

# THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW

England & Wales · Charity number 1158760

## Details

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**Other names** TSPH

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Company number** [CE003059](#)

**Registered** 2014-10-02

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 10 Augustus Close  
Brentford  
TW8 8QE

**Phone** 02085681146

**Email** [jpcorbin195@btinternet.com](mailto:jpcorbin195@btinternet.com)

**Website** [www.tsph.org](http://www.tsph.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED BY REASON OF HOMELESSNESS BY PROVIDING TEMPORARY WINTER ACCOMMODATION TO SUCH PERSONS WHO ARE PRIMARILY, BUT NOT NECESSARILY, FROM THE BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW, AND TO HELP THEM RE-INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY.

**Activities:** From Jan 2012 to Mar 2020 The Shelter Project Hounslow (TSPH) volunteers provided homeless men with a warm meal, overnight accommodation and breakfast over winter months in local Christian churches. Such communal shelters are not compliant with Covid regulations so TSPH now operates as Cafe Together to offer a warm welcome and a hot meal to the vulnerable in society more generally.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Accommodation/housing
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- Hounslow

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£2,185	£3,181	-	-
2024-08-31	£2,723	£1,682	-	-
2023-08-31	£4,555	£2,416	-	-
2022-08-31	£2,406	£17,126	-	-
2021-08-31	£17,345	£24,098	-	-
2020-08-31	£20,549	£27,808	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jennifer Priscilla Corbin Mrs		2026-02-14
MARY MACLEOD		2026-02-14
Margaret Ann Logan Mrs		2026-04-25
Peter Simons Mr		2026-02-14
Stephen Clinton Joyce		2026-02-14

**THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

England & Wales - Charity number 1158760

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# Accounts

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Charity Number 1158760

## **THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2025**

**FINAL DRAFT 260504**

**Approved by the Trustees**



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

*The MBE for volunteer groups*

The Shelter Project Hounslow was awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2017

## **Introduction**

The story of the Shelter Project Hounslow (TSPH) has always been about the power in working together for the benefit of our less fortunate and more vulnerable neighbours.

The charity was formed in January 2012 to co-ordinate Christian churches across the London Borough of Hounslow. By working together, individual church communities, each operating a homeless shelter on just one night of the week could offer homeless men a warm welcome, an evening meal, a comfortable bed for the night, a cooked breakfast in the morning on every night of the week throughout the coldest months of the year.

This initiative was largely funded by the participating churches, their church communities and some generous individuals and local businesses. The churches made their venues available for free. In addition, their volunteers gave their time for free and claimed no expenses. Most of those who cooked meals did not even seek reimbursement for the cost of the food they had prepared.

To their credit, our biggest donor was the London Borough of Hounslow (LBH) who referred homeless men to TSPH and made a much-needed grant towards our engagement of a part-time project co-ordinator.

By March 2020, we had grown fond of our guests who remained calm and well-behaved despite growing concern about Covid-19. Reluctantly, not knowing how they could cope, we would have to end our season and say goodbye to them on the morning of Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020.

Luckily, that Saturday evening we learned that local authorities would accommodate the homeless from Sunday evening under the government's 'everyone in' policy.

The first lock down was declared the following day.

A communal shelter with shared facilities like ours was could never be Covid-19 compliant. By August 2021, it was becoming clear that we would not be able to operate as a shelter again for the foreseeable future. We needed to find a new operating model.

## **Café Together**

This initiative was developed to align with LBH's community hubs. It is focussed not just on the homeless but on befriending the vulnerable more generally, including those at risk of homelessness, with the intention of helping them to address difficulties before the crisis stage.

Our guests are welcomed to a café style venue where they enjoy a hot meal in friendly, non-judgemental company and, if appropriate, are sign-posted to agencies which can help them.

Again, we coordinate the efforts of different churches so that we work together<sup>1</sup>.

In June 2022, with the support of Minister Adam Nyawo, we launched our service as a pilot on Thursday evenings at the Hounslow Methodist Church. The Rev. Ellis Matthews, vicar of St Mary's Osterley (Church of England) whose community provide volunteers, was also a strong supporter.

Since then, the nearby Maswell Park Church started to offer a similar service on the same evening of the week. Therefore, we changed our evening to a Tuesday so that we do not compete. Independently, together, we can now offer a meal to our guests on two nights of the week.

Hounslow Methodist Church has appointed a Community Pastor, Rev Heflin Jani, whose role includes regular attendance at Cafe Together offering consistent support and pastoral care.

LBH's Community Solutions Team have been invited to all meetings of Café Together from the pilot and it is still our intention to offer a service aligned and consistent with their objectives. Local councillors, especially Ranjit Gill and LBH social workers have been regular attendees. Councillor

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<sup>1</sup> An appendix to this report explains how we can help your church to run a Café Together

Jack Emsley serves on our Steering Group. The current Mayor of Hounslow, Amy Croft, has honoured us by attending twice recently.

Following our representation at the second meeting of the Hounslow Community Development Network in April 2025, on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025, our chairman Mrs Jennifer Corbin attended a London Borough of Hounslow Area Forum at which the Rev Heflin Jani of Hounslow Methodist Church and Mr Steve Joyce esq. of St Mary’s Osterley made a presentation about Café Together.

Steve told us how in the new year he had asked a guest how their Christmas had been. The answer was that Steve should know that it went very well as he had been there too. For this guest, the Café Together at which a Christmas meal was served had been the highlight of their Christmas.

Over the year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025, we served almost 1,000 free meals to our guests. Clearly, our Café Together is of great value to them, not just as a meal but as a social event.

Ideally, we would have two hubs in the borough, each offering a Café Together weekly: one in Hounslow and the other in Chiswick.

### **Café Together, September 2024 to August 2025**

	Hounslow	Chiswick
September 2024	St Michael & Martin, RC Church Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 6:30pm–8:00pm	
October 2024	St Michael & Martin, RC Church Mondays 7 <sup>TH</sup> , 14 <sup>TH</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> 6:30pm–8:00pm	St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Thursdays 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 12:00pm – 1:30pm Lunch time
November 2024	Hounslow Methodist Church Thursdays 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> 12:00pm – 1:30pm
December 2024	Hounslow Methodist Church Thursdays 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> (incl. a Christmas meal on 19 <sup>th</sup> )	
January 2025	Hounslow Methodist Church Thursdays 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	
February 2025	St Michael & Martin, RC Church Mondays 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>TH</sup> , 17 <sup>TH</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> at lunch time
March 2025		St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> at lunch time
April 2025		St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> at lunch time
May 2025	Hounslow Methodist Church Tuesdays 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>st</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> at lunch time
June 2025	Hounslow Methodist Church Tuesdays 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> at lunch time
July 2025	Hounslow Methodist Church Tuesdays 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St Michael’s CofE Elmwood Rd Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> at lunch time
August 2025		

As this table shows, we managed to operate Café Together for ten months of the year at three venues, two of which now form a hub, both being located near the centre of Hounslow.

**September - October 2024 at St Michael & St Martin, Roman Catholic Church, Bath Road, Hounslow. Mondays 6:30pm – 8:30pm on 30<sup>th</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> October**

This run was a tremendous success.

