

# JUSTUS

England & Wales · Charity number 1166198

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2016-03-23

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

## Contact

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**Address** 16A De Parys Avenue  
Bedford  
MK40 2TW

**Phone** 07854841151

**Email** [info@justus.org.uk](mailto:info@justus.org.uk)

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

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROMOTE THE RELIEF OF NEED FOR THE HOMELESS OR VULNERABLY HOUSED BY PROVIDING ADVICE, ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT. VULNERABLY HOUSED IS TAKEN TO INCLUDE THOSE WHO STRUGGLE TO AFFORD THEIR ACCOMMODATION AND SO ARE AT RISK OF FALLING INTO RENT ARREARS, THOSE WHO STRUGGLE TO MANAGE THEIR TENANCY WITHOUT SUPPORT, THOSE WHO LIVE IN PROPERTIES WHERE THE PHYSICAL CONDITION SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTS THE WELLBEING OF THE OCCUPANTS, THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE, OR ARE AT RISK OF EXPERIENCING ABUSE OR HARASSMENT IN THEIR HOME AND THOSE WHERE THE LANDLORD HAS NOT FOLLOWED DUE PROCEDURES WHILST RENTING OUT THE PROPERTY. THESE FACTORS IN TURN PLACE THE OCCUPANTS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS OR LIVING IN UNACCEPTABLE CONDITIONS.

**Activities:** To promote the relief of need for the homeless or vulnerably housed by providing advice, advocacy and support.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Bedford

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-11-07	£46,843	£28,536	-	-
2024-11-07	£35,623	£25,096	-	-
2023-11-07	£40,127	£40,042	-	-
2022-11-07	£60,001	£69,070	-	-
2021-11-07	£93,241	£64,198	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Laurence Freeman		2025-02-04
Mark Stedman		2021-10-07
Robert Muncaster		2021-10-15
Samantha Price		2021-06-09

**JUSTUS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166198

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **Period start date** 08 November 2024 **To** **Period end date** 07 November 2025

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** JustUs

**Other names charity is known by** None

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1166198

**Charity's principal address** 16a De Parys Avenue  
 Bedford  
 Postcode MK40 2TW

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mark Stedman			
2	Robert Muncaster			
3	Samantha Price			
4	Laurence Freeman		04/02/2025 to 07/11/2025	
5				
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### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

## Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Foundation
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote the relief of need for the homeless or vulnerably housed by providing advice, advocacy and support.

Vulnerably housed is taken to include those who struggle to afford their accommodation and so are at risk of falling into rent arrears, those who struggle to manage their tenancy without support, those who live in properties where the physical condition significantly effects the wellbeing of the occupants, those who experience, or are at risk of experiencing abuse or harassment in their home and those where the landlord has not followed due procedures whilst renting out the property. These factors in

turn place the occupants at risk of homelessness or living in unacceptable conditions.

JustUs provides support and advocacy to the adult population of Bedford Borough who are socially excluded. This includes adults with dependent children who will indirectly benefit.

We include within our understanding of socially excluded those people who are living with mental health issues, people with substance misuse problems, people who are homeless or face the threat of homelessness, people who do not enjoy a basic standard of housing, people with learning difficulties, people fleeing violence (domestic or otherwise) and people facing prejudice and discrimination.

Support and advocacy includes anything that helps socially excluded people receive fair and ethical treatment from those that are duty-bound to provide it.

Because of the nature and enormity of social exclusion, we have initially focussed our efforts on homeless people, or those facing the threat of homelessness, and our priorities lie with securing accommodation and getting the wrap-around support that should go with that accommodation for such people. We recognise that homeless people are one of the most marginalised people groups in society and also recognise that the issues that go alongside homelessness often include the other issues mentioned in our objects. Many homeless people are failing to get the legal duty of assistance that is owed to them from Local Authority and other housing providers and are being overlooked when it comes to housing them in independent living accommodation. These individuals are poorly represented and may lack the knowledge around housing law to effectively argue their own case. JustUs challenges the Local Authority and other housing providers to ensure that these individuals are treated according to the law.

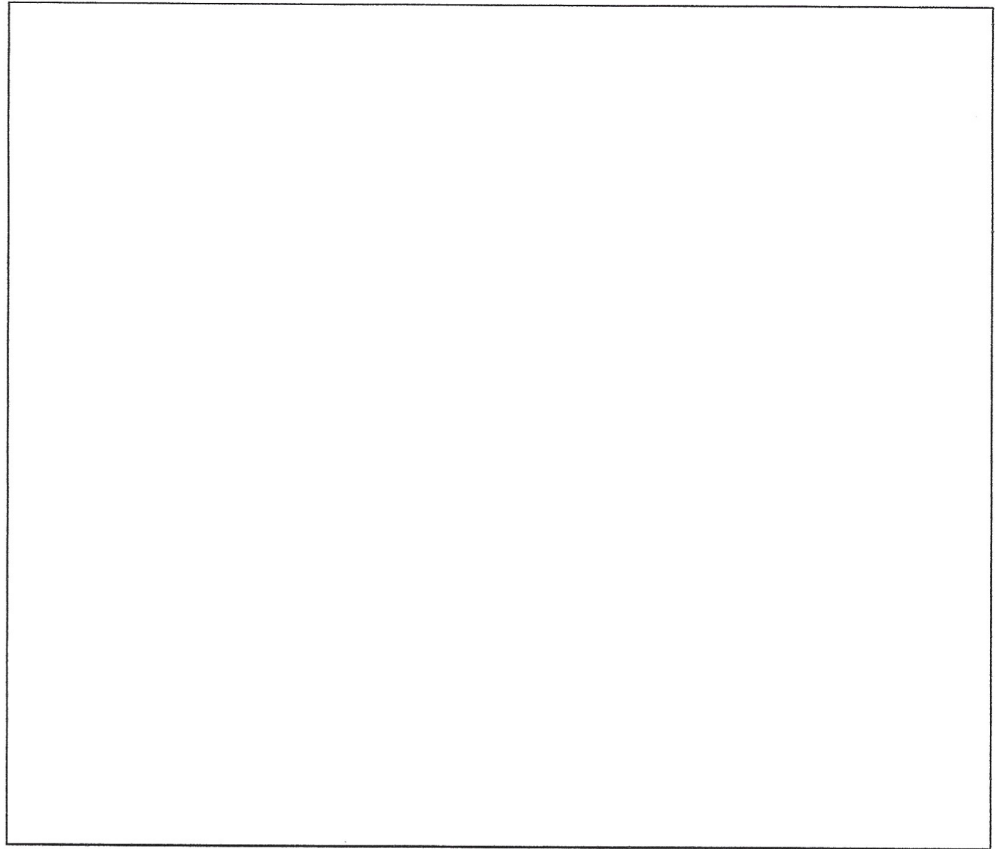
The trustees are aware of, and have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.



**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

In our last financial year JustUs had a total income of £46,842.94 and a total expenditure of £28,536.37.

Our total casework costs were £16,198.74. This includes caseworkers' holiday pay and caseworkers' professional supervisions.

**Housing Outcomes**

During this year JustUs supported 92 individuals from 44 households. These households comprised of 54 adults (including 5 that were pregnant) and 38 children.

From these 44 households:

- 9 have moved into new homes.
- 26 now have live housing register accounts and are currently bidding on properties with 19 currently doing so whilst in Local Authority (LA) temporary accommodation (TA), 6 doing so whilst remaining in their current accommodation and 1 doing so whilst rough sleeping as there was no duty to temporarily house him.
- 1 only required support to get a non-priority decision overturned on review. This was successful.
- 1 moved in with extended family.
- 1 that was originally gatekept from TA secured TA following an informal request to the LA from JustUs.
- 1 was indisputably not in priority need however a complaint was made against the LA for historic maladministration. The complaint was successfully upheld.
- 1 was mis-referred as being overcrowded when they weren't.
- 1 only required support in claiming an LA Discretionary Housing Payment however he disengaged in the process.
- 1 young adult aged 17 who was apparently being evicted by her mother and who was referred through Children's Services disengaged as it transpired there was no eviction.
- 2 had made themselves intentionally homeless. 1 through rent arrears choosing instead to send large quantities of money overseas and the other for creating extensive disrepair to their social housing property.

This means that for reporting purposes JustUs were able to support each individual (79 people) to a positive housing outcome for an average cost of £205.04 per person.

JustUs has also supported another 29 individuals (including 1 that was pregnant) from a further 15 households (19 adults and 10 children) whose future housing has yet to be determined. These individuals remain open to us and will continue to receive support from JustUs throughout the next financial year until their housing situation reaches a conclusion.

In total JustUs supported 121 individuals (73 adults and 48 children) from 59 households.

From those 59 households:

- 3 had to leave their current properties due to damp, mould and disrepair,
- 16 were fleeing from/suffering from domestic abuse (13 females 3 males),
- 1 father couldn't secure suitable 2-bed accommodation until he had won custody of his child. The paradox being that he couldn't win custody of his child until he secured suitable accommodation. He and child have now been successfully housed,
- 1 had to leave their current property as it became unaffordable due to the death of their partner,
- 1 had to leave their current property as it was too close in proximity to where they were sexually assaulted,
- 1 had to leave their current property due to being burgled. The police deemed it too high risk for them to return,
- 1 abandoned their temporary accommodation (TA) for legitimate reasons. Alternative TA was secured,
- 1 had to leave their current property due to overcrowding,
- 1 had to leave their houseboat/cruiser accommodation as it became unaffordable and ongoing health conditions made remaining there untenable,
- 1 was evicted from supported accommodation,
- 1 was served a section 21 eviction notice from a House of Multiple Occupation (HMO) as the landlord wanted to convert the property into an air B&B,
- 2 were intentionally homeless so a fresh homeless application was made in their adult child's names, and
- 1 was forced to leave their current property due to intimidation and threats of violence from the landlord.

