BRIDGING THE GAP ISLINGTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1162671

Details

Other names	Bridging the Gap Mentoring
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2015-07-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Bridging The Gap Mentoring 200A Pentonville Road London N1 9JP
Phone	07482758220
Email	welcome@bridging-mentoring.org.uk
Website	www.bridging-mentoring.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS, BY OFFERING OFFENDERS, EX-OFFENDERS AND PEOPLE AT RISK OF OFFENDING ADVICE, GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT, INCLUDING TO ADDRESS THEIR NEEDS AND PROMOTE THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE WIDER LAW-ABIDING COMMUNITY , WORKING TOGETHER WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS WITH SIMILAR AIMS, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY PROVIDING A VOLUNTARY MENTORING SERVICE FOR PEOPLE AT RISK OF OFFENDING

Activities: Bridging the Gap Islington offers trained, supervised volunteer mentors to provide support to people at risk of offending including people who are homeless or addicted to help them to achieve specific short term goals along their chosen path to a more constructive and participative life. We operate in North London, in the area around Islington.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Camden
- Hackney
- Haringey
- Islington

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£8,961	£20,598	-	-
2024-03-31	£29,883	£21,301	-	-
2023-03-31	£20,329	£21,501	-	-
2022-03-31	£20,091	£19,481	-	-
2021-03-31	£12,496	£8,333	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GREG FOXSMITH	Chair	2015-07-15
Cllr Ruth Hayes		2019-10-15
Lee Wakefield		2024-04-16
ROBIN LATIMER		2015-07-15
Sharmila Rajaratnam		2017-01-23

BRIDGING THE GAP ISLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162671

Accounts

Bridging the Gap Islington

also known as :

Bridging the Gap Mentoring

Registered Charity No. 1162671

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending March 2025

Bridging the Gap Mentoring offers trained, expertly supervised volunteer mentors for people at risk of homelessness, offending and addiction. Regular informal support from someone who is concerned about them individually helps people to rebuild their lives.

Our volunteer mentors will meet service users about once a week for four months and work with them to achieve goals that are chosen by the service user. These goals are often related to housing, benefits, health, training, and relationships. Each week they will agree tasks to be achieved that week as steps towards the longer-term goal.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their report together with the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

Status and Administration

Bridging the Gap Islington (the Charity) was established 1st Dec 2012, and was constituted and registered as a charitable incorporated organization (CIO), no. **1162671** on 15th July 2015.

The trustees agreed to use Bridging the Gap Mentoring as a working name for the charity because this provides an improved description of the work of the charity. Bridging the Gap Mentoring has been registered with the Charity Commission as a working name for the charity.

Trustees.

During the year, Niki White resigned as a trustee and Mick Holloway resigned by rotation and decided not to stand for re-election. The following trustees served during the year.
Greg Foxsmith (Chair)
Sharmila Rajaratnam (Vice Chair)
Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)
Ruth Hayes
Lee Wakefield (Co-opted 16 April 2024, Elected 16 October 2024)
Michael Holloway (resigned 16 October 2024)
Niki White (resigned 5 December 2024)

Banker

The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250 Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Registered Address : 33 Tollington Way, London N7 6RG

Objects

Bridging the Gap Islington offers trained, supervised volunteer mentors to provide support to people at risk of offending including people with experience of unstable housing and substance misuse to help them to achieve specific short-term goals along their chosen path to a more constructive and participative life. We operate in North London, in the area around Islington.

Review of Activities

Trustees met formally 5 times during the year.

Our work during 2024-25 has been dominated by planning to replace the contribution of our Co-ordinator and Founder, Robin Latimer. Robin plans to end his work with Bridging the Gap at the end of 2025. For several months, we were uncertain whether the charity could continue to operate beyond this time. We are very happy to report that we have received and accepted an offer from Dave Smith to take over as Chief Executive. We are grateful for Dave's support. His work will initially be unpaid but we expect to pay Dave as soon as our financial situation makes this possible.

The uncertainty caused by this situation meant that fundraising was paused for several months and some of our unrestricted reserves were used to maintain the service. However, at the time of writing this report, fundraising has started again. We are now confident that we will be able to continue to offer a service in future years.

Our Service

We arrange mentoring partnerships between a trained volunteer mentor and a service user who needs support. Each mentoring partnership is supervised by an experienced professional, such as a social worker.

For new referrals, our outreach manager offers an initial period of support through weekly phone calls and suggestions. Some people find this sufficient and do not need further help. For those people who need more help, we will arrange a mentor.

For those people who would like more help, we arrange weekly meetings with a volunteer mentor for up to four months. This provides a unique high-quality service by combining the enthusiasm and personal interest of a volunteer with the expertise of an experienced professional. There are not many services that can offer this level of detailed supervision.

Mentoring partnerships are expected to last for 16 weekly meetings. If a service user needs more support, we can arrange a second mentoring partnership with a different mentor. But we do not usually arrange a third partnership.

Mentoring Partnerships						
Ongoing at start of year	**Commenced during the year**	**Completed**		**Shorter periods of help**	**Continuing at end of year**	**Offered but not taken up**
		14 or more wks	3 to 13 wks			
3	8	4	2	3	5	5

Service Users' comments

One special thing about the program is that my Mentor understood my needs. She gave me help, and advice that was right for me. This made me feel more confident.
M Y June 2025

Bridging the Gap has helped me in every way. It is a really good programme.
H T August 25

Our mentors

We match mentors and mentees individually, considering their experience and their interests so that each mentee will be offered a mentor who can understand their situation and help them to make changes. To do this, we maintain a pool of potential mentors and recruit and train new mentors each year. Some mentors will only mentor once. Other mentors are happy to mentor several times. We have a wide range of volunteers with a diverse range of skills. They include university students but also young professionals and people with established careers and home lives.

During the year we organized 2 series of training courses for new mentors. There were about 20 mentors available during the year.

Income
We are grateful for grants from the Albert Hunt Trust, Charles French Charity, the Steff Phillips Foundation and Islington Local Initiative funding. We are also grateful for regular gifts from an individual donor.

Financial Affairs
At the start of the year, the Charity's resources stood at £ 20,806. During the year, further income was received as grants of £4,000 from the Albert Hunt Trust, £2,000 from the Charles F. French Charity, £1,956 from the Steff Phillips Foundation and £950 from Islington Local Initiative Funding and fundraising income of £55. The end of year balance, after expenditure of £20,598 was therefore £9,169.

Reserves Policy
The Trustees' policy is to aim to maintain sufficient reserves to cover six months' committed expenditure. During 2024-25 fundraising was paused for several months as a result of uncertainty about our future. This meant that some of our unrestricted reserves were spent and our reserves have fallen below the desired level. We have now resumed fundraising and we plan to rebuild our reserves over future years.

Risk Review Policy
The major risks to which the Trust is exposed are financial risks to the continuity of income and reputational risks due to failures of mentoring relationships. The steps taken to mitigate these risks are:

- undertaking fundraising on a regular basis to maintain a regular flow of grant income;
- establishing an attractive and easy to navigate website to encourage individual donations; and
- ensuring mentors are well trained and supervised.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
It is the Trustees' responsibility to prepare financial. statements for each financial year which give a fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statement,
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have arranged for an independent examination of the accounts as they have done in previous years, even though this is not legally required.

Approved by the trustees and signed:
Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator) Robin Latimer

Date: 28/10/2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bridging the Gap Islington

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bridging the Gap Islington Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:

NCEvans.