The meals here are delicious and generous (four courses including soup before, and cheese after, a main course and dessert).

We are very lucky that there is a great team at SsM&M including a volunteer who is a qualified chef who cooks for us every week (despite holding very a senior professional role as a 'day job').

We are very grateful to Father Damian, Fr Ignatius, the parish council and the community at St Michael and St Martin RC Church who allow us to use their parish hall, provide volunteers and also make a significant donation towards covering the cost of providing these meals.

We promoted this run of Café Together by distributing A5 Posters and a Press Release.

In addition, our chairman issued personal invitations by email or text to all our regular guests. This was popular with our guests with many saying they liked receiving a personal invitation.

Numbers attending climbed over the month to 32 at the last Café Together on 28<sup>th</sup> October.

**November 2024 to January 2025 at Hounslow Methodist Church, Bell Road with the support of St Mary's Osterley CofE on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm**

The number of guests ranged from 17-18 initially up to 30+ guests as the season progressed.

The Christmas meal was fabulous. Thanks are due to all but especially to the Logan family.

For some guests, this Christmas meal was the main event of their Christmas. It was joyous.

We had 30 guests waiting outside when we re-opened on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

We are beginning to see lots of regulars. We have had mothers with young children, a few guests are homeless, but most guests are older adults who might be struggling with the cost of living or mental health issues or in hostel accommodation with minimal cooking facilities, or just lonely.

Our volunteers mingle with the guests and there is always lots of banter, laughing and joking.

When TSPH was awarded The Queens Award for Voluntary Service in 2017, the assessor had been particularly impressed by how guests and volunteers mingled like this.

The atmosphere is vibrant and harmonious.

**February 2025 at St Michael & St Martin Roman Catholic Church, Bath Road, Hounslow, Mondays 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>**

This was another excellent run at this venue which has a special atmosphere of its own.

Again, guest numbers climbed over the month, reaching 32 by the end of the season.

This venue runs for a month at a time, partly because the same volunteers attend every night.

Each venue attracts guests from its own catchment but, as Ss M&M is not far from the Hounslow Methodist church, our "Hounslow hub" works well. Several regular guests at Bell Road now dine at this venue too. And increasingly, Ss M&M guests dine at Bell Road.

This means that momentum in attendance can be maintained as we switch from one venue to the other and guest numbers tend to increase over the course of each run.

However, this year building works at Hounslow Methodist Church, and an ‘inter-regnum’ pause over the change of vicar at an alternative venue meant that we could not operate in Hounslow over March and April 2025.

**May to late July 2025 at Hounslow Methodist Church on Bell Road with the support of St Mary’s Osterley CofE on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm**

This was yet another successful run at Hounslow Methodist Church, the core of Café Together. It has been good to see that many long-standing regulars at Bell Road being joined by new regulars from Ss M&M. This three-month run took us up to the school holiday summer break.

**St Michael’s CofE church, Elmwood Road Chiswick, First Wednesdays at lunch time**

This, our only venue in Chiswick, is different from the Hounslow venues as the meal is served at lunch time on the first Wednesday of the month since March 2025 (previously first Thursdays). There is a delightful atmosphere here. The church is busy with a pre-school group that meets at the back of the church, near where a Café Together lunch is served on a long table.

There is an excellent team of local volunteers who serve the guests a hearty, healthy meal with good cheer. Volunteers and members of the church congregation, including some mothers to children at the per-school group sit alongside the guests and everyone is entertained by the young children running about.

**Financial Accounts:**

1. The Shelter Project Hounslow’s balance sheet:

THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW			Charity number 1158760			
	Balance Sheet as of:		31-Aug-24	Balance Sheet as of:		31-Aug-25
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Assets</b>						
Fixed Assets						
Stock & Debtors						
Cash in bank	£19,906.48	£798.62	£20,705.10	£19,709.10		£19,709.10
Cash to be lodged						
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>£19,906.48</b>	<b>£798.62</b>	<b>£20,705.10</b>	<b>£19,709.10</b>		<b>£19,709.10</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Creditors < 1 year						
Creditors > 1 year						
<b>Total Liabilities</b>						
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>£19,906.48</b>	<b>£798.62</b>	<b>£20,705.10</b>	<b>£19,709.10</b>		<b>£19,709.10</b>

The only significant item on the TSPH’s balance sheet is the sum of money held in the bank.

The £19,709.10 net assets at the end of our financial year, on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 was all held as cash in the bank account. In the past we held some ‘restricted funds’ being funds donated for the ‘ring-fenced’ or restricted purpose of providing food.

Net Assets were £996 lower at the year-end than they had been a year before.

This £996 decrease is explained by Income being lower than Expenditure causing negative net income (or a loss) as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025:

## 2. The Shelter Project Hounslow’s SOFA (Statement of Financial Activities) to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025

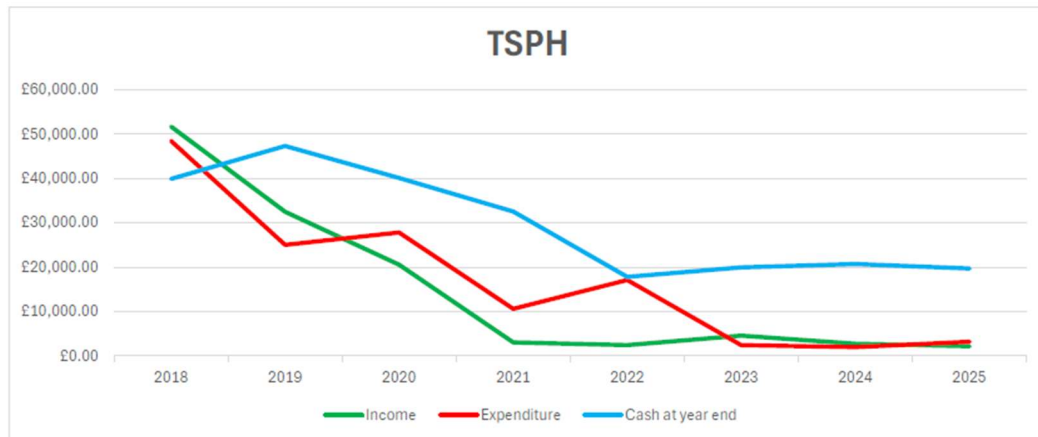
	31-Aug-24			31-Aug-25		
Including a summary Income and Expenditure account:						
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Income</b>						
London Borough of Hounslow						
Church communities	£1,409.96	£700.00	£2,109.96	£1,699.98		£1,699.98
Individuals & businesses	£613.72		£613.72	£485.00		£485.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>£2,023.68</b>	<b>£700.00</b>	<b>£2,723.68</b>	<b>£2,184.98</b>		<b>£2,184.98</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Charitable Activities	£866.30	£725.75	£1,592.05	£1,976.05	£798.62	£2,774.67
Other	£390.81		£390.81	£406.31		£406.31
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,257.11</b>	<b>£725.75</b>	<b>£1,982.86</b>	<b>£2,382.36</b>	<b>£798.62</b>	<b>£3,180.98</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>£766.57</b>	<b>(£25.75)</b>	<b>£740.82</b>	<b>(£197.38)</b>	<b>(£798.62)</b>	<b>(£996.00)</b>
Opening balance brought fwd	£19,139.91	£824.37	£19,964.28	£19,906.48	£798.62	£20,705.10
<b>Closing balance carried fwd.</b>	<b>£19,906.48</b>	<b>£798.62</b>	<b>£20,705.10</b>	<b>£19,709.10</b>		<b>£19,709.10</b>

Operating costs are low because we have no employees as everything is done by unpaid volunteers. More often than not, the wonderful volunteers who cook the meals provide all the ingredients at their own expense. Hounslow Methodist Church also supports the evenings with donations from members of their church community and others, including financial support from local church funds and fundraising.