#### **Reviews, Informal Requests and Complaints**

To secure housing for some individuals and/or families, and as a natural part of our work JustUs have inevitably had to challenge Local Authorities at various stages in the process. This has resulted in:

- 4 successful reviews of the suitability of temporary accommodation (TA) with an additional 2 being unsuccessful,
- 5 successful changes of TA following informal requests/complaints,
- 2 fresh approaches following original gatekept homeless applications,

- 1 fresh approach following original 'not homeless' decision and following informal complaint,
- 3 non-priority final decisions overturned following successful reviews,
- 1 non-priority final decision review denied due to exceeding the review deadline. A fresh application with new information was made instead.
- 1 intentional homeless decision overturned following a successful review,
- 2 intentional homeless decision reviews pending final decisions,
- 2 increases in housing register bandings following the LA's reluctance to do so,
- 1 increase in housing register bedroom need following the LA's reluctance to do so,
- 1 'no reason to believe in priority need' decision [therefore not eligible for TA] overturned following informal complaint. TA successfully secured,
- 1 'not eligible for assistance' decision [therefore not eligible for TA] overturned following informal complaint. TA successfully secured.
- 1 self-contained TA secured for someone fleeing domestic abuse despite the LA trying to impose the use of a refuge against the person's wishes,
- 1 TA secured through informal request/complaint despite the application originally being gatekept,
- 2 changes of housing officers [same officer] due to unprofessionalism and rudeness,
- 2 gatekeeping complaints upheld – financial compensation requested/decisions pending,
- 1 compensation payout [£4,000] for being placed in unsuitable TA for too long,
- 1 compensation payout [£400] for being left unnecessarily homeless, and
- 1 complaint upheld for the slipshod use of template decision letters – maladministration.

#### **Additional Support**

For those that have been newly rehoused, either temporarily or permanently JustUs has spent £2,221.65 on white goods, beds and small household goods by using our own funds or from funds kindly donated by:

- Help the Homeless
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund, and
- Members of the public

JustUs also gave further assistance to those that moved into permanent accommodation by supporting them to complete Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support claims and to set-up utilities at a cost of £42.36

#### **Giving Information to Others**

JustUs also spent £429.73 giving information to members of the public (31 people), local councillors (on 4 occasions) or other professionals so that they too could support people with their housing issues. Information was given to:

- Community Led Initiative,
- The Community Mental Health Team,
- Bedford Probation Service (on 3 occasions),
- Bedfordshire Social Prescribers (on 2 occasions),
- Path to Recovery (on 5 occasions),
- Carers in Bedfordshire (on 2 occasions),
- Riverside Floating Support (on 3 occasions),
- Bedford Borough Council Children's Services, and
- The Kings Arms Project

#### **Other Costs**

There are of course other costs incurred to enable us to do our work, and these are as follows:

- Administration including caseworker/trustees' meetings (hours worked) £2,741.05
- Other admin costs (professional registrations, stationery, postage, printer ink, website hosting, website updating, IT support) £1,160.68
- Promoting better practice (hours worked) £4,109.64
- Caseworker Health & Safety training £173.43
- Client ID costs £84.00
- Travel £623.64
- Parking £5.50
- Insurance £442.10
- Accountant's fee £200.00,
- Quiz expenses £63.85
- Gift vouchers for people with lived experience contributing to the JustUs/HBP forum £40.00

**A Couple of Items Worth Sharing**

Alongside the Harpur Trust and the Bedford Independent newspaper it was a privilege for JustUs to be nominated as partner charity for the Everyday Heroes Awards where one of our trustees made a presentation at the awards ceremony outlining the work we do. This presentation can be seen on our website [www.justus.org.uk](http://www.justus.org.uk)

We would like to believe that our tireless campaigning through social media, informal and formal complaints and review requests to our local council and asking awkward questions at our council's Housing Committee meetings about the suitability of temporary accommodation (TA) due to damp, mould and disrepair has led to the recruitment of 2 new officers at the council whose sole function is to check that TA properties are suitable for habitation prior to the council procuring them or in between lets. However, I am certain the council would not acknowledge the part we played in this.

**Funding Sources**

Finally, this year JustUs has been successful in securing funding from, and would like to thank:

- The Harpur Trust Main Grant third and fourth tranches of 3-year funding £17,193.00
- The Steel Charitable Trust's Stability Fund via the Bedford and Luton Community Foundation third and final tranches of 2-year funding £9,998.00
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund £2,500.00
- Project Eidos £3,000.00
- The Panacea Charitable Trust first tranche of new 2-year funding £7,993.00

We also continue to receive regular monthly donations from our core supporters from the general public amounting to an amazing £4,923.90 with Gift Aid from last year coming in at £1,235.04.

**Please Donate**

If you would like to donate to JustUs either as a one-off donation or as a regular donation then the best way to do this is by BACS transfer. Our bank details are:

Account name: JUSTUS

Account number: 68435681

Sort code: 60-02-13

Additionally, please email us at [info@justus.org.uk](mailto:info@justus.org.uk) so that we can discuss how to claim Gift Aid on your donation. All donations will be gratefully received.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At a meeting of the Trustees held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Trustees considered what level of funding the charity should hold in reserve.

It was agreed that JustUs would continue to hold 3 month's operational costs in reserve up until the review date of December 2026. Based on current levels of expenditure (a mean average of 3 month's operational costs equalling £4,712) then the reserves would be increased to £4,700.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F

## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

### Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Mark, A, Steadman	S Price
Full name(s)	MARK, A, STEADMAN	SAMANTHA PRICE
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE,	TRUSTEE

Date 6-3-2026



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

JustUs

1166198

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	08/11/2024	To	07/11/2025
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fundraising / Donations	-	2,990	-	2,990	3,040
Donations (Campaigning)	-	1,788	-	1,788	1,760
Training Fund	1,285	-	-	1,285	6,563
CAF Household Goods Fund	-	96	-	96	539
BLCF Frank Branston Trust	-	-	-	-	2,999
Harpur Trust Main Grant 2	-	17,193	-	17,193	8,597
BLCF Stability Fund	-	9,998	-	9,998	10,000
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	2,125
Project EIDOS	-	3,000	-	3,000	-
Panacea Charitable Trust	-	7,993	-	7,993	-
BHP White Goods Fund	-	2,500	-	2,500	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>45,558</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46,843</b>	<b>35,623</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>45,558</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46,843</b>	<b>35,623</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Fundraising / Donations	-	642	-	642	220
Training Fund	1,319	-	-	1,319	2,175
Harpur Trust Main Grant	-	-	-	-	2,833
BHP Real Change Fund	-	-	-	-	487
BLCF Frank Branston Trust	-	-	-	-	6,891
Harpur Trust Main Grant 2	-	16,676	-	16,676	10,499
BLCF Stability Fund	-	7,678	-	7,678	1,991
BHP Household Goods Fund	-	710	-	710	-
CAF Fund	-	281	-	281	-
BHP White Goods Fund	-	1,230	-	1,230	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>27,217</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,536</b>	<b>25,096</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>27,217</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,536</b>	<b>25,096</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 34</b>	<b>18,341</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,307</b>	<b>10,527</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>- 34</b>	<b>18,341</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,307</b>	<b>10,527</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18,341</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Mark H. Steadman	MARK STEDMAN	14/2/26
S Price	SAMANTHA PRICE	6/3/26



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
JustUs

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

7th November 2025

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1166198

**Set out on pages**

3

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **07 / 11 / 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 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 [REDACTED] in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

[Signature]

**Date:**

04/02/2026

**Name:**

Mr Sanjay Vadher FCCA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants

**Address:**

18 Astor Park

Maidstone, Kent

ME16 8FP

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

NONE



**JUSTUS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166198

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date **From** 08 November 2023 **To** Period end date 07 November 2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name JustUs

Other names charity is known by None

Registered charity number (if any) 1166198

Charity's principal address 16a De Parys Avenue

Bedford

Postcode

MK40 2TW

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2	Robert Muncaster			
3	Samantha Price			
4	Luke Larner		08/11/2023 to 06/02/2024	
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### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

## Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

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turn place the occupants at risk of homelessness or living in unacceptable conditions.

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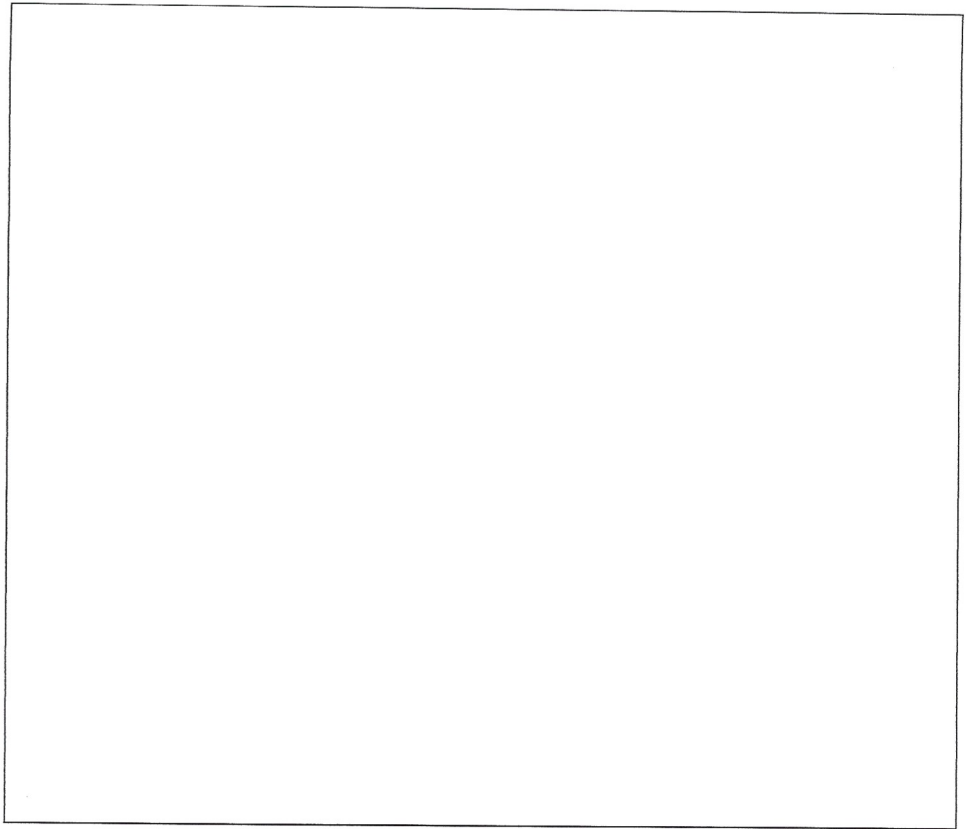
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- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

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**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

In our last financial year JustUs had a total income of £35,622.85 and a total expenditure of £25,096.11.