Name: Nicholas C Evans

Address: 8 View Crescent, Tivoli Road, London N8 8RW

Date: 20 October 2025

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

Robin Latimer. 28 October 2025

Date

Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31 March 2025

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025				
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	2024
Current assets	£	£	£	£
Co-operative Bank Main Account	4,490	4,937	**9,427**	21,756
Co-operative Bank Expense Account	200	-	**200**	200
Paypal Account	169	-	**169**	914
Held by Everyclick Give as You Live	7	-	**7**	7
Amounts falling due within one year	-	(634)	**(634)**	(2071)
Total net assets	**4,866**	**4,303**	**9,169**	20,806

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2025	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2024
Incoming Resources	£	£	£	£
Albert Hunt Trust		4,000	4,000	
Charles F French Charity		2,000	2,000	
Steff Phillips Foundation		1,956	1,956	
Islington Local Initiatives		950	950	
National Lottery Community Fund				9,758
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	-			4,950
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust				2,500
Postcode Society Trust				8,400
Yapp Trust				3,000
Mayors Office for Policing				1,020
Fundraising	60	-	60	260
Total incoming resources	**60**	**8,906**	**8,966**	**29,888**
Cost of generating funds	5	-	**5**	5
Net incoming resources	**55**	**8,906**	**8,961**	**29,883**
Resources Expended				
Insurance	-	365	365	365
DBS Checks	-			200
Outreach worker	1,500	4,380	5,880	7,781
Mentor supervisor salaries	1,800	4,618	6,418	5,861
Admin & Staff Expenses	-	537	537	735
Mentor Expenses	-	1062	1062	1016
Administration		2013	2013	1962
Training (inc trainers salary)	-	852	852	1,148
Management	-	638	638	1326
Lived Experience advocate		2,833	2,833	907
Total Resources Expended	**3,300**	**17,298**	**20,598**	**21,301**
Net movements in funds	(3,245)	(8,392)	**(11,637)**	**8582**
Balance at 31 March 2024	8,111	12,695	**20,806**	**12,224**
Balance at 31 March 2025	**4,866**	**4,303**	**9,169**	**20,806**

Restricted Fund Balances

Fund	Balance at 31st March 2024	Income Received	Resources Expended	Balance at 31st March 2025
National Lottery Community Fund	**1,613.00**		1,613.00	
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	**3,338.00**		3,338.00	
Postcode Society Trust	**6,437.99**		4,434.99	2,003.00
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust	**231.00**		231.00	
Yapp Trust	225.00		225.00	
Mayors officefor policing	850.00		850.00	
Albert Hunt Trust		4,000.00	4,000.00	
Charles F French Charity		2,000.00	2,000.00	
Steff Phillips Foundation		1,956.00	456.00	1,500.00
Islington Local Initiatives		950.00	150.00	800.00
TOTAL	**12694.99**	**8,906.00**	**17,297.99**	**4,303.00**

Accounts

Bridging the Gap Islington

also known as :

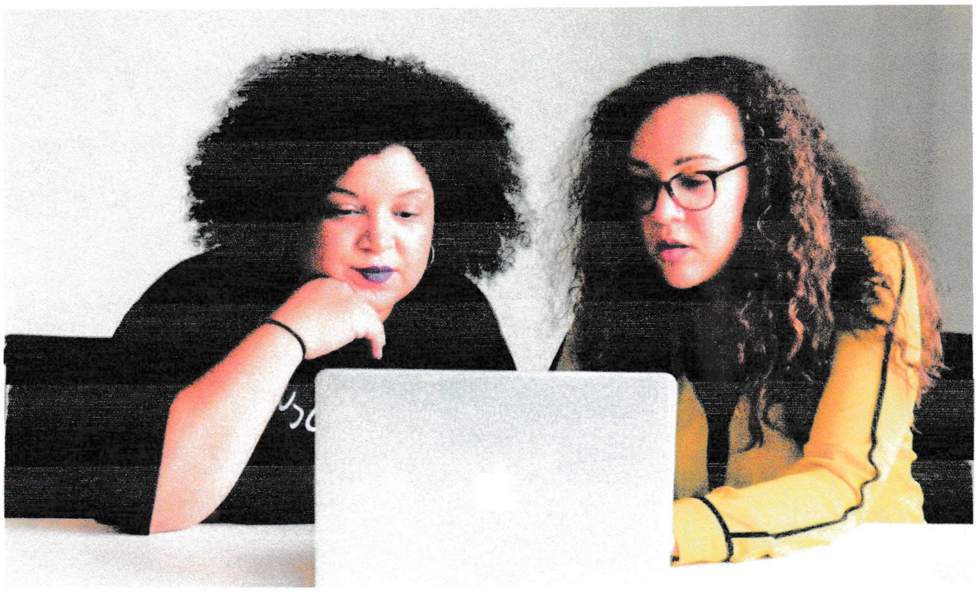
Bridging the Gap Mentoring

Registered Charity No. 1162671

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending March 2024

Bridging the Gap Mentoring offers trained, expertly supervised volunteer mentors for people at risk of homelessness, offending and addiction. Regular informal support from someone who is concerned about them individually helps people to rebuild their lives.

Our volunteer mentors will meet service users about once a week for four months and work with them to achieve goals that are chosen by the service user. These goals are often related to housing, benefits, health, training, and relationships. Each week they will agree tasks to be achieved that week as steps towards the longer-term goal.



Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report together with the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

Status and Administration
Bridging the Gap Islington (the Charity) was established 1st Dec 2012, and was constituted and registered as a charitable incorporated organization (CIO), no. **1162671** on 15th July 2015.

The trustees agreed to use Bridging the Gap Mentoring as a working name for the charity because this provides an improved description of the work of the charity. Bridging the Gap Mentoring has been registered with the Charity Commission as a working name for the charity.

Trustees.
During the year, Greg Foxsmith agreed to take on the role of Chair and Sharmila Rajaratnam took on the role of vice-chair. The following trustees served during the year.
Greg Foxsmith (Chair)
Sharmila Rajaratnam (Vice Chair)
Michael H W Holloway (Treasurer)
Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)
Ruth Hayes
Niki White

Banker
The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250 Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Registered Address : 33 Tollington Way, London N7 6RG

Objects
Bridging the Gap Islington offers trained, supervised volunteer mentors to provide support to people at risk of offending including people with experience of unstable housing and substance misuse to help them to achieve specific short-term goals along their chosen path to a more constructive and participative life. We operate in North London, in the area around Islington.

Review of Activities
Trustees met formally 6 times during the year.

During 2023-24, our work was delayed as a result of staffing problems. Our Outreach manager left and it took several months to find a suitable successor. We have continued and developed a standard approach in which the outreach manager makes initial contact with service users to assess their needs. For some people some short advice over the phone from the outreach worker is sufficient. For those who need more help, the service user will be introduced to a mentor and another member of staff will take over supervising the mentoring partnership.

In the absence of the Outreach worker, some administrative work has fallen to the Co-ordinator. We have contracted out some administration to a specialist firm but this arrangement still needs further improvement. We are starting to explore ways of reducing the work of the co-ordinator. He has given several years of unpaid service and we need to reduce our reliance on his work.

Our Service

We arrange mentoring partnerships between a trained volunteer mentor and a service user who needs support. Each mentoring partnership is supervised by an experienced professional, such as a social worker.

For new referrals, our outreach manager offers an initial period of support through weekly phone calls and suggestions. Some people find this sufficient and do not need further help. For those people who need more help, we will arrange a mentor.

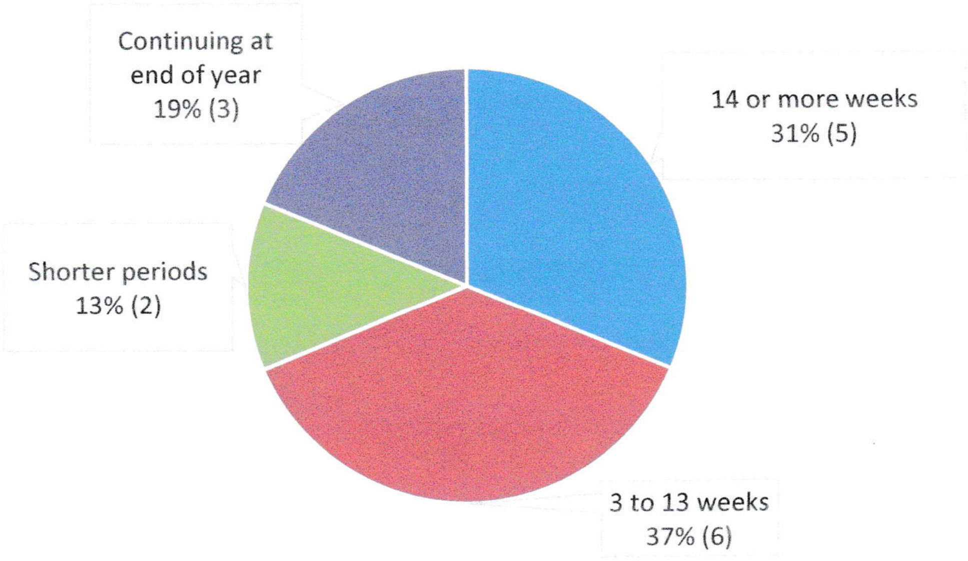
For those people who would like more help, we arrange weekly meetings with a volunteer mentor for up to four months. This provides a unique high-quality service by combining the enthusiasm and personal interest of a volunteer with the expertise of an experienced professional. There are not many services that can offer this level of detailed supervision.

Mentoring partnerships are expected to last for 16 weekly meetings. If a service user needs more support, we can arrange a second mentoring partnership with a different mentor. But we do not usually arrange a third partnership.