As we now provide about 1,000 meals to our guests each year and another 250+ meals to the volunteers who host and feed our guests, this benefit to the charity and in turn our guests would cost at least £5,000 per annum at a very conservative estimate of just £4 per meal.

This year the cost of “charitable activities” at £2,774.67 seems to be significantly higher than the £1,592.05 in the previous year. This is because this year’s figure includes £1,000 which we granted towards a major refurbishment project at Hounslow Methodist Church on Bell Road. This church community, with the support of volunteers from St Mary’s Osterley, has been the cornerstone of Café Together.

Year end 31 Aug	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Income</b>	£51,711.56	£32,504.57	£20,549.48	£3,017.11	£2,405.59	£4,554.96	£2,723.68	£2,184.98 <b>Green</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	£48,498.38	£25,033.52	£27,807.85	£10,579.89	£17,126.11	£2,415.82	£1,982.86	£3,180.98 <b>Red</b>
<b>Cash at year end</b>	£39,895.76	£47,366.81	£40,108.44	£32,545.66	£17,825.14	£19,964.28	£20,705.10	£19,709.10 <b>Blue</b>



Café Together does not seem to have the same appeal to donors as providing shelter for the homeless over the coldest months of winter. However, we have been sufficiently supported by our church communities and a few generous individuals to break even as evidenced by how we have managed to maintain a balance of about £20,000 in the bank over recent years.

This may be more challenging next year and in the future as some long supporting church communities seem to have chosen to support other causes instead.

Fortunately, the appeal to volunteers seems to be that working together to befriend and serve a meal to the less fortunate neighbours is a very satisfying way to put our different denominations' congruent teaching about charity and loving our neighbours into practice.

### Conclusion

Café Together is now well established in Hounslow, but we do need to recruit another local church or two so that we can offer a year-round service, working together as a local "hub".

Sadly, despite St Michael's Church of England on Elmwood Road in Chiswick leading by example, we have yet to gain traction at that end of the borough.

We look forward to continuing to support the London Borough of Hounslow's community team.

Meanwhile, our financial position is satisfactory as volunteers provide so much labour and food for free. This allows us to conclude this year's report, looking forward to church communities continuing to work together to better serve our guests.

**THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

England & Wales - Charity number 1158760

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# Accounts

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Charity Number 1158760

**THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

**TRUSTEES' DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2024**



The Shelter Project Hounslow was awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2017

## **Introduction**

The Shelter Project Hounslow (TSPH) was formed in January 2012 to bring together Christian churches across the London Borough of Hounslow to provide a shelter for homeless men across the borough on every night of the week over the coldest months of the year.

Each evening, our volunteers welcomed rough-sleeping homeless men into their warm church or church hall and provided them with friendly company over a hot meal, a comfortable bed for the night, a good breakfast in the morning and even a bus ticket to the following evening's church venue.

This initiative was funded by the participating churches, their church communities and some generous individuals and local businesses. In addition, volunteers gave their time for free and many of them who cooked did not seek reimbursement for the cost of the meals they prepared.

The London Borough of Hounslow (LBH) referred homeless men to TSPH and made a much-needed grant towards our engagement of a part-time project co-ordinator.

Just before the October 2019 to March 2020 season, we learned that LBH would not be referring any homeless men to us, nor contributing any grant towards our costs that winter season.

Fortunately, we had sufficient funds to be able to open our doors in December 2019, as soon as our then project co-ordinator had recruited sufficient carefully vetted guests.

By March 2020, Covid-19 was a growing concern. We decided reluctantly that we would have to end the season early and say goodbye to our guests on the morning of Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020.

On that day, the government's 'everyone in' policy came into effect and local authorities were obliged to accommodate the homeless. The first lock down was declared the next day.

A communal shelter with shared facilities like ours was never going to be Covid-19 compliant. By August 2021, it was becoming clear that we would not be able to operate as a shelter for the foreseeable future. We needed to find a new operating model.

## **Café Together**

We launched this initiative as a pilot in June 2022 at the Methodist church in Bell Road, Hounslow with the help of volunteers from St Mary's Osterley.

This initiative is focussed on the vulnerable in society more generally, including those at risk of homelessness, with the intention of helping them to address their difficulties before the crisis stage.

They are welcomed to a café style venue where they can enjoy a hot meal in friendly, non-judgemental company and, if necessary, be sign-posted to agencies which may be able to help them.

LBH's Community Solutions Team were invited to all meetings of Café Together from the pilot as it was always our intention to offer a service aligned and consistent with their objectives.

Local councillors and social workers from LBH have been regular attendees.

Ideally, we would have two hubs, one in Hounslow and another in Chiswick.

### Café Together, September 2023 to August 2024

	Hounslow	Chiswick
September 2023		
October 2023	SS Michael's & Martin's, RC Bath Rd Mondays 2 <sup>ND</sup> , 9 <sup>TH</sup> , 16 <sup>TH</sup> 23 <sup>RD</sup> & 30 <sup>TH</sup>	
November 2023	Bell Road Methodists Thursdays 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	
December 2023	Bell Road Methodists Thursdays 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> (incl. a Christmas meal on 21 <sup>st</sup> )	
January 2024	Bell Road Methodists Thursdays 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	
February 2024	St John's CofE Isleworth Wednesdays 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	
March 2024	St John's CofE Isleworth Wednesdays 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	
April 2024	SS Michael's & Martin's, RC Bath Rd Mondays 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	
May 2024	Bell Road Methodists Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	
June 2024	Bell Road Methodists Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	
July 2024	Bell Road Methodists Thursdays 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael's CofE Elmwood Rd Mondays 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>
August 2024		

As this table shows, we managed to operate Café Together for ten months of the year at three venues which now form a hub, each not being too distant from the centre of Hounslow.

## **October 2023**

### **Cafe Together at St Michael and St Martin's (SSM&M)**

After the summer months when we do not operate due to volunteers taking holidays, we were delighted to open Café together on Monday evenings over the month of October 2023.

We promoted this run of Café Together by distributing A5 Posters and a Press Release.

In addition, our chairman issued personal Invitations by email or text to all our regular guests. This was popular with our guests with many saying they liked receiving a personal invitation. Local councillors were also invited.

An update was also sent to all venue clergy from the days of the original Shelter Project.

The October run at St Michael and St Martins gathered momentum. The atmosphere in the Parish Centre is very good and many people made new friends. The last three weeks were very successful. The number of guests increased from 19 to 27 with more regular guests and new guests each week.