Our total casework costs were £14,273.20. This includes caseworkers' holiday pay and caseworkers' professional supervisions.

During this year JustUs supported 86 individuals from 38 households. These households comprised of 45 adults (including 2 that were pregnant) and 41 children.

From these 38 households:

- 7 have moved into new homes.
- 20 remain in Local Authority temporary accommodation with the guarantee of a new home, however 1 household has disengaged.
- 1 under 18-year-old remains in his current accommodation with the support of his extended family and the Local Authority's Children's Services. JustUs helped facilitate the support from Children's Services.
- 1 mother and child have moved back home.
- 1 remains in her current accommodation as the family that were evicting her changed their minds.
- 1 remains in her current accommodation after mould and damp was successfully treated.
- 1 was evicted from supported accommodation but had no priority need and chose to be supported by his partner.
- 1 simply requested JustUs' oversight to ensure the smooth running of a court eviction. No other support was requested.
- 3 returned to the areas where they had local connection.
- 1 returned to prison but prior to that JustUs were able to get an intentional homeless decision overturned.
- 1 whose tenancy ended wanted information only.

This means that for reporting purposes JustUs were able to support each individual to a positive housing conclusion (75 people) for an average cost of £190.31 per person.

JustUs also spent £562.87 giving information to members of the public (43 people), local councillors (on 8 occasions) or other professionals so that they too could support people with their housing issues. Information was given to:

- Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association
- New Opportunities and Horizons (NOAH)
- YouTurn Futures
- The Stroke Association

- Community Led Initiative (on 9 occasions)
- HMP Durham
- Migrant Help
- Bedford Women's Centre
- Bedford Borough Council's Safeguarding Team
- Surrey Hills Legal Services
- The Community Mental Health Team (on 2 occasions)
- Bedford Probation Service (on 3 occasions)
- Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity
- Social Interest Group (Penrose) Holman House
- Forest of Dean Social Prescriber
- Path to Recovery (on 3 occasions)

JustUs has also supported another 15 individuals (including 1 that was pregnant) from a further 9 households (12 adults and 3 children) whose future housing has yet to be determined. These individuals remain open to us and will continue to receive support from JustUs throughout the next financial year until their housing situation reaches a conclusion.

In total JustUs supported 101 individuals (57 adults and 44 children) from 47 households.

From those 47 households:

- 3 individuals were suffering from anti-social behaviour. 1 individual was moved from his own home because the anti-social behaviour from others posed a risk to his safety, 1 individual was suffering from anti-social behaviour whilst in temporary accommodation and 1 individual was suffering from anti-social behaviour whilst in supported accommodation.
- 1 household is living with damp and mould with Bedford Borough Council's Environmental Health Team refusing to inspect the property.
- 2 households were placed in temporary accommodation that had damp and mould
- 1 mother and her 3 children were placed in temporary accommodation that had damp and mould and a rat infestation.
- 1 mother and her young daughter were placed in 3 separate rooms in the same hotel temporary accommodation all of which had fleas.
- 2 mothers with children were placed in temporary accommodation in the same block of flats and were suffering from anti-social behaviour as the block of flats was being used as a haven for street drinkers and drug dealers and users.
- 1 mother and her 5 children had to be moved from their temporary

accommodation because when it rained the roof leaked which flooded the bathroom.

- 1 pregnant lady had to be moved to a hotel whilst repair work was completed on her former temporary accommodation.
- 1 lady is inappropriately housed too close to where she was sexually assaulted and is still waiting to be temporarily rehoused.

To secure housing for some individuals and/or families, and as a natural part of our work JustUs have inevitably had to challenge Local Authorities at various stages in the process. This has resulted in:

- 8 successful reviews of the suitability of temporary accommodation. Twice for 1 household.
- 1 unsuccessful review of the suitability of temporary accommodation
- 2 reviews of the suitability of temporary accommodation final decisions pending
- 1 review of the suitability of temporary accommodation cancelled as the family were permanently housed before the review end date.
- 1 successful informal complaint regarding the suitability of temporary accommodation
- 1 stage 2 formal complaint regarding the suitability of temporary accommodation final decision pending.
- 1 prevention of eviction from temporary accommodation
- 1 successful formal complaint resulting in £300 compensation for a household that was given the wrong advice by the council
- 1 intentional homeless decision overturned
- 2 homeless applications gatekept on a lone approach by the clients but resolved on the second approaches with the support of JustUs.
- 1 gatekept temporary accommodation request overturned as a result of a solicitor's pre (court) action letter being sent to the council. The same person was left unnecessarily homeless for 73 days. Complaint upheld, decision on compensation pending.
- 1 gatekept temporary accommodation resolved following a formal complaint.
- 2 reviews of non-priority decisions pending.

For those that have been newly rehoused, either temporarily or permanently JustUs has spent £1,972.84 on furniture and small household goods by using our own funds or from funds kindly donated by:

- Help the Homeless
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund, and

- Members of the public

JustUs also gave further assistance to those that moved into permanent accommodation by supporting them to complete Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support claims and to set-up utilities at a cost of £66.58

There are of course other costs incurred to enable us to do our work, and these are as follows:

- Administration (hours worked) £2,771.85
- Other admin costs (professional registrations, stationery, postage, printer ink website hosting) £758.28
- Promoting better practice (hours worked) £3,159.37
- Travel £535.35
- Parking £40.50
- IT support £118.17
- Insurance £437.10
- Consultation fees £220.00 and
- Gift vouchers for people with lived experience contributing to the JustUs/HBP forum £180.00

#### Items of Note

JustUs has finally (after approximately 8 years of campaigning) got Bedford Borough Council to commit to developing a stand-alone domestic abuse policy for homeless people. Development is currently underway.

As Bedford Borough Council's main focus is on the prevention of homelessness there is now a lot of pressure put on residents who have received a section 21 eviction notice to remain in their properties beyond the section 21 end date up to the date where a court has imposed a possession notice. This does not prevent homelessness it just defers it, and in most circumstances goes against the government's guidance. However, when it is in the interests of the resident to stay put for those extra few months and the section 21 eviction is clearly a 'no fault' eviction JustUs has got the council, based on a case-by-case assessment, to commit to paying the court costs that the resident will naturally incur.

JustUs has always hoped that its advocacy model would be replicated elsewhere around the country, so we were pleased when some volunteers from the London-based organisation Streets Kitchen CIC reached out to us because they wanted to set up their own 'legal clinic'. We are currently mentoring these volunteers to set up their own charity to do the same work that we do.

JustUs continues to push to improve practice within the homeless sector through our social media, as a member of the Bedford Homeless Partnership and by regularly putting forward questions to the local councillors sitting on Bedford Borough Council's Housing Committee. JustUs has also teamed up with Homeless Best Practice CIC to develop a forum of people with lived experience of homelessness to pose questions to the same Committee.

Finally, this year JustUs has been successful in securing funding from, and would like to thank:

- The Harpur Trust Main Grant second tranche of 3-year funding £8,596.50
- The Frank Branston Trust second tranche of 1-year funding £2,999.00
- The Steel Charitable Trust's Stability Fund via the Bedford and Luton Community Foundation first and second tranches of new 2-year funding £10,000.00
- Project Eidos £3,000.00

We also continue to receive regular monthly donations from our core supporters from the general public amounting to an amazing £8,902.40 with Gift Aid coming in at £2,124.95.

If you would like to donate to JustUs either as a one-off donation or as a regular donation then the best way to do this is by BACS transfer. Our bank details are:

Account name: JUSTUS

Account number: 68435681

Sort code: 60-02-13

Additionally, please email us at [info@justus.org.uk](mailto:info@justus.org.uk) so that we can discuss how to claim Gift Aid on your donation. All donations will be gratefully received.

## Section E

## Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At a meeting of the Trustees held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Trustees considered what level of funding the charity should hold in reserve.

It was agreed that JustUs would continue to hold 3 month's operational costs in reserve up until the review date of December 2025. Based on current levels of expenditure (a mean average of 3 month's operational costs equalling £4,084) £4,300 would remain in reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F

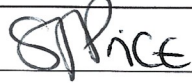
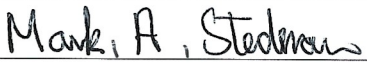
## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	SAMANTHA JANE PRICE	MARK STEDMAN
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE.
Date	24/02/2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

JustUs

1166198

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	08/11/2023	To	07/11/2024
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fundraising / Donations	-	3,040	-	3,040	3,320
Donations (Campaigning)	-	1,760	-	1,760	1,507
Training Fund	6,563	-	-	6,563	3,884
CAF Fund	539	-	-	539	275
BHP Real Change Fund	-	-	-	-	2,000
Harpur Trust Main Grant	-	-	-	-	13,000
BLCF Frank Branston Trust	-	2,999	-	2,999	7,000
Harpur Trust Main Grant 2	-	8,597	-	8,597	8,597
Sale of Laptops	-	-	-	-	544
BLCF Stability Fund	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
Gift Aid	2,125	-	-	2,125	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>9,227</b>	<b>26,396</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,623</b>	<b>40,127</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>9,227</b>	<b>26,396</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,623</b>	<b>40,127</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Fundraising / Donations	-	220	-	220	5,533
Training Fund	2,175	-	-	2,175	2,844
Harpur Trust Main Grant	-	2,833	-	2,833	20,167
CAF Fund	-	-	-	-	306
Arnold Clark Household Goods Fund	-	-	-	-	453
BHP Real Change Fund	-	487	-	487	803
Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund	-	-	-	-	4,643
Donations (Campaigning)	-	-	-	-	2,105
BLCF Frank Branston Trust	-	6,891	-	6,891	3,108
Harpur Trust Main Grant 2	-	10,499	-	10,499	80
BLCF Stability Fund	-	1,991	-	1,991	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,175</b>	<b>22,921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,096</b>	<b>40,042</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2,175</b>	<b>22,921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,096</b>	<b>40,042</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>7,052</b>	<b>3,475</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,527</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>7,052</b>	<b>3,475</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,527</b>	<b>85</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>7,052</b>	<b>3,475</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	SAMANTHA JANE PRICE	13.2.25
	MARK STEADMAN	21/2/25



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
JustUs

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

7th November 2024

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1166198

**Set out on pages**

3

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **07 / 11 / 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 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 [REDACTED] in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*SVadher*

**Date:**

06/02/2025

**Name:**

Mr Sanjay Vadher FCCA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants

**Address:**

18 Astor Park

Maidstone, Kent

ME16 8FP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

NONE



**JUSTUS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166198

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date: From Day 08 Month 11 Year 2022 To Day 07 Month 11 Year 2023

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name JustUs

Other names charity is known by None

Registered charity number (if any) 1166198

Charity's principal address 16a De Parys Avenue  
 Bedford  
 Postcode MK40 2TW

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mark Stedman			
2	Robert Muncaster			
3	Samantha Price			
4	Luke Larner			
5	Araba Taylor		08/11/2022 to 28/07/2023	
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

## Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, charitable company)</small>	Foundation
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointment, elected by)</small>	Appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

--

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote the relief of need for the homeless or vulnerably housed by providing advice, advocacy and support.