Mentoring Partnerships						
Ongoing at start of year	**Commenced during the year**	**Completed**		**Shorter periods of help**	**Continuing at end of year**	**Offered but not taken up**
		14 or more wks	3 to 13 wks			
7	7	5	6	2	3	2

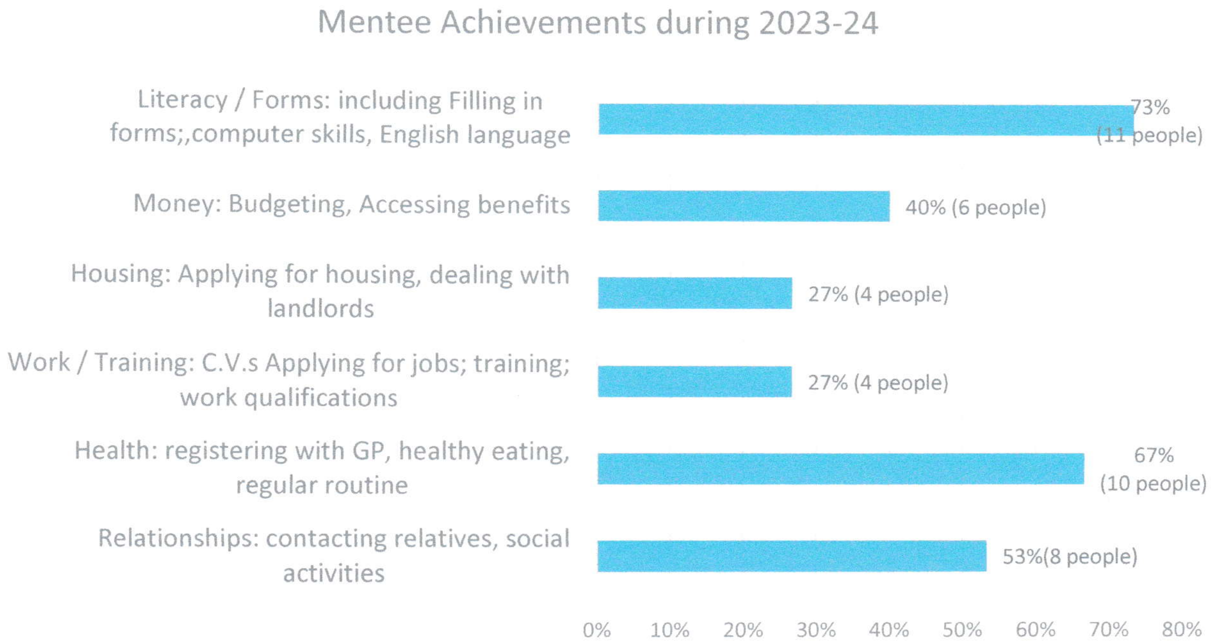
During 2023 -24, 31% (5) mentees continued their mentoring partnership for 14 meetings or longer. 38% (6) mentees took part in between 3 and 13 weeks of mentoring. 13% (2) people received some support or advice and decided they did not need a longer period of help. 3 mentoring partnerships were continuing at the end of the year.

Length of Mentoring Partnerships ending during 2023-24



The Difference we made

During the time they were being mentored, people's lives were improved. The chart below shows the percentage of mentees that benefited in each area of life. The percentages add up to more than 100 because many mentees gained in several ways.



Service Users' views

Bridging the Gap Mentoring has provided a reliable, supportive and regular service, without which I would have struggled. P.S. April 24

Comfortable, dependent, convenient BM June 23

It can be life-changing for vulnerable people who feel isolated SK May 23

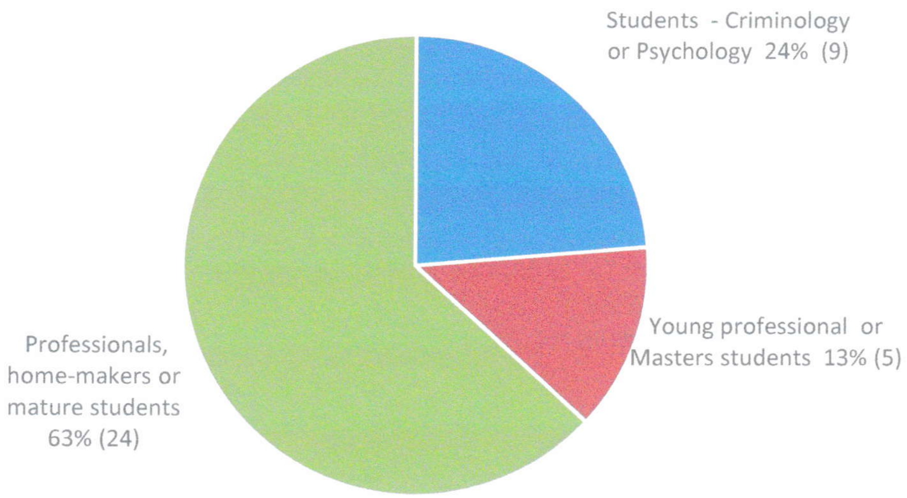
Fun, supportive, caring MG May 23

I can't thank you enough for the help you've given me. I managed to do a lot of the things that I needed to do. Thank you to the whole team at Bridging the Gap. AK May 23

Our mentors

We match mentors and mentees individually, considering their experience and their interests so that each mentee will be offered a mentor who can understand their situation and help them to make changes. To do this, we maintain a pool of potential mentors and recruit and train new mentors each year. Some mentors will only mentor once. Other mentors are happy to mentor several times. We have a wide range of volunteers with a diverse range of skills. They include university students but also young professionals and people with established careers and home lives.

During 2023-24 we ran three training courses for new mentors. 74 people were interested in volunteering. But they did not all start the training. 38 people were available for mentoring including 7 people who completed mentor training during the year. The high number of people who expressed interest but did not start or did not complete training may be the result of the changing employment situation following the Covid pandemic.



What our Mentors say

I enjoyed working with B, getting to know him and seeing his growth as a result
The freedom to organise the sessions in any location and at any time that suits the mentee and mentor is great. This flexibility allowed me to fit in volunteering around working full-time. M.M. Oct 23

An essential service. It has improved my communication immensely. I liked the support from my supervisor LW June 23

Being present with a mentee to identify, set, and achieve SMART goals. The overall process was very rewarding to me because I was able to see slow but consists progress. Furthermore, it was a fulfilling experience because weekly support from mentors can have a big impact on some people and their current situations, leading them to strive for improvement. It brought a lot of satisfaction because I felt very involved in her life, like a role/example. ED Dec 23

Income
We are grateful for grants from the National Lottery, Islington Community Chest, the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, the Postcode Society Trust, the Mayors Office for Policing and the Yapp Trust. We are also grateful for some regular gifts from individual donors.

Financial Affairs
At the start of the year, the Charity's resources stood at £ 12,224. During the year, further income was received as grants of £ 9,758 from the National Lottery, £ 8,400 from the Postcode Society Trust, £ 4,950 from Islington Community Chest, £ 2,500 from the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, £ 3,000 from the Yapp Trust and £1,020 from the Mayor's Office for Policing. and public donations and fundraising income of £ 255. The end of year balance, after expenditure of £21,301, was therefore £20,806.

Reserves Policy
The Trustees' policy is to aim to maintain sufficient reserves to cover six months' committed expenditure.

Risk Review Policy
The major risks to which the Trust is exposed are financial risks to the continuity of income and reputational risks due to failures of mentoring relationships. The steps taken to mitigate these risks are:
- undertaking fundraising on a regular basis to maintain a regular flow of grant income;
- establishing an attractive and easy to navigate website to encourage individual donations; and
- ensuring mentors are well trained and supervised.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
It is the Trustees' responsibility to prepare financial. statements for each financial year which give a fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statement,
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The income of the charity for the year 2023-24 is larger than in previous years and requires an independent examination of the accounts. This has been arranged by the trustees as it has been in previous years.