There is a great team at SSM&M. Father Damian, Father Ignatius and the Parish Council are all very supportive.

Councillor Ranjit Gill came most weeks and helped the guests and Jane Malik of the LBH Community team was also a regular attendee.

### **November 2023 to January 2024 on Thursday evenings**

#### **Hounslow Methodist Church, Bell Road**

Thus was an exceptionally good season. We now have a core group of regular guests who all get on well with each other and the volunteers are a team who care for the guests and work well together.

Conversations have become more open. Guests have mentioned their problems (the cold, getting a response from the housing association etc.) Jane Malik spoke to all the guests and Councillor Gill mingled as an excellent volunteer and was always willing to support as a local councillor too.

We now know many of our guests quite well and understand their needs. These are people who have problems that we can help them with. Many are in 'hotels' but, although they have accommodation, they do not have adequate cooking facilities.

### **February to March 2024 on Wednesday evenings**

#### **St John's Church of England, Isleworth**

Since opening, Cafe Together at St John's has never had fewer than 26 guests.

This is another excellent venue with an atmosphere of its own.

Some elderly parishioners attend, seemingly just for the company, rather than for a free meal.

The vicar has been an excellent champion of Café Together, encouraging these parishioners to attend and giving some a lift in his car on occasion. He even provides musical entertainment!

We were sorry to learn that the last Cafe Together of this run would be the last attended by the Vicar as he would be leaving on Easter Sunday and there will now be an interregnum.

Despite the Vicar leaving, there was still a core team of volunteers at St John's who we hope will continue to support Cafe Together.

### **April 2024 on Monday evenings**

#### **SSM&M (Saints Michael & Martin, Roman Catholic Church, Hounslow)**

Café Together at this venue went well again on Mondays over April.

The regular cook cooked the meal, except one evening when pizzas were provided by a pizza restaurant for free...

Each venue attracts guests from its own church but, as SSM&M is not far from Bell Road, the "Hounslow hub" is beginning to work. Several regular guests at Bell Road now attend at this venue too. And increasingly, SSM&M parishioners attend at Bell Road. This means that more momentum is maintained as we switch from one venue to the other and guest numbers tend to increase over the course of each run.

We hope that SSM&M will be able to take another one month slot after the summer break, hopefully from mid-September so that Hounslow Methodist can then take over for the inter months.

#### **May to late July 2024 on Thursday evenings**

##### **Hounslow Methodist Church, Bell Road**

This was yet another successful run at Bell Road Methodist Church, the mainstay of Café Together.

It has been good to see that many long-standing regulars at Bell Road being joined by new regulars from SSM&M.

This three-month run took us up to the school holiday summer break.

#### **July 2024 St Michael's CofE church, Elmwood Road Chiswick, Mondays at lunch time**

This, our only venue in Chiswick, is different from the Hounslow venues as the meal is served at lunch time. Also, the church is busy with a pre-school group that meets in the church, near the long table on which lunch is served. It is entertaining to see the younger children running about.

The lunch time slot also seems to be more convenient for many of the local volunteers.

The Shelter Project Hounslow's balance sheet

	Balance Sheet as of: 31-Aug-23			Balance Sheet as of: 31-Aug-24		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Assets</b>						
Fixed Assets						
Stock & Debtors						
Cash in bank	£19,534.91	£824.37	£20,359.28	£19,906.48	£1,098.62	£21,005.10
Cash to be lodged						
	<u>£19,534.91</u>	<u>£824.37</u>	<u>£20,359.28</u>	<u>£19,906.48</u>	<u>£1,098.62</u>	<u>£21,005.10</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Creditors < 1 year	£395.00		£395.00			
Creditors > 1 year						
	<u>£395.00</u>		<u>£395.00</u>			
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>£19,139.91</u>	<u>£824.37</u>	<u>£19,964.28</u>	<u>£19,906.48</u>	<u>£1,098.62</u>	<u>£21,005.10</u>

The only significant item on the TSPH's balance sheet is the sum of money held in the bank.

The £21,050.10 in Net assets at the end of our financial year, on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 was all held in cash at the bank.

Net Assets were £1,040.82 higher at the year-end than they had been a year before. This increase is explained by the net income (or surplus of income over operating expenditure) as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) to:	31-Aug-23			31-Aug-24		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Income</b>						
Church communities	£1,409.96		£1,409.96	£1,409.96	£700.00	£2,109.96
Individuals & businesses	£3,145.00		£3,145.00	£613.72		£613.72
	<u>£4,554.96</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£4,554.96</u>	<u>£2,023.68</u>	<u>£700.00</u>	<u>£2,723.68</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Charitable Activities	£1,235.70	£300.00	£1,535.70	£866.30	£425.75	£1,292.05
Other	£880.12		£880.12	£390.81		£390.81
	<u>£2,115.82</u>	<u>£300.00</u>	<u>£2,415.82</u>	<u>£1,257.11</u>	<u>£425.75</u>	<u>£1,682.86</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>£2,439.14</b>	<b>(£300.00)</b>	<b>£2,139.14</b>	<b>£766.57</b>	<b>£274.25</b>	<b>£1,040.82</b>
Opening balance:	£16,700.77	£1,124.37	£17,825.14	£19,139.91	£824.37	£19,964.28
<b>Closing balance:</b>	<b><u>£19,139.91</u></b>	<b><u>£824.37</u></b>	<b><u>£19,964.28</u></b>	<b><u>£19,906.48</u></b>	<b><u>£1,098.62</u></b>	<b><u>£21,005.10</u></b>

Café Together does not seem to have the same appeal to donors as providing shelter for the homeless over the coldest months of winter. However, we are sufficiently supported by our church communities and a few generous individuals and businesses.

Our operating costs are low because everything is done by unpaid volunteers. More often than not, the kind people who provide the food do so at their own expense.

At one church where the cooks claim expenses, the parish has made a donation which will be sufficient to cover food costs at their venue. This donation is shown as restricted funds from a church community in the balance sheet.

The only expense in the year to August 2024 which was not related to charitable activities but is shown as 'other' was the cost of the public liability insurance policy.

In the previous year there was also the £395 cost of the annual subscription to Housing Justice.

## Conclusion

Café Together is now well established in Hounslow but it is only getting started in Chiswick.

Our financial position is satisfactory as volunteers provide so much labour for free.

We conclude the year looking forward to the next.

### **Trustees and Steering Group**

The Steering Group members overseeing the operations of TSPH are:-

Jennifer Corbin – Chairman, Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Bill Hodgson - Trustee

Steve Joyce - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Mary Macleod - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Tony Mobbs – Trustee

Jack Emsley – Member of the Steering Group

Margaret Logan – Member of the Steering Group

Peter Simons – Treasurer and Member of the Steering Group and Treasurer

#### **Contact details:**

Jennifer Corbin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, The Shelter Project Hounslow

Email: [jpcorbin195@btinternet.com](mailto:jpcorbin195@btinternet.com)

Draft: 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025 Final as approved by the Trustees

**THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

England & Wales - Charity number 1158760

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# Accounts

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Charity Number 1158760

## **THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2023**



The Shelter Project Hounslow was awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2017

## **Context**

The Shelter Project Hounslow (TSPH) was formed in January 2012. It brought together Christian churches of several denominations across the London Borough of Hounslow to cooperate and coordinate to provide a winter shelter for homeless men across the Borough.