Vulnerably housed is taken to include those who struggle to afford their accommodation and so are at risk of falling into rent arrears, those who struggle to manage their tenancy without support, those who live in properties where the physical condition significantly effects the wellbeing of the occupants, those who experience, or are at risk of experiencing abuse or harassment in their home and those where the landlord has not followed due procedures whilst renting out the property. These factors in

turn place the occupants at risk of homelessness or living in unacceptable conditions.

JustUs provides support and advocacy to the adult population of Bedford Borough who are socially excluded. This includes adults with dependent children who will indirectly benefit.

We include within our understanding of socially excluded those people who are living with mental health issues, people with substance misuse problems, people who are homeless or face the threat of homelessness, people who do not enjoy a basic standard of housing, people with learning difficulties, people fleeing violence (domestic or otherwise) and people facing prejudice and discrimination.

Support and advocacy includes anything that helps socially excluded people receive fair and ethical treatment from those that are duty-bound to provide it.

Because of the nature and enormity of social exclusion, we have initially focussed our efforts on homeless people, or those facing the threat of homelessness, and our priorities lie with securing accommodation and getting the wrap-around support that should go with that accommodation for such people. We recognise that homeless people are one of the most marginalised people groups in society and also recognise that the issues that go alongside homelessness often include the other issues mentioned in our objects. Many homeless people are failing to get the legal duty of assistance that is owed to them from Local Authority and other housing providers and are being overlooked when it comes to housing them in independent living accommodation. These individuals are poorly represented and may lack the knowledge around housing law to effectively argue their own case. JustUs challenges the Local Authority and other housing providers to ensure that these individuals are treated according to the law.

The trustees are aware of, and have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

In our last financial year JustUs had a total income of £40,126.94 and a total expenditure of £40,042.03.

Our total casework costs were £23,472.01. This includes caseworkers' holiday and sick pay, caseworkers' professional supervisions and client handovers.

During this year JustUs supported 100 individuals from 51 households. These households comprised of 62 adults and 38 children. From these 51 households:

- 17 have moved into new homes.
- 18 remain in local authority temporary accommodation (TA) with the guarantee of a new home.
- 4 remain in their current accommodation or are living with friends with the guarantee of a new home.
- 1 has had their eviction prevented.
- 1 has temporarily moved from mental health rehabilitation to supported accommodation with the guarantee of a new home once a family member has secured accommodation through the housing register.
- 1 moved into supported accommodation as a personal preference.
- 1 had TA secured but chose to return to the care of an ex-partner.
- 2 decided to approach another Local Authority.
- 2 were not legally homeless.
- 1 was intentionally homeless by their own admission.
- 3 either disengaged or contact was lost.

This means that for reporting purposes we were able to support each individual to a positive housing conclusion (91 people) for an average cost of £258 per person.

JustUs also spent £576.50 giving information to members of the public (25 people), local councillors (on 5 occasions) or other professionals so that they too could support people with their housing issues. Information was given to:

- Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (on 8 occasions)
- East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) Cedar House mental health rehabilitation
- The local MP's Office
- Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association (on 2 occasions)
- Bedford Probation (on 6 occasions)
- Path 2 Recovery (P2R) substance use treatment service.

- YMCA Hertfordshire
- Mind BLMK
- Bedford Borough Council (BBC) Adult Services (on 3 occasions)
- BBC Children's Services
- BBC Rehousing Team
- ELFT Community Mental Health Team (CMHT) Bedfordshire (on 8 occasions)
- CMHT Braintree
- You Turn Futures (on 2 occasions)
- Bedford Women's Centre (on 4 occasions)
- The Kings Arms Project
- Signposts Luton
- SMART CJS (on 3 occasions)
- Squared
- NOAH
- Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) Service, and
- Samson's Academy.

JustUs has also supported another 21 individuals from a further 13 households (14 adults and 7 children) whose future housing has yet to be determined. These individuals remain open to us and will continue to receive support from JustUs throughout the next financial year until their housing situation reaches a conclusion.

In total JustUs supported 121 individuals (76 adults and 45 children) from 65 households.

From those 65 households:

- 9 individuals (7 female, 2 male) were fleeing domestic abuse (1 whilst pregnant and 1 with children).
- 7 individuals were suffering from other forms of abuse (1 suffering physical abuse whilst in supported accommodation, 1 suffering financial abuse whilst in supported accommodation, 2 suffering physical and/or financial abuse whilst in temporary accommodation, 1 suffering abuse from their private landlord, 1 suffering sexual abuse whilst in a social housing property, and 1 was sexually assaulted whilst rough sleeping).
- 1 individual was suffering from anti-social behaviour whilst in temporary accommodation.
- 2 individuals were suffering from anti-social behaviour whilst in their own home.
- 1 family of 6 had fled persecution/physical abuse from another country.

- 2 whose accommodation had damp and mould (1 which was also overcrowded).
- 1 was supported to change temporary accommodation due to damp and mould.

To secure housing for some individuals and/or families, and as a natural part of our work JustUs have inevitably had to challenge Local Authorities at various stages in the process. This has resulted in:

- 1 gatekept homeless application overturned following stage 1 complaint resulting in the person being forced to sleep rough further resulting in an award of financial compensation from Bedford Borough Council (BBC) of £200.
- 1 gatekept homeless application, where the individual was told to return home following fleeing domestic abuse and who then suffered further abuse, overturned following stage 1 complaint resulting in an award of financial compensation from BBC of £800.
- £3,500 compensation awarded from Southend-on-Sea City Council following a complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) to a person fleeing domestic abuse with Southend-on-Sea City Council committing themselves to the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Standards as a result.
- £700 compensation and the main housing duty awarded from North Northants Council following a complaint to the LGO.
- 1 gatekept homeless application (overcrowding and damp and mould) overturned following stage 2 complaint.
- 1 not homeless decision overturned on review (sexual assault from neighbour) and stage 2 complaint upheld as BBC had not adhered to the Equality Act, disregarding the person's learning disability.
- 1 gatekept homeless application (fleeing domestic abuse) on lone approach resolved when supported by JustUs on a second approach. No complaint made.
- 1 gatekept homeless application (not eligible) on lone approach resolved when supported by JustUs on a second approach. No complaint made.
- 1 gatekept from temporary accommodation on lone approach following fleeing domestic abuse resolved when supported by JustUs on a second approach. No complaint made.
- The main housing duty being accepted, and housing register banding issue resolved by BBC following a stage 1 complaint.
- The main housing duty being accepted by Central Bedfordshire Council following a stage 2 complaint.
- The (un)suitability of emergency temporary accommodation being resolved on 6 occasions following upheld reviews and persons being moved to self-contained temporary accommodation. 2

review decisions pending.

- A homeless application and temporary accommodation Housing Benefit claim not being processed on lone approach resolved. No complaint made.
- 2 non-priority decisions overturned on review.
- An intentionally homeless review decision still pending.

JustUs is also continuing to challenge Bedford Borough Council on their reluctance to develop a stand-alone Domestic Abuse Policy for Homeless People and will be endeavouring to get them to commit to one in the pending Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

For those that have been newly rehoused, either temporarily or permanently JustUs has spent £2,157.13 on furniture and small household goods by using our own funds or from funds kindly donated by:

- Help the Homeless
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund
- St Paul's Church Bedford, and
- Members of the public

JustUs also gave further assistance to those that moved into permanent accommodation by supporting them to complete Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support claims and to set-up utilities at a cost of £697.56.

JustUs continues to push to improve practice within the homeless sector through our social media, as a member of the Bedford Homeless Partnership and by regularly putting forward questions to the mayor and local councillors sitting on Bedford Borough Council's Housing Committee.

Unfortunately, JustUs' training came to an end earlier in the financial year. However, we can still report on 2 final successful sessions, 1 session on Homeless Law and 1 session on the Equality Act reaching 20 delegates from:

- Centre 33
- Bedford Probation
- Change Grow Live
- Turning Tides
- Helping Hands Charity
- Signposts
- SMART CJS
- Bedford Community Mental Health Team, and
- Age UK Torbay.

However, these 2 sessions were not without cost to JustUs (£219.06). These costs were for:

- Administration £46.11, and
- Delivery £172.95.

JustUs credits itself and is not afraid to spend money on the self-development of its employees. This year JustUs has spent a total of £784.04 on the training of both existing and previous caseworkers.

There are of course other costs incurred to enable us to do our work. These are as follows:

- Administration (hours worked) £3,352.52.
- Other admin costs (professional registrations, Facebook ads, stationery, postage, printer ink website hosting) £974.02.
- Social media (hours worked) £1,387.27.
- Promoting better practice (hours worked) £4,648.49.
- Caseworker reporting to trustees (hours worked) £420.84.
- Travel £997.71
- Parking £77.50
- Community Organising £500.00.
- IT maintenance £301.05
- Insurance £433.32
- Client ID costs £76.00, and
- Promotional Christmas tree and 'thank you' flowers £55.00.