Approved by the trustees and signed:

Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator) Robin Latimer

Michael Holloway (Trustee Treasurer) Date: 16 October 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bridging the Gap Islington

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bridging the Gap Islington Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:

Name: Nicholas C Evans

Address: 8 View Crescent, Tivoli Road, London N8 8RW

Date: 9 October 2024

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

Michael Holloway (Trustee Treasurer) 16 October 2024

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	2023
Current assets	£	£	£	£
Co-operative Bank Main Account	6,990	14,766	**21,756**	13,109
Co-operative Bank Expense Account	200		**200**	174
Paypal Account	914		**914**	859
Held by Everyclick Give as You Live	7		**7**	7
Amounts falling due within one year		(2071)	**(2071)**	(1925)
Total net assets	**8,111**	**12,695**	**20,806**	12,224

Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2024	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2023
Incoming Resources	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
National Lottery Community Fund		9,758	9,758	
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	-	4,950	4,950	4,775
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust		2,500	2,500	2,450
Postcode Society Trust		8,400	8,400	
Yapp Trust		3,000	3,000	3,000
Mayors Office for Policing		1,020	1,020	
London Community Fund		-	-	3,350
Foyle Foundation		-	-	4,000
Albert Hunt Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Highbury Waitrose Donation		-	-	500
Fundraising	260	-	260	269
Total incoming resources	**260**	**29,628**	**29,888**	**20,344**
Cost of generating funds	5	-	**5**	**15**
Net incoming resources	**255**	**29,628**	**29,883**	**20,329**
Resources Expended				
Insurance	-	365	365	371
DBS Checks	-	200	200	200
Outreach worker	-	7,781	7,781	11,630
Mentor supervisor salaries	-	5,861	5,861	6132
Admin & Staff Expenses	-	735	735	176
Mentor Expenses	-	1016	1016	1,752
Administration		1962	1962	168
Training (inc trainers salary)	-	1,148	1,148	643
Management	-	1326	1326	429
Lived Experience advocate		907	907	
Total Resources xpended		**21,301**	**21,301**	**21,501**
Netmovements in funds	255	8,327	**8582**	**(1,172)**
Balance at 31 March 2023	**7,856**	**4,368**	**12,224**	**13,396**
Balance at 31 March 2024	**8,111**	**12,695**	**20,806**	**12,224**

Restricted Fund Balances

Fund	Balance at 31st March 2023	Income Received	Resources Expended	Balance at 31st March 2024
London Community Fund	653.00		653.00	
National Lottery Community Fund		9,758.00	8,145.00	**1,613.00**
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	1,653.29	4,950.00	3,265.29	**3,338.00**
Foyle Foundation	1,656.00		1,656.00	
Postcode Society Trust		8,400.00	1,962.01	**6,437.99**
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust	206	2,500.00	2,475.00	**231.00**
Yapp Trust	200	3,000.00	2,975.00	**225.00**
Mayors office for policing		1,020.00	170.00	**850.00**
Total Restricted Funds	**4,368.29**	**29,628.00**	**21,301.30**	**12,694.99**

BRIDGING THE GAP ISLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162671

Accounts

Bridging the Gap Mentoring

Bridging the Gap Islington

also known as :

Bridging the Gap Mentoring

Registered Charity No. 1162671

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending March 2023

Bridging the Gap Mentoring offers trained, expertly supervised volunteer mentors for people at risk of homelessness, offending and addiction. Regular informal support from someone who is concerned about them individually helps people to rebuild their lives.

Our volunteer mentors will meet service users about once a week for four months and work with them to achieve goals that are chosen by the service user. These goals are often related to housing, benefits, health, training and relationships. Each week they will agree tasks to be achieved that week as steps towards the longer term goal.

For new referrals, our outreach worker offers an initial period of support through weekly phone calls and suggestions. Some people find this sufficient and do not need further help. For those people who need more help, we will arrange a mentor.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their report together with the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

Status and Administration
Bridging the Gap Islington (the Charity) was established 1st Dec 2012, and was constituted and registered as a charitable incorporated organization (CIO), no. **1162671** on 15th July 2015.

The trustees agreed to use Bridging the Gap Mentoring as a working name for the charity because this provides an improved description of the work of the charity. Bridging the Gap Mentoring has been registered with the Charity Commission as a working name for the charity

Trustees.
During the year, two trustees retired and Niki White was co-opted as a trustee with a particular interest in improving our use of social media.The following trustees served during the year.
Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)
Jonathan Joels (Retired at our Annual General Meeting on 11 October 2022)
Greg Foxsmith
Michael H W Holloway (Treasurer)
Sharmila Rajaratnam
Clare Banham (Retired as a trustee on 22 November 2022)
Ruth Hayes
Niki White (Co-opted as a trustee on 22 November 2022)

Banker
The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250 Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Registered Address : 33 Tollington Way, London N7 6RG

Objects
Bridging the Gap Islington offers trained, supervised volunteer mentors to provide support to people at risk of offending including people who are homeless or addicted to help them to achieve specific short term goals along their chosen path to a more constructive and participative life. We operate in North London, in the area around Islington.

Review of Activities

Trustees met formally 6 times during the year.

During this year the restrictions imposed as a result of Covid were gradually lifted. We continued to offer some online mentoring using Zoom but mentees increasingly preferred to meet their mentors in person at cafes. As the restrictions lifted, new employment opportunities opened up. Some people volunteered and then later withdrew as new opportunities became available.

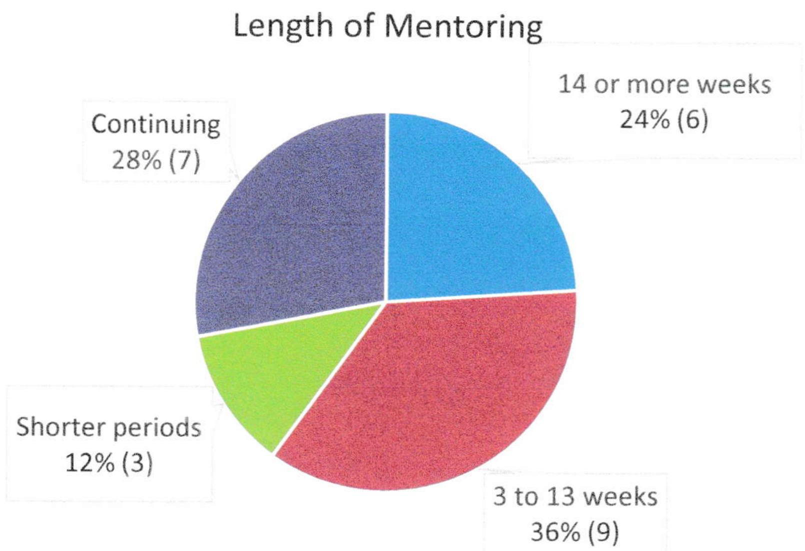
As the post of outreach worker became established, we developed a steady pattern of working in which our outreach worker contacts new service users by phone for several weeks, in order to inform them about mentoring and provide initial assistance. Once it is apparent that mentoring is an appropriate form of help, the service user will be introduced to a mentor and another member of staff will take over supervising the mentoring partnership.

We have continued to experience problems with arranging for the routine administration to be devolved away from the Co-ordinator.

How we help

We arrange mentoring partnerships between a trained volunteer mentor and a service user who needs support. Each mentoring partnership is supervised by an experienced professional, such as a social worker. Mentoring partnerships are expected to last for 16 weekly meetings. If a service user needs more support, we can arrange a second mentoring partnership with a different mentor. But we do not usually arrange a third partnership.

Mentoring Partnerships							
Ongoing at start of year	**Commenced during the year**	**Completed**		**Shorter periods of help**	**Continuing at end of year**	**Offered but not taken up**
		14 or more wks	*3 to 13 wks*			
8	*17*	*6*	*9*	*3*	*7*	*4*



Our Service

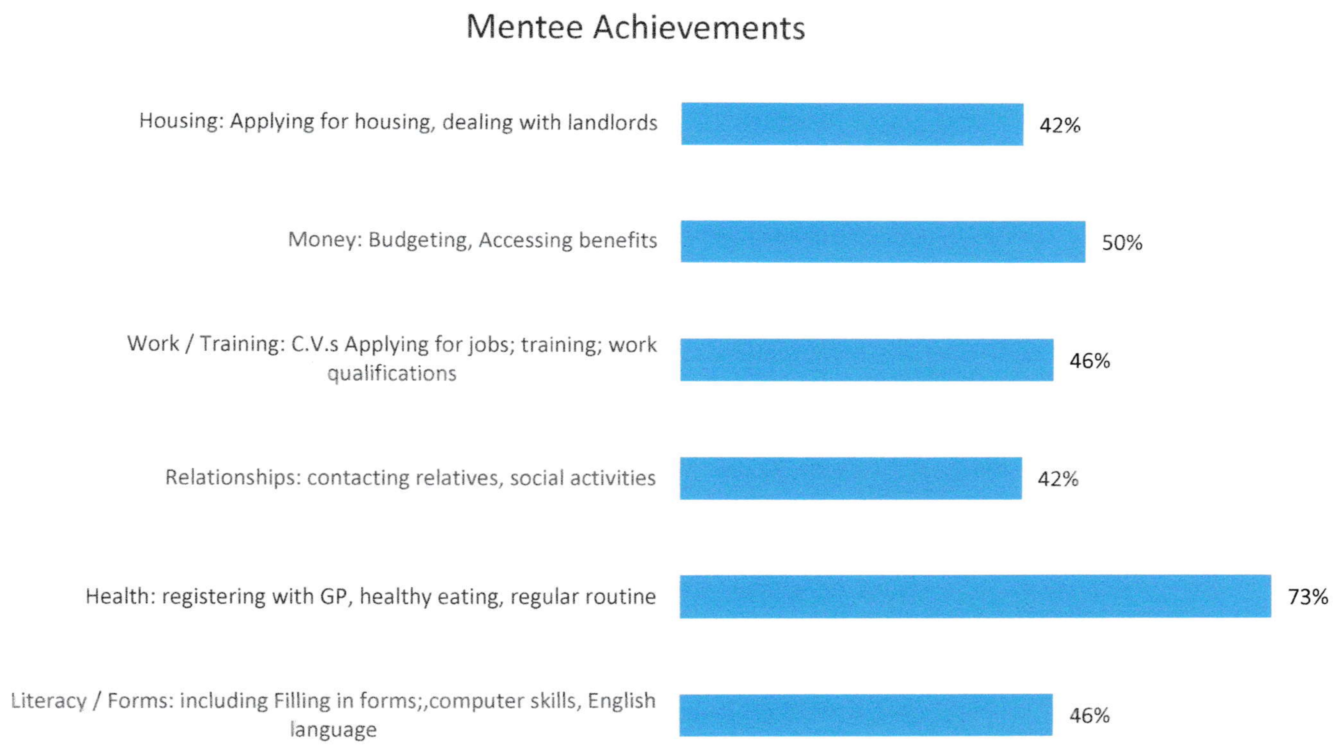
For new referrals, our outreach worker offers an initial period of support through weekly phone calls and suggestions. Some people find this sufficient and do not need further help. For those people who need more help, we will arrange a mentor.