Each night of the week over the coldest winter months, our volunteers welcomed rough-sleeping homeless men into their church or church hall and provided them with a warm welcome, a hot meal, a comfortable bed for the night and breakfast the following morning.

This initiative was funded by the participating churches, their communities and some generous individuals and local businesses. For many years the London Borough of Hounslow (LBH) referred homeless men to TSPH and made a much-needed grant towards our engagement of a part-time project co-ordinator.

Our project co-ordinator worked with the guests and each church's venue co-ordinator to ensure the smooth running of the project. They also helped many guests to be housed.

Just before the October 2019 to March 2020 season, we learned that LBH would not be referring any homeless men to us, nor contributing any grant towards our costs of employing a project co-ordinator. Due to our financial policy of always retaining sufficient funds to be able to operate for the next season, we were still able to open our doors in December 2019 as soon as our then project co-ordinator had recruited sufficient carefully vetted guests.

As our volunteers' concerns about the risks of COVID-19 mounted over February to March 2020, we decided that we would have to end the season early. We would have to say goodbye to our guests after breakfast on the morning of Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020.

Fortunately, we were able to reassure these anxious men that they would have safe accommodation from that evening as the government had just introduced an 'everyone in' policy whereby local authorities would accommodate the homeless.

The first Covid-19 lockdown was announced the next day on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

Since that lockdown TSPH has not been able to operate as a shelter for the homeless. Initially, not knowing how long a pandemic would last, we had expected that we would be able to provide shelter again over the next winter season from December 2020 to March 2021.

However, communal shelters with shared facilities such as ours could not meet new government guidelines which were introduced just before the winter of 2020-21.

We expected that those guidelines would have been relaxed and we would be able to operate again by the following winter of 2021-22. Therefore, we retained our project co-ordinator under the government's job retention scheme (also known as the furlough scheme).

Nevertheless, the trustees, together with the part-time project co-ordinator, our sole employee, recognised the risk to our operating model. We were already exploring different ways of sheltering the homeless or, alternatively, if we couldn't provide overnight accommodation, how we might offer a warm welcome, a hot meal and assistance or 'sign-posting' to the vulnerable in society more generally, complementing the work of the LBH's Community Solutions team.

By the end of our financial year to 31 August 2021, it was becoming clear that we might not be able to operate as a communal night shelter over the next winter season from December 2021 to March 2022 either, nor for the foreseeable future. Eventually and reluctantly, we had to make our project co-ordinator's position redundant in January 2022.

### **Café Together, 2021 -22 Pilot**

As recorded in the last TSPH Trustees Annual Report to August 2022, we had launched this new initiative as a pilot from 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the Methodist church in Bell Road, Hounslow.

For one evening each week over the months of June and July 2022, volunteers from Bell Road Methodist Church and St Mary's Osterley hosted a café style supper where people could meet, enjoy a free home-cooked meal with non-judgemental and friendly company and, when necessary, be sign-posted towards agencies which might be able to help them.

LBH's Community Solutions Team were invited to all meetings of Café Together as it was always our intention to offer a service which helps them to meet a clear need in society.

This initiative is focussed on the vulnerable in society, including those at risk of homelessness, with the intention of helping them to address their difficulties before the crisis stage.

## **Café Together, 2022-23 Roll Out**

Following the success of the initial pilot, Bell Road Methodist Church's volunteers, with the help of volunteers from St Mary's Osterley, reopened their Café Together from 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022 until its season closed with a festive Christmas dinner on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

The second run at Bell Road had been another great success. The number of guests fluctuated widely from as many as 29 to as few as 12, particularly after some refugee/asylum seeker groups had been moved on to other parts of the country. There had been a good atmosphere every evening with guests and volunteers mixing well. The involvement of Hounslow Borough Councillors had been successful as had the regular attendance of both a representative of the Community Solutions Team and an elected member of LBH's Council.

We developed a new Café Together operating model based on what had worked so well over the pilot phase at Bell Road. Our ambition became to roll this out Café to other churches across Hounslow. Ideally, we would have two hubs, one in Hounslow and another in Chiswick.

So, in January and February 2023 we had two venues open for an evening each week.

From 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 we operated a Café Together on Wednesdays at St. John's Isleworth until 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. This venue is not very far from Bell Road so regulars at Bell Road could attend this venue. Other guests also came along. This venue has been a great success.

St Michael's Elmwood Road in Chiswick opened their Café Together on Mondays from 9<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023. This venue was also successful.

Cafe Together opened again at Bell Road from 14<sup>th</sup> May until 20<sup>th</sup> July and enjoyed a further successful season. The number of guests fluctuated from a low of 14 to a high of 29.

We now have approximately 25 regular guests in Hounslow who have become well known to the volunteers and to other guests. This provides a very convivial atmosphere.

By the end of our financial year, we were able to show that Café Together meets a need and we were working on attracting other churches to take part.

## TSPH Financial Accounts for its financial year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

TSPH accounts consist of a Balance Sheet and a Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA).

Each is presented alongside the previous year's figures for comparison.

<b>THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW</b>						
Balance Sheet as of:	31-Aug-22			31-Aug-23		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Assets</b>						
Fixed Assets						
Stock & Debtors						
Cash in bank	£16,965.77	£1,124.37	£18,090.14	£19,534.91	£824.37	£20,359.28
Cash to be lodged	£130.00		£130.00			
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>£17,095.77</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£18,220.14</b>	<b>£19,534.91</b>	<b>£824.37</b>	<b>£20,359.28</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Creditors < 1 year	£395.00		£395.00	£395.00		£395.00
Creditors > 1 year						
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>£395.00</b>		<b>£395.00</b>	<b>£395.00</b>		<b>£395.00</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>£16,700.77</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£17,825.14</b>	<b>£19,139.91</b>	<b>£824.37</b>	<b>£19,964.28</b>

As the above balance sheet shows, The Shelter Project Hounslow may have fantastic teams of volunteers at each venue and enjoy good relations with stakeholders, including local church communities and LBH, but its only asset in financial terms is the cash in its bank account.

This increased by £2,139.14 over the financial year from £18,220.14 on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to £20,359.28 on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

All TSPH's funds are unrestricted but for the £824.37 balance remaining of a donation received from Prêt a Manger for the purpose of funding the cost of providing meals.

TSPH's only liability was Housing Justice's membership fee which had been invoiced in arrears.