Finally, this year JustUs has been successful in securing funding from, and would like to thank:

- The Harpur Trust Main Grant final tranche of 3-year funding £13,000
- The Harpur Trust Main Grant first tranche of new 3-year funding £8,596.50
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund £2,000
- The Frank Branston Trust first tranche of 1-year funding £7,000

We also raised money through the sale of 2 laptops (£544.00), had income from past training (£3,884.52) and continued to receive regular monthly donations from our general public core supporters amounting to an amazing £5,101.92. We are eternally grateful to you.

## Section E

## Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

At a virtual meeting of the Trustees via email held during January 2024 Trustees considered what level of funding the charity should hold in reserve.

It was agreed that JustUs would continue to hold 3 month's operational costs in reserve up until the review date of January 2025. Based upon current levels of expenditure (a mean average of 3 month's operational costs at the new hourly rates and with the departure of one caseworker equalling £5,835) £6,300 would remain in reserve.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

None

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F

## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

*S Price*

*Mark A. Stehman*

Full name(s)

SAMANTHA JANE PRICE

MARK A STEHMAN

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Date

28.02.2024



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	08/11/2022	To	07/11/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fundraising / Donations	-	3,320	-	3,320	4,675
Donations (Campaigning)	-	1,507	-	1,507	4,217
Training Fund	3,884	-	-	3,884	13,125
CAF Household Goods Fund	-	275	-	275	484
Tesco Community Grants	-	-	-	-	500
BHP Real Change Fund	-	2,000	-	2,000	1,000
Harpur Trust Main Grant	-	13,000	-	13,000	25,000
Arnold Clark 2 Household Goods Fund	-	-	-	-	1,000
Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund	-	-	-	-	10,000
BLCF Frank Branston Trust	-	7,000	-	7,000	-
Harpur Trust Main Grant 2	-	8,597	-	8,597	-
Sale of Laptops	544	-	-	544	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>4,428</b>	<b>35,699</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,127</b>	<b>60,001</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>4,428</b>	<b>35,699</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,127</b>	<b>60,001</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Fundraising / Donations	-	5,533	-	5,533	7,280
Training Fund	2,844	-	-	2,844	11,030
Harpur Trust Main Grant	-	20,167	-	20,167	27,452
CAF Household Goods	-	306	-	306	456
Arnold Clark Household Goods Fund	-	453	-	453	1,113
Panacea Trust	-	-	-	-	14,960
Tesco Community Grants	-	-	-	-	500
BHP Real Change Fund	-	803	-	803	922
Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund	-	4,643	-	4,643	5,357
Donations (Campaigning)	-	2,105	-	2,105	-
BLCF Frank Branston Trust	-	3,108	-	3,108	-
Harpur Trust Main Grant 2	-	80	-	80	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>37,198</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,042</b>	<b>69,070</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>37,198</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,042</b>	<b>69,070</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>- 1,499</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>- 9,069</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>- 1,499</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>- 9,069</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>- 1,499</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			



	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	SAM PRICE	28.2.24
	MARK STEGMAN	28.2.24

**JUSTUS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166198

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date: Day 08, Month 11, Year 2021  
 Period end date: Day 07, Month 11, Year 2022  
**From** 08 11 2021 **To** 07 11 2022

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name: JustUs

Other names charity is known by: None

Registered charity number (if any): 1166198

Charity's principal address: 16a De Parys Avenue  
 Bedford  
 Postcode: MK40 2TW

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mark Stedman			
2	Araba Taylor			
3	Robert Muncaster			
4	Samantha Price			
5	Luke Lerner			
6	Kate Breed			
7	Serena Varatharajah			
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Foundation
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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**Section C Objectives and activities**

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

To promote the relief of need for the homeless or vulnerably housed by providing advice, advocacy and support.

Vulnerably housed is taken to include those who struggle to afford their accommodation and so are at risk of falling into rent arrears, those who struggle to manage their tenancy without support, those who live in properties where the physical condition significantly effects the wellbeing of the occupants, those who experience, or are at risk of experiencing abuse or harassment in their home and those where the landlord has not followed due procedures whilst renting out the property. These factors in

turn place the occupants at risk of homelessness or living in unacceptable conditions.

JustUs provides support and advocacy to the adult population of Bedford Borough who are socially excluded. This includes adults with dependent children who will indirectly benefit.

We include within our understanding of socially excluded those people who are living with mental health issues, people with substance misuse problems, people who are homeless or face the threat of homelessness, people who do not enjoy a basic standard of housing, people with learning difficulties, people fleeing violence (domestic or otherwise) and people facing prejudice and discrimination.

Support and advocacy includes anything that helps socially excluded people receive fair and ethical treatment from those that are duty-bound to provide it.

Because of the nature and enormity of social exclusion, we have initially focussed our efforts on homeless people, or those facing the threat of homelessness, and our priorities lie with securing accommodation and getting the wrap-around support that should go with that accommodation for such people. We recognise that homeless people are one of the most marginalised people groups in society and also recognise that the issues that go alongside homelessness often include the other issues mentioned in our objects. Many homeless people are failing to get the legal duty of assistance that is owed to them from Local Authority and other housing providers and are being overlooked when it comes to housing them in independent living accommodation. These individuals are poorly represented and may lack the knowledge around housing law to effectively argue their own case. JustUs challenges the Local Authority and other housing providers to ensure that these individuals are treated according to the law.

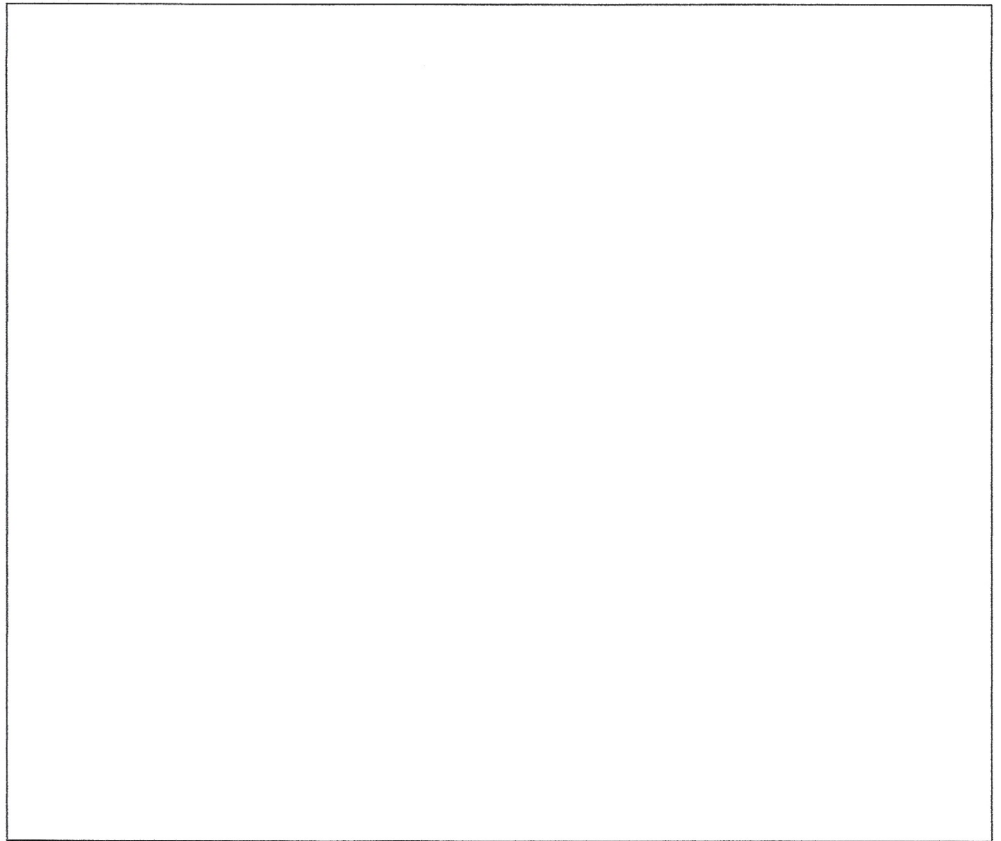
The trustees are aware of, and have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

A large empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for providing additional details as mentioned in the text to the left.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

In our last financial year JustUs had a total income of £60,000.68 and a total expenditure of £69,070.82. This is the first year since being founded that our expenditure has exceeded our income.

Our total casework costs were £28,602.20. This includes caseworkers' holiday pay and caseworkers' professional supervisions.

During this year JustUs supported 99 individuals from 53 households. These households comprised of 63 adults and 36 children.

From these 53 households:

- 12 have moved into new homes.
- 14 remain in local authority temporary accommodation (TA) with the guarantee of a new home.
- 10 remain in their current accommodation with the guarantee of a new home.
- 2 moved into supported accommodation as a personal preference.
- 1 moved into a refuge as a personal preference.
- 2 were supported to have their eviction prevented.
- 3 were Main Duty accepted either by Bedford Borough Council or another Local Authority
- 1 is owed a Main Duty under Part 7 only following a conviction of housing fraud.
- 2 had no local connection so were referred to another Local Authority.
- 1 had TA secured in Bedford but decided to approach another Local Authority.
- 1 declined TA from another Local Authority.
- 4 either disengaged or contact was lost.

This means that for reporting purposes we were able to support each individual to a positive conclusion (91 people) for an average cost of £314 per person.

JustUs also spent £789.80 advising other professionals so that they too could support people with their housing issues. Advice was given to:

- The Kings Arms Project
- Bedford Women's Centre
- Bedford Borough Adult Social Care
- East London Foundation NHS Trust (ELFT) Community Mental Health Team
- ELFT Cedar House (Mental Health Rehabilitation)

- ELFT Path 2 Recovery (Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service)
- ELFT Recovery College
- Bedford Probation
- Reactiv8 (Supported Accommodation Provider)
- The Bedford Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) and Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) Services
- The Bail Hostel
- SMART
- Powher Advocacy
- Faces
- One Housing One Support
- Queen's Park Community Organisation
- The Community Led Initiative (CLI)
- The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Jobcentre
- A local Councillor
- Bedfordshire Police
- Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity
- Bedfordshire & Luton Perinatal Mental Health Team
- The Red Cross
- YouTurn Futures
- Expert Link
- Barnardo's
- East Northants Community Service

JustUs has also supported another 27 individuals from a further 15 households (15 adults and 12 children) whose future housing has yet to be determined. These individuals remain open to us and will continue to receive support from JustUs throughout the next financial year until their housing situation reaches a conclusion. Most are currently residing in TA.