For those people who would like more help, we arrange weekly meetings with a volunteer mentor for up to four months. This provides a unique high-quality service by combining the enthusiasm and personal interest of a volunteer with the expertise of an experienced professional. There are not many services that can offer this level of detailed supervision.

During 2022 -23, 24% (6) mentees continued their mentoring partnership for 14 meetings or longer. 36% (9) mentees took part in between 3 and 13 weeks of mentoring. 12% (3) people received some support or advice and decided they did not need a longer period of help. 28% (7) mentoring partnerships were continuing at the end of the year.

The Difference we made

During the time they were being mentored, people's lives were improved. The chart below shows the percentage of mentees that benefited in each area of life. The percentages add up to more than 100 because many mentees gained in several ways.



Service Users' views

Mentors can be helpful for people that may be having difficulties with housing, jobs and getting on the right track to help make things easier going forward in your life that you can't quite do by yourself.

S B September 2022

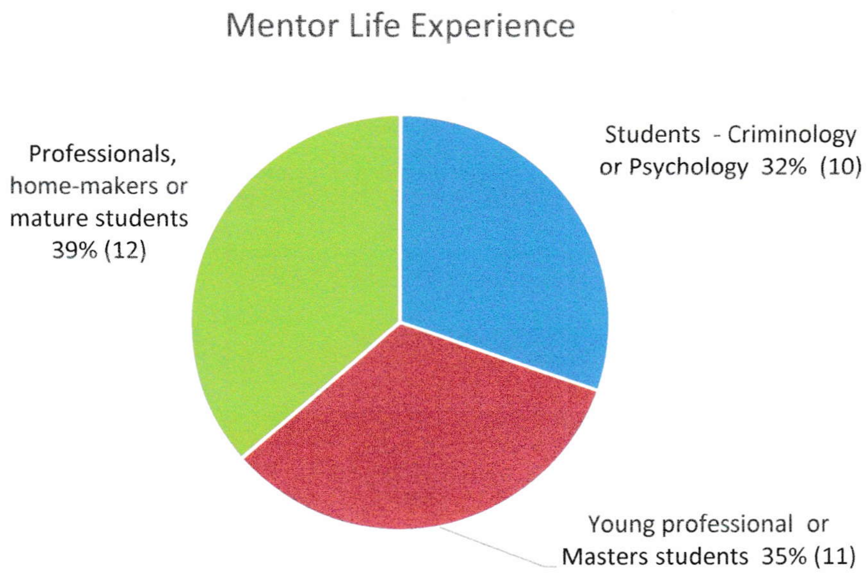
Bridging the Gap is everything to me. Without them, I would be nowhere. They helped me so much and, together, we achieved all the goals I had set for myself. I cannot thank them enough for all the help provided and I recommend the mentoring programme to everyone.

A K July 2022

Our mentors

We match mentors and mentees individually, considering their experience and their interests so that each mentee will be offered a mentor who can understand their situation and help them to make changes. To do this, we maintain a pool of potential mentors and recruit and train new mentors each year. Some mentors will only mentor once. Other mentors are happy to mentor several times. We have a wide range of volunteers with a diverse range of skills. They include university students but also young professionals and people with established careers and home lives.

During 2022-23 we ran three training courses for new mentors. 61 people were interested in volunteering. But they did not all start the training. 31 people were available for mentoring including 11 people who completed mentor training during the year. The high number of people who did not complete training may have been caused by the changes in employment following the end of the Covid pandemic.



WHAT OUR MENTORS SAY

- I would definitely recommend volunteering as a mentor to anyone! The experience was very positive; I got all the help I needed and never felt like I was left alone either during the process. The mentoring also only took a small part of my own week but it really shows how little it really takes to help change someone's life for the better.

- This organisation provides invaluable support to the people that need it the most. Whilst politicians, public services, and wider society struggle support the most vulnerable people, BTG embraces the hard work required to achieve this, and does so with great care and attention.

Income

We are grateful for grants from Islington Community Chest, the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, the Foyle Foundation, The Albert Hunt Trust and the London Community Together for London fund.and the Yapp Trust. We are also grateful for a direct donation from the customers and staff at Waitrose Highbury Corner Our direct fundraising from the public was limited by the Covid pandemic. We are grateful for some regular gifts from individual donors.

Financial Affairs

At the start of the year, the Charity's resources stood at £ 13,396.. During the year, further income was received as grants of £ 4,775 from Islington Community Chest, £ 4,000 from the Foyle Foundation £ 2,450 from the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, £ 2,000 from the Albert Hunt Trust and £ 3,000 from the Yapp Trust. We also received £ 500 from the customers and staff at Waitrose at Highbury Corner and public donations and fundraising income of £ 269. The end of year balance, after expenditure of £20,329 was therefore £12,224.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' policy is to aim to maintain sufficient reserves to cover six months' committed expenditure.

Risk Review Policy

The major risks to which the Trust is exposed are financial risks to the continuity of income and reputational risks due to failures of mentoring relationships. The steps taken to mitigate these risks are:

- undertaking fundraising on a regular basis to maintain a regular flow of grant income;
- establishing an attractive and easy to navigate website to encourage individual donations; and
- ensuring mentors are well trained and supervised.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

It is the Trustees' responsibility to prepare financial. statements for each financial year which give a fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statement,
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Although the income and assets of the charity for the year in question do not require an independent examination of the accounts and aware that this will not always be the case, the trustees have had the accounts examined and will continue to do so in subsequent years.

Approved by the trustees and signed:

Robin Latimer

Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

Michael Holloway (Trustee Treasurer)

Date: 1st November 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bridging the Gap Islington

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bridging the Gap Islington Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: NCEvans

Name: Nicholas C Evans

Address: 8 View Crescent, Tivoli Road, London N8 8RW

Date: 4 October 2023

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Robin Latimer Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

Michael Holloway M Holloway Trustee Treasurer)

Date 1st November 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023				
	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	**2022**
Current assets	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Co-operative Bank Main Account	6,816	6,293	**13,109**	14,490
Co-operative Bank Expense Account	174	-	**174**	200
Paypal Account	859	-	**859**	605
Held by Everyclick Give as You Live	7	-	**7**	7
Amounts falling due within one year	-	(1925)	**(1925)**	(1906)
Total net assets	**7,856**	**4,368**	**12,224**	13,396

Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2023	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2022
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
HMRC Gift Aid				205
London Community Fund		3,350	3,350	
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	-	4,775	4,775	4,900
Foyle Foundation		4,000	4,000	9,721
Albert Hunt Trust	-	2,000	2,000	
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust		2,450	2,450	2,000
Yapp Trust		3,000	3,000	3,000
Highbury Waitrose Donation	500		500	
Fundraising	269	-	269	280
Total incoming resources	**769**	**19,575**	**20,344**	**20,106**
Cost of generating funds	15	-	**15**	**15**
Net incoming resources	**754**	**19,575**	**20,329**	**20,091**
Resources Expended				
Insurance	-	371	371	371
DBS Checks	-	200	200	200
Outreach worker	-	11,630	11,630	10,808
Mentor supervisor salaries	-	6132	6132	3,680
Admin & Staff Expenses	-	176	176	251
Mentor Expenses	-	1,752	1,752	1,325
Administration		168	168	314
Training (inc trainers salary)	-	643	643	1,281
Management	-	429	429	1,251
Total Resources Expended		**21,501**	**21,501**	**19,481**
Net movements in funds	754	(1,926)	**(1,172)**	610
Balance at 31 March 2022	**7,102**	**6,294**	**13,396**	**12,786**
Balance at 31 March 2023	**7,856**	**4,368**	**12,224**	**13,396**