The increase in cash of £2,139.14 is explained in TSPH's Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) which is presented below (on the next page):

**Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended:**

	31-Aug-22			31-Aug-23		
Including a summary Income and Expenditure account:						
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Income</b>						
London Borough of Hounslow						
Church communities	£916.63		£916.63	£1,409.96		£1,409.96
Individuals & businesses	£1,488.96		£1,488.96	£3,145.00		£3,145.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>£2,405.59</b>		<b>£2,405.59</b>	<b>£4,554.96</b>		<b>£4,554.96</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Charitable Activities	£15,880.03		£15,880.03	£1,235.70	£300.00	£1,535.70
Other	£1,246.08		£1,246.08	£880.12		£880.12
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£17,126.11</b>		<b>£17,126.11</b>	<b>£2,115.82</b>	<b>£300.00</b>	<b>£2,415.82</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(£14,720.52)</b>		<b>(£14,720.52)</b>	<b>£2,439.14</b>	<b>(£300.00)</b>	<b>£2,139.14</b>
Opening balance brought fwd	£31,421.29	£1,124.37	£32,545.66	£16,700.77	£1,124.37	£17,825.14
<b>Closing balance carried fwd.</b>	<b>£16,700.77</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£17,825.14</b>	<b>£19,139.91</b>	<b>£824.37</b>	<b>£19,964.28</b>

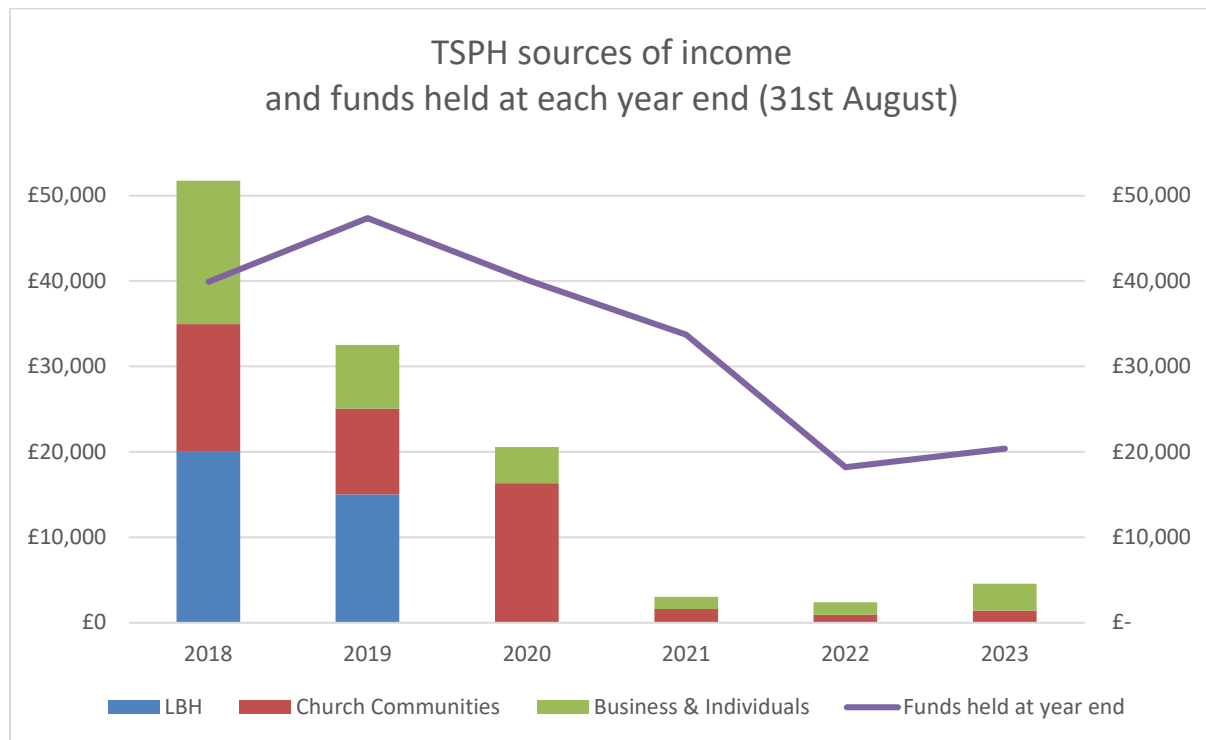
TSPH no longer receives funding from LBH and the level of funding received from participating churches, their communities, individuals and local businesses is much reduced.

However, we did receive a very generous donation of £2,250 via CAF (the Charities Aid Foundation) from one anonymous donor who we would like to be able to thank.

Costs are kept to a minimum. In the previous 2021-22 financial year, when we were inactive but for the Café Together pilot, most of the cost incurred under the Charitable Activities heading related to retaining and eventually making redundant our Project Co-ordinator. He had been retained until we realised that we would be unable to operate as a homeless shelter for the foreseeable future and that we would no longer be able to attract funding at the same level operating as Café Together as we had when we operated as a shelter for the homeless.

Café Together is a low-cost operation due to the generosity of our volunteers and their church communities which allow us to use their venues for free. Most volunteer cooks even provide the food they prepare for free.

## Commentary on the TSPH Financial Accounts 2022-23



Since TSPH has not been able to operate as a homeless shelter, our income has been greatly reduced. The LBH grant in 2018-19 was reduced to 15k (from £20k) as we were late opening that season due to the sudden tragic death of our beloved project co-ordinator contractor.

A new project coordinator was then recruited as an employee.

The following 2019-2020 season, we received no grant from LBH but our church communities, local businesses and generous individuals continued to support us for that season over which we operated a homeless shelter from January to March 2020 when we had to close early due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The continued employment of our Project Co-ordinator while we still expected to be able to operate again as a communal shelter and the eventual redundancy cost in January 2022 depleted our resources significantly.

We are confident that our current level of resources at almost £20,000 will suffice for several years at the present level of activity. We enjoy good relations with the London Borough of Hounslow and with our church communities. If the scale of our operations and its costs were to increase, we are confident that we would be able to attract the resources to support this.

## **Trustees and Steering Group**

The Steering Group members overseeing the operations of TSPH are:

Jennifer Corbin – Chairman, Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Bill Hodgson - Trustee

Steve Joyce - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Mary Macleod - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Tony Mobbs – Trustee

Jack Emsley – Member of the Steering Group

Margaret Logan – Member of the Steering Group

Peter Simons - Member of the Steering Group and Treasurer

### **Contact details:**

Jennifer Corbin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, The Shelter Project Hounslow

Email: [jpcorbin195@btinternet.com](mailto:jpcorbin195@btinternet.com)

April 2024

**THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

England & Wales - Charity number 1158760

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# Accounts

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Charity Number 1158760

## **THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2022**



The Shelter Project Hounslow was awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2017

## **1. Overview**

The Shelter Project Hounslow (TSPH) was launched in January 2012 and brought together volunteers from Christian churches of many denominations across the London Borough of Hounslow. Our volunteers provided a hot meal and shelter to rough sleepers each night of the week over the coldest winter months in their church or church hall.

TSPH has not be able to operate as a shelter for the homeless since the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 from which date local authorities had a statutory obligation to accommodate our guests under the government's "Everyone-in" policy.

At first, not knowing how long the Covid-19 epidemic might last, we had expected that we would be able to provide shelter again over the winter season from December 2020 to March 2021. Therefore, we retained our project coordinator. However, communal shelters with shared facilities could not meet new government guidelines, introduced before that winter.