In total JustUs supported 126 individuals (78 adults and 48 children) from 75 households.

From those 75 households:

- 21 individuals and/or families were fleeing domestic abuse.
- 6 individuals were suffering from other forms of abuse including sexual assault (2 in the home and 1 whilst homeless), hate crime and abuse from the property owner.
- 2 individual was suffering from anti-social behaviour.

To secure housing for some individuals and/or families, and as a natural part of our work JustUs have inevitably had to challenge the Local Authority or Housing Providers at various stages in the process. This has resulted in:

- The overturn of a 4 not-homeless decisions following review or through informal complaint
- A housing provider conceding they did not follow their own Allocations Policy and further conceding a case of mistaken identity due to their inadequate recording processes.
- The same housing provider agreeing to financially compensate for unnecessary bureaucratic delays.
- 2 successful s.188 (denial of TA) challenges. 1 by informal complaint and 1 by threatening to go to judicial review.
- The overturn of a not-homeless gatekeeping incident through complaint., with another complaint being partially upheld.

JustUs also has 7 complaints awaiting a decision. 6 are complaints for gatekeeping where 1 individual was kept sleeping rough, 1 individual who had fled domestic abuse was told to return home where they were further abused, 1 was discriminated against by ignoring a disability, 1 had their data breached, and 2 weren't recognised as homeless under part 7 despite a part 6 application being accepted. The other complaint awaiting a decision is for maladministration where the person was misinformed about paying for their own TA. JustUs is also currently challenging Bedford Borough Council on its access criteria to the Covid-19 emergency accommodation, waiting times on the housing register for people with disabilities, homelessness safeguarding issues and its data sharing practices, and as a result is leading the work on improving data sharing practices within the sector.

For those that have been newly housed JustUs has spent £3,044.19 on furniture and household goods by using our own funds or from funds kindly donated by:

- The Arnold Clark Community Fund
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund
- Tesco Community Grants
- St Paul's Church, and
- Members of the public

We have also been able to secure free furniture many times throughout the year due to the kindness of Emmaus Village Carlton and their Solidarity Packs.

JustUs continues to push to improve practice within the homeless sector by regularly putting forward questions to the mayor and local councillors sitting on Bedford Borough Council's Housing Committee, involvement with the development of the Homeless Outcomes Framework, through our social media and by delivering our own bespoke training. This year c.275 delegates nationwide have attended the delivery of:

- 14 full days of the Introduction to Homelessness Law training, 4 of

which were exclusive to the King's Arms Project, SMART, Barnardo's and CLI.

- 1 bespoke version of the same training specifically tailored to the request of the Westminster Drug Project.
- 5 full days of An Introduction to Domestic Abuse and Homeless Law training, 3 of which were exclusive to Crisis and 2 IDVA services.
- 1 full day of Challenging Council Homelessness Decisions training
- 1 full day of Understanding Drug and Alcohol Use training
- 1 full day Data Protection Law training, and
- 1 full day of Equality Law training.

JustUs, in partnership with Doughty Street Chambers and Expert Link, also hosted a Trauma, Homelessness and Priority Need YouTube webinar with panellists including our own Mike Hyden, a barrister and deputy district judge from Doughty Street Chambers, the founder and CEO of Expert Link, an NHS consultant psychiatrist, a researcher and sociologist and the mental health lead from Amicus Trust.

Delegates attending our training came from:

- The King's Arms Project
- ELFT (Various Departments)
- One Housing One Support
- Bedford Women's Centre
- Citizen's Advice Bureau Bedford
- St Mary's Church
- Faces
- SMART
- IDVA Service Bedford
- IDVA Service Surrey County Council
- Community Led Initiatives
- East Northants Community Service
- Penrose
- Westminster Drug Project
- Crisis
- Woughton Community Council Hub
- Cumbria County Council
- Centre 33

- Advocacy Focus
- Heart of Bucks
- The Salvation Army
- Barnardo's
- The Ron Todd Foundation
- Squared
- Proud 2 Be
- NHS Hertfordshire
- The City of Liverpool College
- Islamic Human Rights Commission
- RISE Domestic Abuse Service
- Change Grow Live
- Signposts
- NOAH
- C2C Social Action, and
- Cambridgeshire County Council

Although the training is a source of income for JustUs it does have its costs (£8,660.80) to implement. These costs are for:

- Administration £745.44
- Stationery £134.09
- Development £2,678.77
- Delivery £3,020.86
- External trainers £877.00, and
- Work done and renewal of CPD Accreditation £1,204.64

JustUs credits itself and is not afraid to spend money on the self-development of its employees. This year JustUs has spent a total of £2,401.45 on the mentoring and training of both existing and new caseworkers.

There are of course other costs incurred to enable us to do our work. These are as follows:

- Administration (hours worked) £5,682.85.
- Other admin costs (stationery, postage, office equipment etc.) £3,393.81
- Social media (hours worked) £2,323.29.
- Promoting better practice (hours worked) £9,137.39.

- Fundraising costs £733.14
- IT maintenance £645.52
- The purchase of textbooks £143.39
- Travel £1,932.24
- Parking £82.80
- Insurance £424.40, and
- Client ID costs £172.50.

Finally, this year JustUs has been successful in securing funding from, and would like to thank:

- The Harpur Trust Main Grant fourth and fifth tranches of 3-year funding £25,000
- The Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund £10,000
- The Arnold Clark Community Fund £1,000
- Tesco Community Grants £500, and
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership Real Change Fund £1,000

And last but in no way least, very generous regular monthly donations from our members of the public core supporters amounting to an amazing £9,375.88. We are eternally grateful to you.

## Section E Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

At a meeting of the Trustees held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Trustees considered what level of funding the charity should hold in reserve. It was agreed that JustUs would hold 3 month's operational costs in reserve up until the review date of January 2024. Based upon current levels of expenditure (a mean average of 3 month's operational costs equalling £6,262) £6,300 would remain in reserve.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

None

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:


- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F Other optional information

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

<b>Signature(s)</b>		Mark, A. Stedman
<b>Full name(s)</b>	LUKE LARNER	MARKIA, STEDMAN
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE
<b>Date</b>	14/02/2023	

Accounts 8th November 2021 to 7th November 2022 (FYE)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
<b>Receipts</b>														
<b>Restricted funds</b>														
Donations (Campaigning)	93.00	1,443.00	198.00	298.00	178.00	175.00	805.00	190.00	215.00	205.00	190.00	180.00	47.00	4,217.00
CAF Household Goods		62.66	95.40	19.60	19.60	19.60	19.60	43.70	111.18	19.60	53.34	19.60		483.88
Tesco Community Grants				500.00										500.00
BHP Real Change Fund					1,000.00									1,000.00
Harpur Trust Main Grant 4th & 5th Tranche					15,000.00							10,000.00		25,000.00
Arnold Clark 2 Household Goods Fund						1,000.00								1,000.00
Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund											9,000.00	1,000.00		10,000.00
														-
														-
														-
	93.00	1,505.66	293.40	817.60	16,197.60	1,194.60	824.60	233.70	326.18	224.60	9,243.34	11,199.60	47.00	42,200.88
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>														
Fundraising / Donations	345.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	395.00	395.00	395.00	395.00	395.00	395.00	395.00	285.00	80.00	4,675.00
Training	410.00	1,280.00	1,800.00	2,749.32	1,100.00	150.00	370.33	971.21	596.18	160.00	2,129.00	1,008.76	400.00	13,124.80
	755.00	1,680.00	2,200.00	3,149.32	1,495.00	545.00	765.33	1,366.21	991.18	555.00	2,524.00	1,293.76	480.00	17,799.80
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>848.00</b>	<b>3,185.66</b>	<b>2,493.40</b>	<b>3,966.92</b>	<b>17,692.60</b>	<b>1,739.60</b>	<b>1,589.93</b>	<b>1,599.91</b>	<b>1,317.36</b>	<b>779.60</b>	<b>11,767.34</b>	<b>12,493.36</b>	<b>527.00</b>	<b>60,000.68</b>
<b>Payments</b>														
<b>Restricted funds</b>														
Donations (Campaigning)	1,183.03	572.59	582.26	782.11	28.82	676.41	57.65	69.18	73.01	1,039.61	1,522.59	622.59	288.25	7,498.10
Arnold Clark 1 Household Goods Fund	30.98	373.86	35.92	125.52										566.28
CAF Household Goods				417.22		39.20								456.42
Harpur Trust Main Grant 3rd Tranche	3,282.78	1,670.97			1,307.87	977.86		504.57	1,467.64	1,813.78	1,474.82			4,953.75
Panacea Trust		521.61	2,783.78	4,108.07	151.05	271.50	77.45							14,960.00
Tesco Community Grants					271.50	77.45								500.00
BHP Real Change Fund					254.99		59.00				403.00	204.98		921.97
Harpur Trust Main Grant 4th Tranche					2,897.32	2,109.83	4,156.29	4,423.87	1,412.69					15,000.00
Arnold Clark 2 Household Goods Fund						70.40				175.55	241.42	60.00		547.37
Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund										1,291.38	3,579.73	485.52		5,356.63
														-
														-
														-
	4,496.79	3,139.03	3,401.96	5,583.97	4,760.50	3,880.75	4,343.34	4,997.62	2,953.34	3,028.94	4,933.21	4,467.30	773.77	50,760.62
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>														
Fundraising / Donations		434.53	507.05						2,562.60	2,592.25	585.58	598.20		7,280.21
Training	231.57	1,855.21	728.51	689.20	232.73	709.85	879.43	1,500.75	891.82	1,828.42	901.68	488.92	92.00	11,030.09
	231.57	2,289.74	1,235.56	689.20	232.73	709.85	879.43	1,500.75	3,454.42	4,420.67	1,487.26	1,087.12	92.00	18,310.30
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>4,728.36</b>	<b>5,428.77</b>	<b>4,637.52</b>	<b>6,273.17</b>	<b>4,993.23</b>	<b>4,590.60</b>	<b>5,222.77</b>	<b>6,498.37</b>	<b>6,407.76</b>	<b>7,449.61</b>	<b>6,420.47</b>	<b>5,554.42</b>	<b>865.77</b>	<b>69,070.82</b>
<b>Net Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>- 3,880.36</b>	<b>- 2,243.11</b>	<b>- 2,144.12</b>	<b>- 2,306.25</b>	<b>12,699.37</b>	<b>- 2,851.00</b>	<b>- 3,632.84</b>	<b>- 4,898.46</b>	<b>- 5,090.40</b>	<b>- 6,670.01</b>	<b>5,346.87</b>	<b>6,938.94</b>	<b>- 338.77</b>	<b>- 9,070.14</b>
B/F balance	47,805.78	43,925.42	41,682.31	39,538.19	37,231.94	49,931.31	47,080.31	43,447.47	38,549.01	33,458.61	26,788.60	32,135.47	39,074.41	47,805.78
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b>43,925.42</b>	<b>41,682.31</b>	<b>39,538.19</b>	<b>37,231.94</b>	<b>49,931.31</b>	<b>47,080.31</b>	<b>43,447.47</b>	<b>38,549.01</b>	<b>33,458.61</b>	<b>26,788.60</b>	<b>32,135.47</b>	<b>39,074.41</b>	<b>38,735.64</b>	<b>38,735.64</b>