Restricted Fund Balances

Fund	**Balance at 31st March 2022**	**Income Received**	**Resources Expended**	**Balance at 31st March 2023**
London Community Fund		3,350.00	2,697.00	**653.00**
National Lottery Community Fund	3487.47		3,487.47	
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	2806.67	4775.00	5928.38	**1,653.29**
Foyle Foundation		4000.00	2,344.00	**1,656.00**
Albert Hunt Trust		2000.00	2,000.00	
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust		2450.00	2,244.00	**206**
Yapp Trust		3,000.00	2,800.00	**200**
Total Restricted Funds	**6,294.14**	**19,575.00**	**21,500.85**	**4,368.29**

BRIDGING THE GAP ISLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162671

Accounts

Bridging the Gap Islington

also known as :

Bridging the Gap Mentoring

Registered Charity No. 1162671

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending March 2022

Bridging the Gap Mentoring offers trained, expertly supervised volunteer mentors for people at risk of homelessness, offending and addiction. Regular informal support from someone who is concerned about them individually helps people to rebuild their lives.

Our volunteer mentors will meet service users about once a week for four months and work with them to achieve goals that are chosen by the service user. These goals are often related to housing, benefits, health, training and relationships. Each week they will agree tasks to be achieved that week as steps towards the longer term goal.

For new referrals, our outreach worker offers an initial period of support through weekly phone calls and suggestions. Some people find this sufficient and do not need further help. For those people who need more help, we will arrange a mentor.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees present their report together with the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

Status and Administration
Bridging the Gap Islington (the Charity) was established 1st Dec 2012, and was constituted and registered as a charitable incorporated organization (CIO), no. **1162671** on 15th July 2015.

During the year, the trustees agreed to use Bridging the Gap Mentoring as a working name for the charity because this provides an improved description of the work of the charity. Bridging the Gap Mentoring has been registered with the Charity Commission as a working name for the charity

Trustees.
There were no changes in trustees during the year. The following trustees served throughout the year.
Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)
Jonathan Joels
Greg Foxsmith
Michael H W Holloway (Treasurer)
Sharmila Rajaratnam
Clare Banham
Ruth Hayes

Banker
The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250 Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Registered Address : 33 Tollington Way, London N7 6RG

Objects
Bridging the Gap Islington offers trained, supervised volunteer mentors to provide support to people at risk of offending including people who are homeless or addicted to help them to achieve specific short term goals along their chosen path to a more constructive and participative life. We operate in North London, in the area around Islington.

Review of Activities

Trustees met formally 6 times during the year.

Our service during this year was affected by the varying levels of restrictions as a result of the Covid virus. Nevertheless, we offered online mentoring throughout the year, using Zoom and Whats App. When Covid restrictions allowed we also offered mentoring in person, either meeting outside, or when allowed, meeting in cafes.

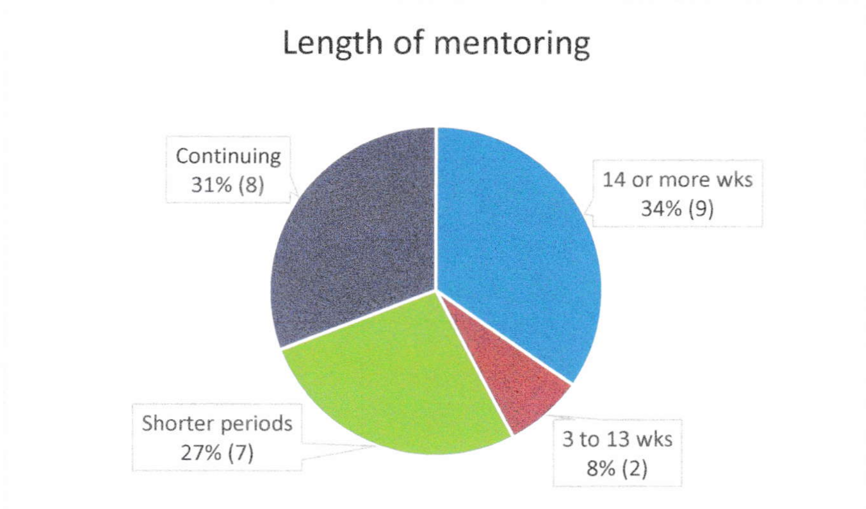
In response to the Covid restrictions we employed an outreach worker to publicise our service and to provide initial contact with new mentees through weekly phone calls. This methodical approach to publicizing our service has resulted in a steady increase in the number of referrals we received

In early 2022, we attempted to recruit an administration and fund-raising worker to reduce the work of our unpaid co-ordinator. Unfortunately, we were not able to offer enough hours work to make the job attractive in a competitive labour market. As a temporary measure, our outreach worker is also helping with administrative work. This arrangement will be reviewed as funding becomes available.

How we help

We arrange mentoring partnerships between a trained volunteer mentor and a service user who needs support. Each mentoring partnership is supervised by an experienced professional, such as a social worker. Mentoring partnerships are expected to last for 16 weekly meetings. If a service user needs more support, we can arrange a second mentoring partnership with a different mentor. But we do not usually arrange a third partnership.

Mentoring Partnerships						
Ongoing at start of year	**Commenced during the year**	**Completed**		**Shorter periods of help**	**Continuing at end of year**	**Offered but not taken up**
		14 or more wks	*3 to 13 wks*			
5	*21*	*9*	*2*	*7*	*8*	*4*



Our Service

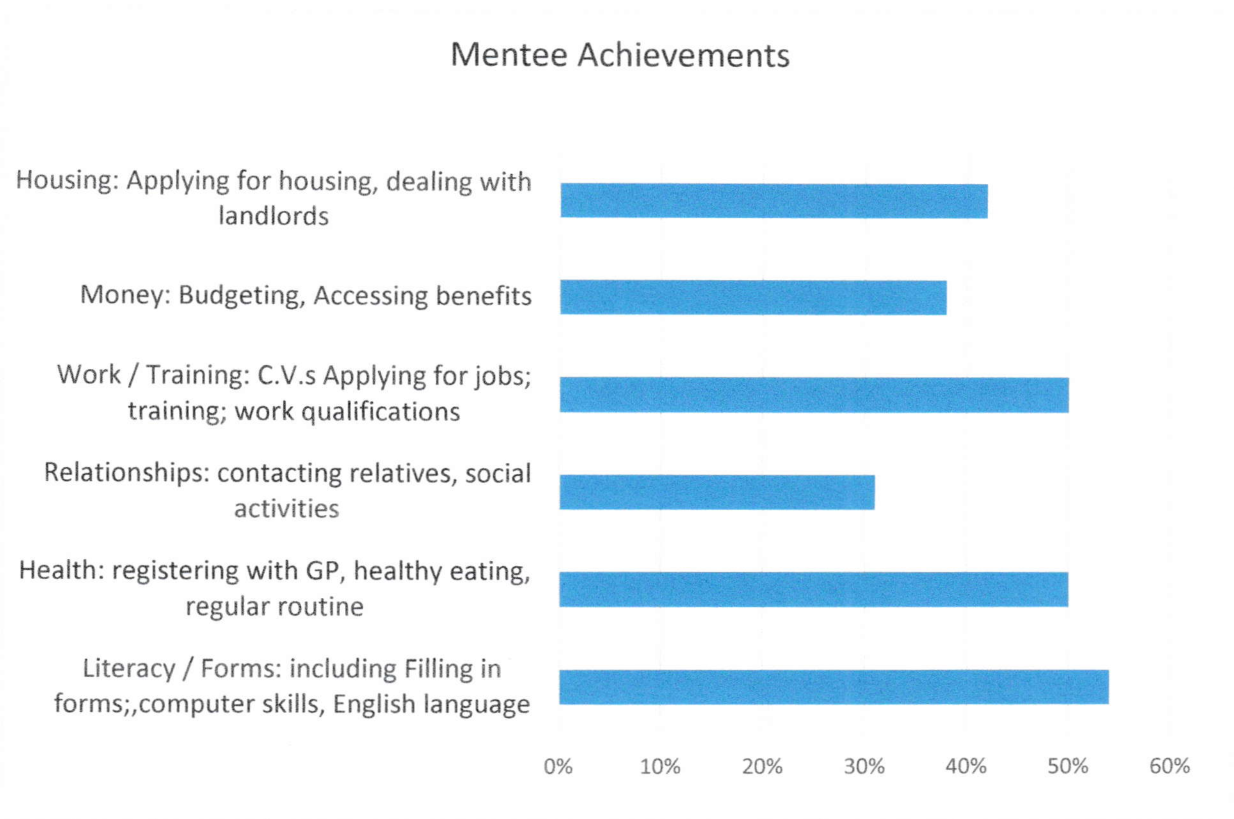
For new referrals, our outreach worker offers an initial period of support through weekly phone calls and suggestions. Some people find this sufficient and do not need further help. For those people who need more help, we will arrange a mentor.