The Trustees, together with the project coordinator, our sole employee, were already exploring different ways of sheltering the homeless or, alternatively, offering assistance and 'sign-posting' to the lonely and vulnerable in society more generally, including those under threat of homelessness.

By the end of our financial year to 31 August 2021, it had become a concern that we might not be able to operate as a communal night shelter over the next winter season from December 2021 to March 2022 either, or for the foreseeable future.

By then, the Trustees were exploring a potential new direction for TSPH.

## **2. Project Coordinator**

For many years, the London Borough of Hounslow (LBH) referred homeless men to TSPH and contributed a grant of up to £20,000 towards the engagement of a project coordinator.

Just before the December 2019 to March 2020 season, we learned that LBH would not be referring any homeless men to us, nor contributing any grant. As we had sufficient reserves due to the generosity of our church communities, local businesses, and individuals, we were able to open our doors for that season without the need for a grant from LBH.

In November 2020, as new government guidelines could not be met by communal shelters, it was evident that we could not operate, and we could not expect a grant from LBH for the 2020 – 2021 winter. We had to give our project coordinator formal notice of the obvious risk that the position might become redundant.

However, at that stage we still expected that we would be able to operate over the next winter season (December 2021 to March 2022) so we were pleased to be able to retain our project coordinator with the support of the Government's Job Retention Scheme.

By the end of our financial year in 31 August 2021, as we planned for the 2021-2022 winter, it was clear that this position was still at risk. By then, it seemed unlikely that we would be able to operate a winter shelter over that winter or for the foreseeable future.

Shortly after that financial year end, in September 2021, we formally advised our project coordinator again that the position was still at risk.

Since having to close our shelters in March 2020, including throughout the financial year to 31 August 2021, we had engaged our project coordinator in a thorough consultation process which included attending meetings of the Steering Group. We first considered how we might provide homeless shelters in compliance with government regulations, and we also explored how we might provide some different services to the vulnerable in society.

As we approached the end of 2021, when we should have been opening shelters for the winter season, offering some form of 'drop-in centre' congruent with an initiative of LBH's community relations team, seemed the most promising way forward.

However, we had not yet identified any alternative way of operating which would attract sufficient funding to retain any employee. Regrettably, we had to make our project coordinator redundant on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### **3. Café Together - Pilot**

We launched this new venture as a pilot over an initial period of two months from 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at one church venue in Hounslow, the Methodist church in Bell Road. For one evening each week over an initial period, we hosted a café style supper when people could meet, enjoy a free home-cooked meal in non-judgemental friendly company and, if necessary, be sign-posted towards agencies which might help them if they had any problems or concerns.

LBH's Community Relations Team was represented at meetings of Café Together as it is our intention to offer a service which helps them to meet a clear need in society.

This initiative is focussed on the vulnerable in society, including those at risk of homelessness, with the intention of helping them to address their difficulties before the crisis stage.

#### **4. Café Together – next steps**

Following the success of the initial pilot, we have been operating as Café Together at Bell Road Methodist Church since 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

This venue will stop operating before Christmas 2022.

Our intention is that from January 2023 we will offer a Café Together service one evening a week in two hubs within the London Borough of Hounslow; Hounslow and Chiswick.

#### **5. Financial Report commenting on the TSPH Financial Accounts 2021-22**

This brief narrative is supported by the TSPH 2021-22 financial accounts.

Since TSPH has not been able to operate as a homeless shelter, its income has been greatly reduced. The continued employment of our project coordinator while we still expected to be able to operate again as a communal shelter and his subsequent redundancy costs have depleted our resources. However, Café Together is a low-cost operation due to the generosity of our volunteers and the church communities which allow us to use their venues.

We are confident that our current level of resources at over £17,000 will suffice for several years at the present level of activity. We enjoy good relations with the London Borough of Hounslow and with our church communities. If the scale of our operations and its costs were to increase, we are confident that we would be able to attract the resources to support this.

## **6. Trustees and Steering Group**

The Steering Group members overseeing the operation of TSPH are:-

Jennifer Corbin – Chairman, Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Bill Hodgson - Trustee

Steve Joyce - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Mary Macleod - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Tony Mobbs – Trustee

Margaret Logan – Member of the Steering Group

Peter Simons: Treasurer and Member of the Steering Group

## **7. Contact details:**

Jennifer Corbin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, The Shelter Project Hounslow

Member of the Future of Night Shelters National Taskforce:-

Telephone: 07809 490004.

Email: [jpcorbin195@btinternet.com](mailto:jpcorbin195@btinternet.com)

December 2022

## THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW

Balance Sheet as of:	31-Aug-21			31-Aug-22		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Assets</b>						
Fixed Assets						
Stock & Debtors	£210.00		£210.00			
Cash in bank	£32,387.01	£1,124.37	£33,511.38	£16,965.77	£1,124.37	£18,090.14
Cash to be lodged				£130.00		£130.00
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>£32,597.01</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£33,721.38</b>	<b>£17,095.77</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£18,220.14</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Creditors < 1 year	£1,175.72		£1,175.72	£395.00		£395.00
Creditors > 1 year						
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>£1,175.72</b>		<b>£1,175.72</b>	<b>£395.00</b>		<b>£395.00</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>£31,421.29</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£32,545.66</b>	<b>£16,700.77</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£17,825.14</b>

### Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended:

Including a summary Income and Expenditure account:	31-Aug-21			31-Aug-22		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
<b>Income</b>						
London Borough of Hounslow						
Church communities	£1,594.94		£1,594.94	£916.63		£916.63
Individuals & businesses	£1,422.17		£1,422.17	£1,488.96		£1,488.96
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>£3,017.11</b>		<b>£3,017.11</b>	<b>£2,405.59</b>		<b>£2,405.59</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Charitable Activities	£8,519.97		£8,519.97	£15,880.03		£15,880.03
Other	£2,059.92		£2,059.92	£1,246.08		£1,246.08
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£10,579.89</b>		<b>£10,579.89</b>	<b>£17,126.11</b>		<b>£17,126.11</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(£7,562.78)</b>		<b>(£7,562.78)</b>	<b>(£14,720.52)</b>		<b>(£14,720.52)</b>
Opening balance brought fwd	£38,984.07	£1,124.37	£40,108.44	£31,421.29	£1,124.37	£32,545.66
<b>Closing balance carried fwd.</b>	<b>£31,421.29</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£32,545.66</b>	<b>£16,700.77</b>	<b>£1,124.37</b>	<b>£17,825.14</b>

**THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

England & Wales - Charity number 1158760

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# Accounts

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Charity Number 1158760

## **THE SHELTER PROJECT HOUNSLOW**

### **TUUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31 Aug 2021**



The Shelter Project Hounslow was awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2017

## **1. Overview**

The Shelter Project Hounslow (TSPH) was launched in January 2012 and brought together volunteers from Christian churches of many denominations across the London Borough of Hounslow. Our volunteers provided a hot meal and shelter to rough sleepers each night of the week over the coldest winter months in their church or a church hall.

The focus was very much on the quality of service to guests, extending a friendly welcome and hospitality, giving them respect and dignity as well as food and a bed. This proved successful in engaging with those who had previously been unable or unwilling to work with mainstream support.

