activities	4.1	57763	45589	103353	21428	62225	83653
Other Resources expended		1018	-	1018	1272	-	1272
Gains/Losses Asset-Loss on Disposal		-			-		
Total Resource Expended		58781	45589	104371	22700	62225	84925
Net Movements in Funds		15940	18020	33959	32097	16033	48130
Reconciliation of Funds							
Total funds brought forward from previous year		64582	16758	81340	32484	725	33209
Total Funds carried forward		80522	34778	115299	64581	16758	81339

THE RIVER MANCHESTER

Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2022

	2022	2022		2021	2021	
	Unrestricted	Restricted		Unrestricted	Restricted	
	Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
Fixed Assets	4,070	-	4,070	5,088	-	5,088
Currents Assets						
Debtors	2,600	-	2,600	2,600	1,000	3,600
Bank Current Account	79,336	34,447	113,783	60,779	17,158	77,937
Cash in hand	23	-	23	159	-	159
	81,959	34,447	116,406	63,538	18,158	81,696
Current Liabilities						
Accrual	5,097	80	5,177	4,044	1,400	5,444
Net Current Asset	76,862	34,367	111,229	59,494	16,758	76,252
Total Net Asset	80,932	34,367	115,299	64,582	16,758	81,340
less current liabilities						
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted Fund	80,522	-	80,522	64,582	-	64,582
Restricted Fund		34,778	34,778		16,758	16,758
Total Funds	80,522	34,778	115,299	64,582	16,758	81,340

THE RIVER MANCHESTER

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

* Accounting and reporting by Charities - statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015);

* and with*

--

 accounting standards;
or

* and with the Charities Act.

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

This set of accounts represent The River Manchester second year financial reporting.

2. Accounting policies

This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity except for those deleted. Where a difference or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.

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 at the same time as the gift to which they relate.
Gifts in kind	Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.
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.
Governance costs	Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.
Support Costs	Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.
Assets Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	Van YH63FML Depreciated £1,018 for 12 months to 31 March 2022.

4. Analysis of resources expended

4.1 Cost of Charitable activities

	2022	2021
	Total	Total
	£	£
Fundraising cost	-	584
Salaries and wages	47587	38317
PAYE/Employee NI	11493	7340
Pension Contribution	2509	2076
Staff Training Cost	27	55
Volunteers Training Cost	805	59
Vehicle Repair/Hire Cost	973	829
Van Petrol Expenses	1314	2031
Volunteer Travel Expenses	1787	1365
Volunteer Expenses	2303	646
Project Cost	4056	4263
Heat & Light	3945	1547
Rent	15908	13481
Business/Water Rates	471	313
Insurances	1031	1878
Caretaking	533	339
Repairs & Maintenance	881	390
Postage & Stationery/printing	510	201
Phone & Internet	772	2061
Publicity Cost	162	400
IT Cost	-	262
Equipment Purchase	734	511
Materials Cost	-	-
Cafeteria Purchase	192	-
Cafeteria Equipment	296	-
	<u>98289</u>	<u>78950</u>

4.2 Governance Cost

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
Audit & Accountancy Cost	3750	3750
Bank Charges	600	459
Fees Paid	714	494
	<u>5064</u>	<u>4703</u>
Other Resources Cost		
Depreciation Motor Vehicle	<u>1018</u>	<u>1272</u>
Gains and Losses		
Asset Write off Van	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

3. Analysis of Incoming resources

3.1 Voluntary Income	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£
Donation from individuals	22690	16096
Gift Aid Tax Claimed	3828	-
Grants	62319	78543
	<u>88837</u>	<u>94639</u>
3.2 Activities for generating funds	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
Sponsorship -HMRC 80% Job Retention Grant	770	6314
Sales of Donated Goods	48723	32102
	<u>49493</u>	<u>38416</u>
3.3 Investment Income	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
Bank Interest Received	-	-
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
3.4 Charitable Activities Income		
Van Donation Received	-	-
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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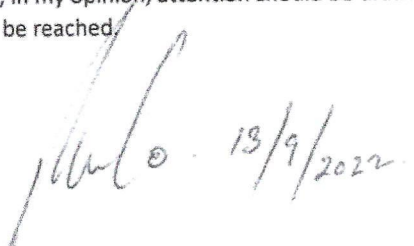
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