For those people who would like more help, we arrange weekly meetings with a volunteer mentor for up to four months. This provides a unique high-quality service by combining the enthusiasm and personal interest of a volunteer with the expertise of an experienced professional. There are not many services that can offer this level of detailed supervision.

During 2021 -22, 34% (9) mentees continued their mentoring partnership for 14 meetings or longer. 8% (2) mentees took part in between 3 and 13 weeks of mentoring. 27% (7) people received some support or advice and decided they did not need a longer period of help. 31% (8) mentoring partnerships were continuing at the end of the year.

The Difference we made

During the time they were being mentored, people's lives were improved. The chart below shows the percentage of mentees that benefitted in each area of life. The percentages add up to more than 100 because many mentees gained in several ways.



A Service User's view

"Thank you to Bridging The Gap, the time I have had with my mentors has been so beneficial and enjoyable. I moved to London a year and a half ago, with no friends or family here, I knew it would be a challenge to build a life and keep my mental health in good balance. Little did I foresee a global pandemic and the added isolation and difficulties this would bring. Meeting a mentor once a week has been invaluable, it's a small thing that has helped make to me a big difference. Not only has it helped me cope through these months, I have now applied to do a course, go back into education, something I did not before believe I would be able to achieve, and so it has helped me not only just to cope, but to believe I can try to move forward and make positive changes in my life. Thank you to my mentors and Bridging The Gap Service."

Helping people back into work

Harry was recently out of prison. He wanted to make a business out of his talent for art. Although confident of his abilities as an artist, starting a business was daunting.

His mentor helped him break down what he needed to do, working together to create a plan with clear manageable goals.

They found a business course which helped Harry understand what he needed to do. Harry worked with his mentor on the actions from this, including pitching ideas and getting commissions, building his confidence in the business side. He also found a job that allowed him an income while he built up his business.

The weekly sessions kept him motivated and gave him space to talk through how he was doing. At the end of the 16 weeks he had started to get commissions for his work.

****

Jim had a history of homelessness and was living in a cramped flat share. He was working in short term poorly paid temporary jobs but wanted to save for a deposit for a flat. Jim lacked confidence to apply for better paid jobs and struggled in interviews.

Jim had a very specific role he wanted to do. With his mentor, he worked on identifying his skills and experience and widened his options to include permanent better paid positions which he would also enjoy.

He worked with his mentor on interview techniques, becoming more confident and better prepared. He said that through mentoring "I have regained belief in myself. It has given me the positive reinforcements to aim and reach my goals."

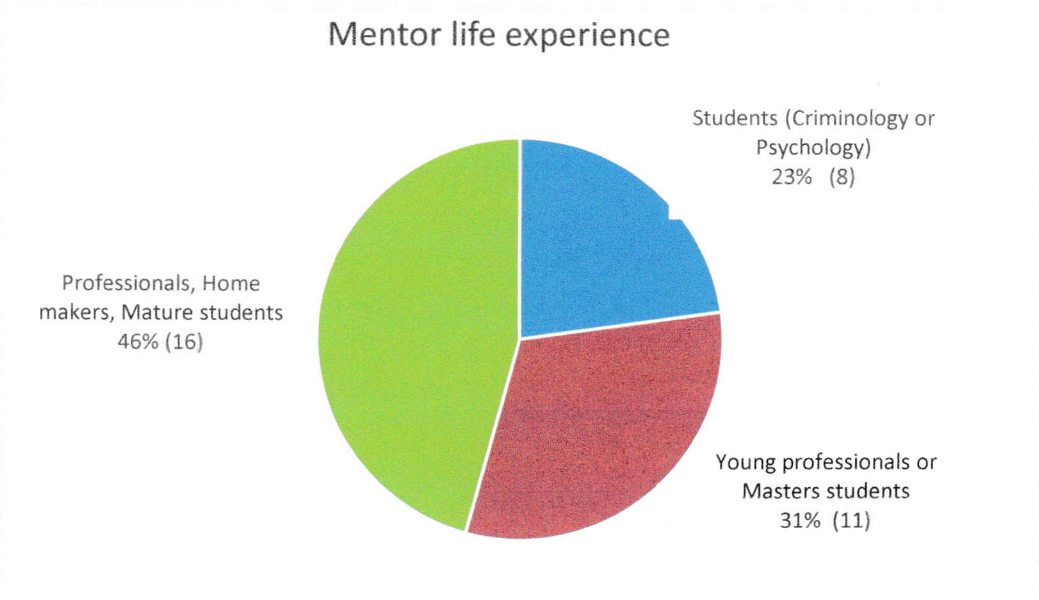
By the end of the 16 sessions Jim was offered a full-time permanent job in a university, in a role he wanted which allowed him to progress and gain new skills. He was now in a position to save for a deposit and a more stable life.

Names changed to protect confidentiality

Our mentors

We match mentors and mentees individually, considering their experience and their interests so that each mentee will be offered a mentor who can understand their situation and help them to make changes. In order to do this, we maintain a pool of potential mentors and recruit and train new mentors each year. Some mentors will only mentor once. Other mentors are happy to mentor several times. We have a wide range of volunteers with a diverse range of skills. They include university students but also young professionals and people with established careers and home lives.

During 2021-22 we ran three training courses for new mentors. 70 people were interested in volunteering. But they did not all start the training. 35 people were available for mentoring including 26 people who completed mentor training during the year.



WHAT OUR MENTORS SAY

"I was able to build a positive relationship with my mentee as a result of BTG's thoughtful and useful training, and the printed resources helped me structure the time I had with my mentee and really focus in on what he wanted to achieve."

"Volunteering at Bridging the Gap has been an extremely enlightening experience. I have learnt so much about myself and also how to work with other people. Seeing first-hand the progress that service users make in a short space of time is very rewarding. It also showed me how much service users value one-on-one time in a casual environment, where they can be open and work on goals that they have created for themselves. This leads to service-users rediscovering their confidence and independence, which is very fulfilling for them."

Income
We are grateful for grants from Islington Community Chest, the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, the National Lottery Community Fund and the Yapp Trust. Our direct fundraising from the public was limited by the Covid pandemic. We are grateful for some regular gifts from individual donors.

Financial Affairs
At the start of the year, the Charity's resources stood at £ 12,786.. During the year, further income was received as a grants of £ 9,721 from the National Lottery Community Fund, £ 4,900 from Islington Community Chest, £ 2,000 from the the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust and£ 3,000 from the Yapp Trust. We also received £205 from HMRC Gift Aid on public donations and fundraising income of £ 280. The end of year balance, after expenditure of £19,496 was therefore £13,396

Reserves Policy
The Trustees' policy is to aim to maintain sufficient reserves to cover six months' committed expenditure.

Risk Review Policy
The major risks to which the Trust is exposed are financial risks to the continuity of income and reputational risks due to failures of mentoring relationships. The steps taken to mitigate these risks are:

- undertaking fundraising on a regular basis to maintain a regular flow of grant income;
- establishing an attractive and easy to navigate website to encourage individual donations; and
- ensuring mentors are well trained and supervised.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
It is the Trustees' responsibility to prepare financial. statements for each financial year which give a fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statement,
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Although the income and assets of the charity for the year in question do not require an independent examination of the accounts and aware that this will not always be the case, the trustees have had the accounts examined and will continue to do so in subsequent years.