Due to escalating concerns about the then new Covid-19 virus over the spring of 2020, it became clear that TSPH would have to close its Shelters before the end of on the December 2019 to March 2020 winter season. Fortunately, we still had enough volunteers willing to staff our shelters until the morning of Sunday 22 March 2020. This was the day on which the Government implemented the 'Everyone in' scheme to shelter rough sleepers. Thanks to the efforts of our Project Co-ordinator, all our guests were accommodated.

At first, we had expected that we would be able to provide shelter again over the winter season from December 2020 to March 2021. However, as communal shelters with shared facilities did not meet newly introduced government guidelines, this was not possible.

The Trustees, together with our project coordinator explored different ways of sheltering the homeless or, alternatively, offering assistance and 'sign-posting' to the lonely and vulnerable in society more generally, including those under threat of homelessness.

By the end of our financial year on 31 August 2021, it was becoming a concern that we might not be able to operate a night shelter over the over the winter season from December 2021 to March 2022. By then, the trustees were putting more emphasis on seeking a new direction for TSPH than an expectation that we would be able to operate as before.

## **2. Project Coordinator**

For many years, the London Borough of Hounslow (LBH) referred homeless men to TSPH and contributed a grant of up to £20,000 towards the engagement of a Project Coordinator.

Just before the December 2019 to March 2020 season, we learned that LBH would not be referring any men to us, nor contributing any grant. As we had sufficient reserves due to the generosity of our church communities, local corporates, and individuals, we were able to operate for that season without the need for a grant from LBH.

In November 2020, as government guidelines could not be met by communal shelters, it was evident that we could not expect a grant from LBH. We had to give our project coordinator formal notice of the obvious risk that the position might become redundant.

However, as we still expected that we would be able to operate over the next winter season (December 2021 to March 2022), we were pleased to be able to retain our project coordinator with the benefit of refunds from the Government's Job Retention Scheme.

As of the end of our financial year on 31 August 2021, it was clear that this position was still at risk. By then, it already seemed unlikely that we would be able to operate a winter shelter that winter.

### **3. Subsequent developments**

#### **3.a Redundancy of Project Coordinator role**

Shortly after this financial year end, in September 2021, we formally advised our project coordinator again that the position was still at risk.

Since having to close our shelters in March 2020, including throughout the financial year to 31 August 2021, we had engaged our project coordinator in a thorough consultation process which included attending meetings of the Steering Group. We first considered how we might provide homeless shelters in compliance with government regulations, and we also explored how we might provide some different services to the vulnerable in society.

As we approached the end of 2021, when we should have been opening shelters for the winter season, offering some form of 'drop-in centre' congruent with an initiative of LBH's community relations team, seemed the most promising way forward. However, we had not yet identified any alternative way of operating which would attract sufficient funding to retain any employee.

Regrettably, we had to make our project coordinator redundant on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

#### **3.b Future of Night Shelters National Taskforce**

Our chairman, Jennifer Corbin, was recently asked to join the Future of Night Shelters National Taskforce. This is a new venture administered by Housing Justice with the support of The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The purpose of the Taskforce is to draft a set of common aims and standards which it is hoped the majority of homeless projects in England will be moved to commit to and champion. A summit event is planned to launch the work of the Taskforce to the whole network in England.

### **3 c Café Connect**

We are planning to pilot a new venture from 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022. For one evening a week over an initial period of two months, we will host a café style supper over which people can meet, enjoy a home-cooked meal in friendly company and, if necessary, be sign-posted towards agencies which might help them if they have any problems or concerns.

LBH's Community Relations Team will be represented at each meeting of Café Connect as it is our intention to offer a service which helps them to meet a need in society.

This initiative will focus on the vulnerable in society with the intention of helping them to address their difficulties before the crisis stage.

This will be a low-cost venture as churches will provide the venue and volunteers will give of their time for free. We will learn from the pilot and determine how to develop this idea.

### **4. Trustees and Steering Group**

The Steering Group members overseeing the operation of TSPH are:-

Jennifer Corbin – Chairman, Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Bill Hodgson - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Steve Joyce - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Mary Macleod - Trustee and Member of the Steering Group

Tony Mobbs – Trustee

Margaret Logan – Member of the Steering Group

Peter Simons: Treasurer and Member of the Steering Group

### **5. Contact details:**

Jennifer Corbin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, The Shelter Project Hounslow

Member of the Future of Night Shelters National Taskforce:-

Telephone: 07809 490004. Email: [jpcorbin195@btinternet.com](mailto:jpcorbin195@btinternet.com)

May 2022

## 1, Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet as of:			31-Aug-20
Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
£38,984.07	£1,124.37	£40,108.44	
<u>£38,984.07</u>	<u>£1,124.37</u>	<u>£40,108.44</u>	
£38,984.07	£1,124.37	£40,108.44	
<u>£38,984.07</u>	<u>£1,124.37</u>	<u>£40,108.44</u>	

## 2, SOFA

			31-Aug-20
Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
£16,328.61		£16,328.61	
£3,020.87	£1,200.00	£4,220.87	
<u>£19,349.48</u>	<u>£1,200.00</u>	<u>£20,549.48</u>	
£25,257.37	£342.01	£25,599.38	
£2,208.47		£2,208.47	
<u>£27,465.84</u>	<u>£342.01</u>	<u>£27,807.85</u>	
(£8,116.36)	£857.99	(£7,258.37)	
£47,100.43	£266.38	£47,366.81	
<u>£38,984.07</u>	<u>£1,124.37</u>	<u>£40,108.44</u>	

## The Shelter Project Hounslow

Balance Sheet as of:			31-Aug-21
Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
<b>Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets			
Stock & Debtors	£210.00	£210.00	
Cash in bank	£33,511.38	£33,511.38	
	<u>£33,721.38</u>	<u>£33,721.38</u>	
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors < 1 year	£1,175.72	£1,175.72	
Creditors > 1 year			
	<u>£1,175.72</u>	<u>£1,175.72</u>	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>£32,545.66</u>	<u>£32,545.66</u>	
Income Funds	£31,421.29	£1,124.37	£32,545.66
Other funds/reserves			
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>	<u>£31,421.29</u>	<u>£1,124.37</u>	<u>£32,545.66</u>

## The Shelter Project Hounslow

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year to:			31-Aug-21
Including a summary Income and Expenditure account:			
Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
<b>Income</b>			
London Borough of Hounslow			
Income from Govt, Grants*	£14,328.23	£14,328.23	
Church communities	£1,594.94	£1,594.94	
Individuals & businesses	£1,422.17	£1,422.17	
	<u>£17,345.34</u>	<u>£17,345.34</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Charitable Activities	£22,848.20	£22,848.20	
Other	£2,059.92	£2,059.92	
	<u>£24,908.12</u>	<u>£24,908.12</u>	
<b>Net Income</b>	(£7,562.78)	(£7,562.78)	
Opening balance brought fwd	£38,984.07	£1,124.37	£40,108.44
<b>Closing balance carried fwd</b>	<u>£31,421.29</u>	<u>£1,124.37</u>	<u>£32,545.66</u>

\*Income from Govt. Grants = Employment Costs refunded by Job Retention Scheme