<b>Fund position</b>	<b>B/F</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>C/F</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>															
Donations (Campaigning)	4,569.60	3,479.57	4,349.98	3,965.72	3,481.61	3,630.79	3,129.38	3,876.73	3,997.55	4,139.54	3,304.93	1,972.34	1,529.75	1,288.50	
Arnold Clark 1 Household Goods Fund	566.28	535.30	161.44	125.52											
CAF Household Goods	239.56	239.56	302.22	397.62		19.60		19.60	63.30	174.48	194.08	247.42	267.02	267.02	
Harpur Trust Main Grant 3rd Tranche	4,953.75	1,670.97													
Panacea Trust	14,960.00	14,960.00	14,438.39	11,654.61	7,546.54	6,238.67	5,260.81	5,260.81	4,756.24	3,288.60	1,474.82				
Tesco Community Grants					348.95	77.45									
BHP Real Change Fund						745.01	686.01	686.01	686.01	686.01	686.01	283.01	78.03	78.03	
Harpur Trust Main Grant 4th Tranche						12,102.68	9,992.85	5,836.56	1,412.69						
Arnold Clark 2 Household Goods Fund							1,000.00	929.60	929.60	929.60	754.05	512.63	452.63	452.63	
Harpur Trust Covid-19 Fund												7,708.62	5,128.89	4,643.37	
Harpur Trust Main Grant 5th Tranche													10,000.00	10,000.00	
	25,289.19	20,885.40	19,252.03	16,143.47	11,377.10	22,814.20	20,128.05	16,609.31	11,845.39	9,218.23	6,413.89	10,724.02	17,456.32	16,729.55	
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>															
Fundraising / Donations	8,659.01	9,004.01	8,969.48	8,862.43	9,262.43	9,657.43	10,052.43	10,447.43	10,842.43	8,674.83	6,477.58	6,287.00	5,973.80	6,053.80	
Training	7,557.58	7,736.01	7,160.80	8,232.29	10,292.41	11,159.68	10,599.83	10,090.73	9,561.19	9,265.55	7,597.13	8,824.45	9,344.29	9,652.29	
Reserves	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	
	22,516.59	23,040.02	22,430.28	23,994.72	25,854.84	27,117.11	26,952.26	26,638.16	26,703.62	24,240.38	20,374.71	21,411.45	21,618.09	22,006.09	
	47,805.78	43,925.42	41,682.31	39,538.19	37,231.94	49,931.31	47,080.31	43,447.47	38,549.01	33,458.61	26,788.60	32,135.47	39,074.41	38,735.64	38,735.64

B/F = Brought Forward from Last Financial Year  
C/F = Carried Forward to Next Financial Year



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name

JustUs

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1166198

**Set out on pages**

3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 07 / 11 / 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 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 [REDACTED] in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*Sanjay Vadher*

**Date:**

08/02/2023

**Name:**

Mr Sanjay Vadher FCCA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants

**Address:**

18 Astor Park

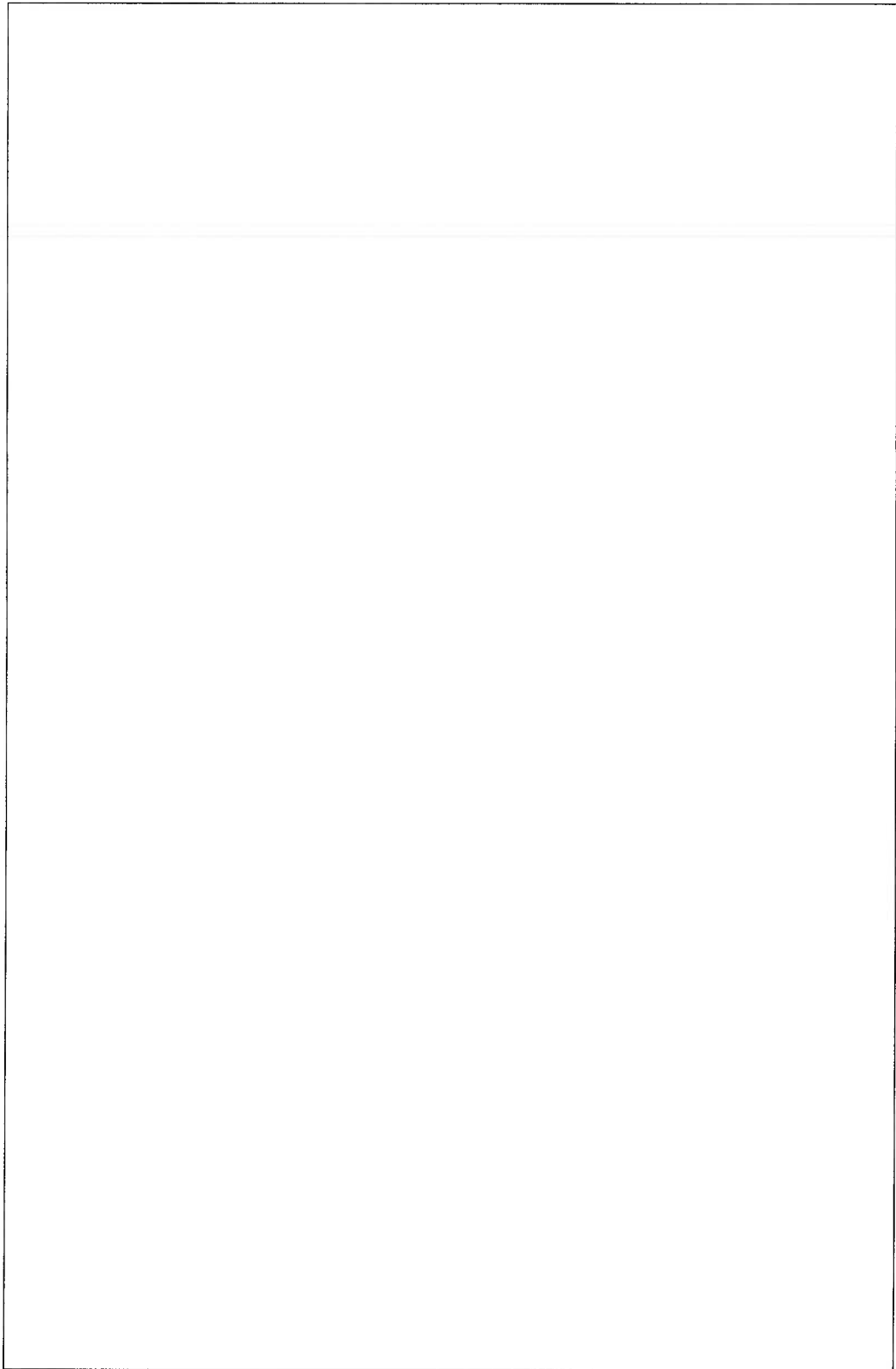
Maidstone, Kent

ME16 8FP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

NONE
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**JUSTUS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166198

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date				
From	Day	Month	Year	To	Day	Month	Year
	08	11	2020		07	11	2021

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** JustUs

**Other names charity is known by** None

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1166198

**Charity's principal address** 29 Bevery Close  
 Oakley  
 Bedford  
**Postcode** MK43 7SH

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Kate Breed			
2	Araba Taylor			
3	Serena Varatharajah		23/02/2021	Existing trustees
4	Samantha Price		09/06/2021	Existing trustees
5	Luke Larner		12/07/2021	Existing trustees
6	Mark Stedman		07/10/2021	Existing trustees
7	Robert Muncaster		15/10/2021	Existing trustees
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity’s trusts**

Type of governing document <i>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</i>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <i>(eg. trust, association, company)</i>	Foundation
Trustee selection methods <i>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</i>	Appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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**Section C Objectives and activities**

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

To promote the relief of need for the homeless or vulnerably housed by providing advice, advocacy and support.

Vulnerably housed is taken to include those who struggle to afford their accommodation and so are at risk of falling into rent arrears, those who struggle to manage their tenancy without support, those who live in properties where the physical condition significantly effects the wellbeing of the occupants, those who experience, or are at risk of experiencing abuse or harassment in their home and those where the landlord has not followed due procedures whilst renting out the property. These factors in

turn place the occupants at risk of homelessness or living in unacceptable conditions.

JustUs provides support and advocacy to the adult population of Bedford Borough who are socially excluded. This includes adults with dependent children who will indirectly benefit.

We include within our understanding of socially excluded those people who are living with mental health issues, people with substance misuse problems, people who are homeless or face the threat of homelessness, people who do not enjoy a basic standard of housing, people with learning difficulties, people fleeing violence (domestic or otherwise) and people facing prejudice and discrimination.

Support and advocacy includes anything that helps socially excluded people receive fair and ethical treatment from those that are duty-bound to provide it.