Approved by the trustees and signed:

Robin Latimer .... Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

M Holloway .... Michael Holloway (Trustee Treasurer)

Date: 22 August 2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bridging the Gap Islington

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bridging the Gap Islington Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:

Name: Nicholas C Evans

Address: 8 View Crescent, Tivoli Road, London N8 8RW

Date: 18 August 2022

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

Michael Holloway (Trustee Treasurer)

Date 22 August 2022

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022				
	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	**2021**
Current assets	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Co-operative Bank Main Account	6,290	8,200	**14,490**	12,988
Co-operative Bank Expense Account	200	-	**200**	200
Paypal Account	605	-	**605**	1340
Held by Everyclick Give as You Live	7	-	**7**	7
Amounts falling due within one year	-	(1906)	**(1906)**	(1749)
Total net assets	**7,102**	**6,294**	**13,396**	12,786

Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2022	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2021
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Kingsley Napley solicitors		-		150
HMRC Gift Aid	205		205	
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	-	4,900	4,900	5,000
National Lottery Community Fund		9,721	9,721	
Covid 19 community response	-			5,106
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust		2,000	2,000	1,500
Yapp Trust		3,000	3,000	
Fundraising	280	-	280	765
Total incoming resources	**485**	**19,621**	**20,106**	**12,521**
Cost of generating funds	15	**-**	**15**	25
Net incoming resources	**470**	**19,621**	**20,091**	**12,496**
Resources Expended				
Insurance	-	371	371	371
DBS Checks	-	200	200	200
Staff Salaries	-	14,802	14,802	5,427
Management and staff expenses	-	251	251	20
Mentor phone costs	-	461	461	590
Mentor Expenses	-	319	319	27
Travel		545	545	
Training	-	1,281	1,281	970
Marketing	-	357	357	138
Staff recruitment		894	894	590
Total Resources Expended		**19,481**	**19,481**	**8,333**
Net movements in funds	470	140	**610**	**4,163**
Balance at 31 March 2021	**6,632**	**6,154**	**12,786**	**8,623**
Balance at 31 March 2022	**7,102**	**6,294**	**13,396**	**12,786**

Restricted Fund Balances

Fund	**Balance at 31st March 2021**	**Income Received**	**Resources Expended**	**Balance at 31st March 2022**
National Lottery Community Fund		9,721.00	6233.53	**3487.47**
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	4,323.24	4900.00	6416.57	**2806.67**
Postcode Lottery Fund	1,584.49		1,584.49	
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust	246.39	2000.00	2,246.39	
Yapp Trust		3,000.00	3,000.00	
Total Restricted Funds	**6,154.12**	**19,621.00**	**19,480.98**	**6,294.14**

BRIDGING THE GAP ISLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162671

Accounts

Bridging the Gap Islington

(Registered Charity No. 1162671)

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

Banker
The Co-operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Registered Address
33 Tollington Way,
London
N7 6RG

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2021
The trustees present their report together with the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

Status and Administration
Bridging the Gap Islington (the Charity) was established 1st Dec 2012, and was constituted and registered as a charitable incorporated organization (CIO), no. **1162671** on 15th July 2015.

The trustees who have served during the year are as follows:
Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)
Jonathan Joels
Greg Foxsmith
Michael H W Holloway (Treasurer)
Sharmila Rajaratnam
Clare Banham
Ruth Hayes

Trustee Changes
There were no changes in trustees during the year.

Objects
The objects of the Charity are: The prevention of crime and the rehabilitation of offenders by offering offenders, ex-offenders and people at risk of offending advice, guidance and support, including to address their needs and promote their integration into the wider law-abiding community, working together with other organisations with similar aims particularly but not exclusively by providing a voluntary mentoring service for people at risk of offending.

Review of Activities
Trustees met formally 5 times during the year.

To achieve its objects, Bridging the Gap Islington offers trained, supervised mentors to provide encouragement and support over up to 16 weekly meetings for people aiming to achieve specific short term goals along their chosen path to a more constructive and participative life.

This was a difficult year. We faced major changes as a result of the COVID restrictions. But we adapted to meet the challenge and continued to offer a service through online meetings by means of Zoom and Whats App. Our co-ordinator suffered a period of ill-health. During the co-ordinator's illness, trustees and staff worked together to maintain the service.

The Covid restrictions made it particularly difficult to make contact with new mentees.This made the appointment of an outreach worker particularly urgent. We were very fortunate to fill this post with a good candidate. The work of the outreach worker made a notable contribution to increasing the number of new mentees and the level of activity towards the end of the year. We look forward to making further progress during the next financial year, both to increase the number of mentors and mentees and also to reduce our dependence on our co-ordinator by making other arrangements to cover the work he has done.

During the year, we helped 11 people through our trained, supervised mentors. This number was reduced as a result of the Covid pandemic. 8 people got access to better work or training and 8 people improved their ability to relate to others. 5 peoole were helped with health issues. 6 people improved their housing. There were also 5 people who got help with filling in forms or improved their literacy.

Mentoring partnerships						
On-going at start of year	Commenced during the year	Completed		Shorter periods of help	Continuing at end of year	Offered but not taken up
		15 or more wks	4 to 14 wks			
5	10	7	3	2	5	4

During the year 28 people expressed interest in being mentors. We ran 5 training sessions and 22 people completed training as mentors. We expect that some people who express interest may not complete the training.

We are grateful for grants from Islington Community Chest, the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust,the National Lottery Covid Response fund and Kingsley Napley Solicitors. Our direct fundraising from the public was limited by the Covid pandemic. We are grateful for some regular gifts from individual donors.

Financial Affairs
At the start of the year, the Charity's resources stood at £ 8,623.. During the year, further income was received as a grants of £ 5,106 from the National Lottery Covid Response Fund, £ 5,000 from Islington Community Chest and £ 1,500 from the the Mrs Smith and Mount Trust. We also received £150 from Kingsley Napley solicitors and fundraising income of £ 765. The end of year balance, after expenditure of £8,333 was therefore £12,786

Reserves Policy
The Trustees' policy is to aim to maintain sufficient reserves to cover six months' committed expenditure.

Risk Review Policy
The major risks to which the Trust is exposed are financial risks to the continuity of income and reputational risks due to failures of mentoring relationships. The steps taken to mitigate these risks are:

- undertaking fundraising on a regular basis to maintain a regular flow of grant income;
- establishing an attractive and easy to navigate website to encourage individual donations; and
- ensuring mentors are well trained and supervised.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
It is the Trustees' responsibility to prepare financial. statements for each financial year which give a fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statement,
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Although the income and assets of the charity for the year in question do not require an independent examination of the accounts and aware that this will not always be the case, the trustees have had the accounts examined and will continue to do so in subsequent years.

Approved by the trustees and signed:

Robin Latimer .... Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

M Holloway .... Michael Holloway (Trustee Treasurer)

Date: 27 October 2021

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bridging the Gap Islington
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bridging the Gap Islington Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:

NCEvans.

Name: Nicholas C Evans

Address: 8 View Crescent, Tivoli Road, London N8 8RW

Date: 18 October 2021

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Unrestricte funds	Restricted funds	Total	2020
Current assets	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Co-operative Bank Main Account	6,834	6,154	**12,988**	8,199
Co-operative Bank Expense Account	200	-	**200**	200
Paypal Account	1,340	-	**1340**	600
Held by Everyclick Give as You Live	7	-	**7**	7
Amounts falling due within one year	-	(1749)	**(1749)**	(383)
Total net assets	**8,381**	**4,405**	**12,786**	8,623

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Robin Latimer Robin Latimer (Co-ordinator)

Michael Holloway M Holloway (Trustee Treasurer)

Date 29 October 2021

Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2021	Total for year ending 31st Mar 2020
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Peoples Postcode Trust	-			5,150
Kingsley Napley solicitors	150	-	**150**	1,000
HMRC Gift Aid				369
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest	-	5,000	**5,000**	
Covid 19 community response	-	5106	**5,106**	
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust		1,500	**1,500**	
Fundraising	765	-	**765**	1,468
Total incoming resources	**915**	**11,606**	**12,521**	7,987
Cost of generating funds	25	-	**25**	44
Net incoming resources	**890**	**11,606**	**12,496**	7,943
Resources Expended				
Insurance	-	371	371	371
DBS Checks	-	200	200	
Outreach and Admin Salaries	-	3,899	3,899	5,396
Mentor supervisor salaries	-	1,528	1,528	2,543
Admin Expenses	-			376
Supervisor expenses	-	20	20	420
Mentor phone costs	-	590	590	84
Mentor Expenses	-	27	27	1153
Printing	-	38	38	40
Training	-	970	970	229
Marketing	-	100	100	47
Staff recruitment		590	590	
Total Resources Expended		**8,333**	**8,333**	10,659
Net movements in funds	890	3,273	**4,163**	(2,716)
Balance at 31 March 2020	**5,742**	**2,881**	**8,623**	11,339
Balance at 31 March 2021	**6,632**	**6,154**	**12,786**	8,623

Restricted Fund Balances

Fund	**Balance at 31st March 2020**	**Income Received**	**Resources Expended**	**Balance at 31st March 2021**
National Lottery Covid 19 funding		5,106.00 -	5,106.00	
Cripplegate Islington Community Chest		5,000.00	676.76	**4,323.24**
Postcode Lottery Fund	2,880.89		1,296.40	**1,584.49**
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust		1,500.00	1,253.61	**246.39**
Total Restricted Funds	**2,880.89**	**11,606.00**	**8,332.77**	**6,154.12**