Because of the nature and enormity of social exclusion, we have initially focussed our efforts on homeless people, or those facing the threat of homelessness, and our priorities lie with securing accommodation and getting the wrap-around support that should go with that accommodation for such people. We recognise that homeless people are one of the most marginalised people groups in society and also recognise that the issues that go alongside homelessness often include the other issues mentioned in our objects. Many homeless people are failing to get the legal duty of assistance that is owed to them from Local Authority and other housing providers and are being overlooked when it comes to housing them in independent living accommodation. These individuals are poorly represented and may lack the knowledge around housing law to effectively argue their own case. JustUs challenges the Local Authority and other housing providers to ensure that these individuals are treated according to the law.

The trustees are aware of, and have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for providing additional details on objectives and activities. It occupies the right half of the page.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

In our last financial year JustUs had a total income of £93,241.33 and a total expenditure of £64,198.65

Our total casework costs were £29,528.33. This includes caseworkers' holiday pay and caseworkers' professional supervisions.

During this year JustUs supported 99 individuals from 52 households. These households comprised of 69 adults and 30 children.

From these 52 households:

- 15 have moved into new homes
- 6 remain in local authority temporary accommodation (TA) with the guarantee of a new home
- 11 remain in their current accommodation with the guarantee of a new home
- 4 moved into supported accommodation as a personal preference
- 1 chose to remain in supported accommodation despite the offer of TA
- 3 were supported to have their eviction prevented
- 1 went to prison once TA had been secured and a full housing duty was likely
- 1 went to prison immediately following the referral so no support was actually given
- 2 chose to remain with friends
- 1 decided to remain in their own home despite offers of suitable accommodation in Bedford and out of area
- 1 decided to not approach Bedford Borough Council and remain out of area despite being legally homeless
- 2 disengaged as there was no legal duty owed to them, so they were housed in the Covid-19 emergency accommodation
- 2 simply disengaged
- 1 moved away from Bedford despite securing a full housing duty, and
- 1 had already secured a full housing duty but was supported with child protection issues

This means that for reporting purposes we were able to support each individual to a positive conclusion (89 people) for an average cost of £332 per person.

JustUs also spent £660.73 advising other professionals so that they too could support people with their housing issues. Advice was given to:

- The Kings Arms Project

- Bedford Women's Centre
- Bedford Borough Children's Services
- Bedford Borough Adult Social Care
- Path 2 Recovery
- Bedford Probation
- The Bedford Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service
- The Bedford Homeless Partnership
- SMART
- Powher Advocacy
- One Housing One Support
- A local Councillor
- Bedfordshire Police
- YMCA Bedfordshire
- Emmaus Village Carlton
- Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity
- Direction for Bedfordshire
- Bedfordshire & Luton Perinatal Mental Health Team
- Women's Aid
- Oxford Council
- Bexley Council
- Barnardo's
- Age UK
- RISE Domestic Abuse Service
- Change Grow Live
- NOAH Enterprise, and
- Signposts (Luton)

JustUs has supported another 35 individuals from a further 23 households (28 adults and 7 children) whose future housing has yet to be determined. Most are currently residing in TA.

In total JustUs supported 134 individuals (97 adults and 37 children) from 75 households. This is slightly down from last year's figure of 148 individuals from 82 households.

From those 75 households:

- 10 individuals and/or families were fleeing domestic abuse and 1

family had previously been housed too close to the perpetrator of their domestic abuse

- 3 individuals were suffering from other forms of abuse
- 7 individuals were suffering from anti-social behaviour, and
- 1 individual was a victim of cuckooing

To secure housing for some individuals and/or families, and as a natural part of our work JustUs have inevitably had to challenge the Local Authority at various stages in the process. This has resulted in:

- The overturn of 3 non-priority decisions following review with 1 being unsuccessful
- 3 changes in banding priority on the housing register through complaint
- The overturn of a not-homeless decision following review with 1 being unsuccessful
- The overturn of a not-homeless decision through informal complaint
- The overturn of a not-homeless gatekeeping incident through complaint, and
- The overturn of a gatekept housing register application through complaint

JustUs is also currently challenging Bedford Borough Council on its data sharing practices and access criteria to the Covid-19 emergency accommodation and have also successfully challenged 2 other councils' gatekeeping incidents through informal complaint.

For those that have been newly housed JustUs has spent £4,329.30 on furniture and household goods by using our own funds or from funds kindly donated by:

- The Arnold Clark Community Fund
- St Paul's Church, and
- Members of the public

We have also been able to secure free furniture many times throughout the year due to the kindness of Emmaus Village Carlton and their Solidarity Packs.

This year JustUs has increased its push to improve practice within the homeless sector costing a further £3,501.52. Items of note include:

- An increase in the membership of our Facebook Better Homelessness Practice group to 545 members nationwide
- Inputting into the review and consultation of Bedford Borough Council's Housing Allocation Scheme with 15 out of 16

recommendations that we put forward being implemented into the Scheme. Also inputting into Bedford Borough Council's draft Domestic Abuse Strategy following a Facebook discussion of our own and inputting into a pre-cursor for the impending review of Bedford Borough Council's Homelessness Strategy by attending 2 events hosted by the Bedford Homeless Partnership

- Regularly putting forward questions to the mayor and local councillors sitting on Bedford Borough Council's Housing Committee
- Hosting an online event Rights, Wrongs and Remedies with contributions from notable people with an experienced and legal knowledge of homelessness such as Jan Luba QC, barrister Sarah Steinhardt and Expert Link's CEO David Ford, as well as our own Deputy District Judge and barrister Araba Taylor, and
- Moving towards Community Organising. Community Organising is the work of bringing people together (from all sectors and walks of life across Bedford Borough) to take action around common concerns and overcome social injustice at a political level

JustUs has furthered its push to improve homelessness practice with an increase in our own bespoke training. This year 353 delegates nationwide have attended the delivery of:

- 12 full days of the Introduction to Homelessness Law training
- 4 bespoke versions of the same training specifically tailored to the requests of organisations including Change Grow Live and Crisis
- 4 full days of An Introduction to Domestic Abuse and Homeless Law training
- 3 full days of Challenging Council Homelessness Decisions training
- 1 full day of Understanding Personality Disorders training
- 3 full days of Understanding Drug and Alcohol Use training
- 1 full day of From Complex Trauma to Emotional Recovery training, and
- 1 half day Data Protection Law training

These 353 delegates came from:

- Bedford Borough Council
- One Housing One Support
- Citizen's Advice Bedford
- St Paul's Church
- FACES
- SMART

- Emmaus
- Community Led Initiatives
- Torbay Community Development Trust
- The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
- East Northants Community Service
- Jesus Centres Trust
- RISE Domestic Abuse Service
- YouTurn Futures
- P3 (People, Potential, Possibilities) Charity
- Change Grow Live
- Signposts
- NOAH
- Exist Loudly
- Maundy Relief
- Age UK Torbay
- C2C Social Action
- Rugby Disability Forum
- Coventry City Council
- Emerging Futures
- Riverside – Engage
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- CCP (Caring for Communities and People) Gloucestershire
- Doorway Project
- Project 16:15
- The Benjamin Foundation
- Street Storage
- New Dawn New Day, and
- The British Red Cross

Although the training is a source of income for JustUs it does have its costs (£11,070.83) to implement. These costs are for:

- Administration £1,276.80
- Stationery £30.58
- Development £2,498.90

- Delivery £4,051.30
- External trainers £2,984.50, and
- Work done towards CPD Accreditation £228.75

JustUs credits itself and is not afraid to spend money on the self-development of its employees. This year JustUs has spent a total of £3,493.76 on the mentoring and training of both existing and new caseworkers.

There are of course other costs incurred to enable us to do our work. These are as follows:

- Administration (hours worked) £4,841.71
- Other admin costs (stationery, postage, office equipment etc.) £3,559.91
- The purchase of textbooks £84.61
- Travel £1,278.86
- Parking £120.60
- IT maintenance £1,107.93
- Insurance £458.00
- DBS fees £128.20
- Client ID costs £182.50, and
- Our 'statement' Christmas tree and fundraising quiz expenses £151.84

Finally, this year JustUs has been successful in securing funding from, and would like to thank:

- The Harpur Trust Main Grant second and third tranches of 3-year funding £35,000
- The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Homeless Link National Lottery Fund £10,000
- The Clothworker's Foundation £1,600
- The Anglian Water Make a Difference Fund £6,240
- The Arnold Clark Community Fund (as previously mentioned) £1,000
- Tesco Bags 4 Life £1,200, and
- The Panacea Trust £14,960 which contributed, alongside the Anglian Water Make a Difference Fund, to us being able to employ another part-time caseworker

And last but in no way least, very generous regular monthly donations from our members of the public core supporters amounting to an amazing £15,238.39. We are eternally grateful to yo

**Section E Financial review**

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The Trustees consider on a regular basis the levels of funding that it holds in reserve and how this funding will be used to benefit its beneficiaries. Therefore, at a meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 It was decided that, based on increased levels of expenditure (1 month's core costs of £315 and 6-month's operational costs of £5,985) that subsequently the reserves be increased by £4,000 to £6,300.

The Trustees acknowledge the seemingly large difference between core costs and operational costs held in reserve. The reason for this is that JustUs is best able to fulfil its Charitable Objectives by placing an emphasis on its operational costs rather than its core costs i.e. JustUs would still be able to maintain its level of support to its beneficiaries with a limited amount of core cost capital but would struggle to do so with depleted operational capital.

At a meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022, and with further expert advice it was decided that 6 month's reserves were considered too high and that 3 month's reserves would suffice. However, following calculations of current operational costs (a 3-month mean average of £6,462) it was decided that the reserves amount of £6,300 remain the same.

This policy will be reviewed, and reserve capital adjusted annually

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

None

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

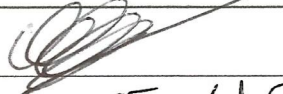
**Section F** **Other optional information**

[Empty box for optional information]

**Section G** **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		Mark A. Stedman
Full name(s)	LUKE LARNER	MARK STEDMAN
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE
Date	21/2/2022	



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
JustUs

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

7 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1166198
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**Set out on pages**

3  
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 07 / 11 / 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 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 [REDACTED] in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:** [Signature]

**Date:** 17/01/2022

**Name:** Mr Sanjay Vadher FCCA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants

**Address:**  
18 Astor Park  
Maidstone , Kent  
ME16 8FP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

NONE