

Levels

Annual Report

2022



Welcome to Level's Annual Report for 2022

In 2022, Levels-CIO, like the rest of the world, began to emerge from the pandemic. While successfully bringing people back to in-person events and activities, we continued to grow our network of voluntary and community sector partners. There still remain many uncertainties on the horizon in economic outlook, impacting demand for our charities' services and the communities we serve.

We have challenged ourselves to deliver programs that support people during the current cost-of-living crisis, as well as are excited to see plans coming back to life from before the pandemic. The people we work with continue to inspire us and encourage us to keep striving to expand our reach across Hull Churches Housing Association's residents and employees.

Technology continues to be critically important to sustain new norms and expectations for hybrid skills development and employability initiatives, as well as many health and wellbeing initiatives, including those that combat social isolation and support an increasing number of people struggling with mental health issues.

We continued work on key partnership initiatives that support the voluntary and community sector infrastructure through our work with Forum, Ervas, Humberside Police, Hull Champions, primary schools, Local Authorities and local public and private sector organisations.

Several new initiatives launched or are in the process of being developed. We are working closely with the Alzheimer's society to establish dementia champions' in our communities, with Hull Champions on cancer champions' training and with Groundwork Hull on projects providing green spaces and support groups for men.

At a time where the cost-of-living crisis is affecting us all, the focus of our work is on bringing together all the support that is 'out there' and helping people navigate their way in finding what suits them.

We focus on upcycling and re-use projects, improving DIY and 'eating on a budget' skills, winter warmth and green energy advice

As part of a planned office space 'overhaul' and looking at how best to make use of our now hybrid way of working at Hull Churches Housing Association's main office, we are hoping to establish an easily accessible information hub where we can offer both digital and physical access to relevant information from our many partners about the excellent work that is going on in terms of skills and training events provided and support offered, community collaboration, learning and professional growth.

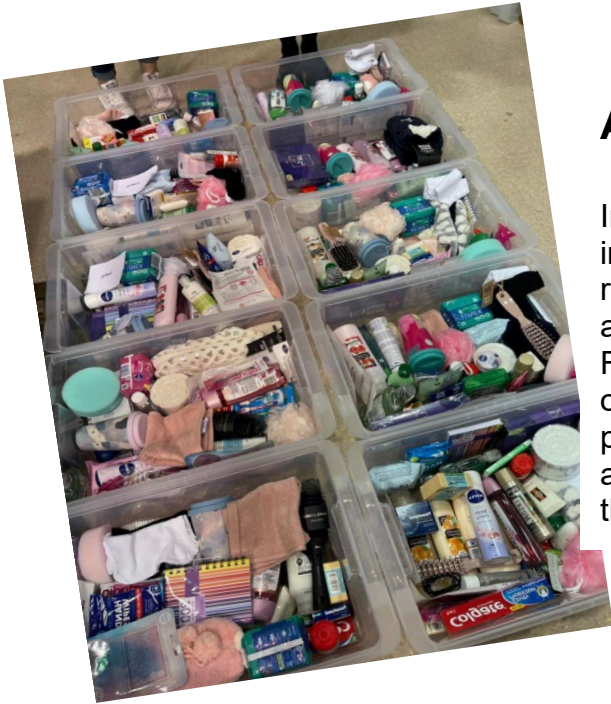
This Annual Report captures just some of the extraordinary work accomplished by the CIO and its partners over the past year. You can read about these accomplishments and more in this report.

We want to thank all the people, volunteers, and Board members that are so committed to making a real difference, along with the incredible partners, funders, and donors for their support in making our work possible.

Highlights of 2022

April

In April, we joined forces with Hull to Ukraine in making care packages for Ukrainian refugees in Poland. On the back of this action, we expanded our collaboration with Forum, Hull City Council and other VCS organisations in a coordinated effort to provide accommodation, emotional support, and practical help for those coming over to the UK.



June

Once again, Levels took part in Global Pride using **online** platforms to broadcast **Pride** events, including musical performances, speeches and more to represent LGBTQI+ people in our communities in a massive celebration of equality and diversity.

Fortunately, this year we were also able to be represented in person at Pride in Hull.





September

We continue to work closely with 'The Shed', who make the best use of the old workshop at West Dock Street. September saw the first results of the sewing workshop, some of which will be sold off to continue raising the funds needed to continue this excellent DIY skills building project.

October

During October, Levels' Board members took part in the Dementia UK '100-kilometer Dog Walking Challenge'.

Whereas we didn't raise the money for our own charity, it strengthened our partnership with Dementia Care UK and allowed for free dementia champions' training for our members.

We also benefit from a direct link with their local dementia care nurses for advice and support to tenants affected by dementia.



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December

In December we received a Winter Warmth Grant in recognition of our commitment and dedication to combat rising energy prices and the impact of the cost-of-living crisis in the city.

We are distributing 40 winter clothing 20 bedding parcels, 15 microwaves and 20 slow cookers to those in our communities who are most in need.

Placing a value on Community Development

In real monetary terms, the services we deliver continue to appear insignificant, however, as has become customary, we continue to assess and measure also how we improve the lives of the people we support in terms of added Social Value.

The ability of Levels-CIO, to create social value stems from bringing together, and coordinating activities, events and support that are already embedded in our communities, so that they can make better use of available resources and become better accessible to more people.

Compared to 2021, we have seen a substantial increase in Social Return on Investment. This is mainly due to a return to in-person activities and events and increased collaboration with partner organisations. Many of our activities are provided in line with a time-banking principle, thus reducing the need for high monetary investment. The key to this principle is nothing more than a group of people (our communities) and partner organisations contributing to service provision in exchange for services they may need, such as volunteering or providing training/knowledge sharing.

We feel we can be very proud of our achievement, and our success is mainly attributed to the commitment and loyalty of our many partnership organisations and volunteers, including Hull Churches Housing Association, who provide employer supported volunteering.

Levels uses HACT's Social Value Calculator to provide a basic assessment of the actual social value delivered through our activities. Our Social Return on Investment Ratio for 2022 is £82.75 for every £1 invested.

Activity	Overall budget	Overall social impact	Analysis of benefit	
			Budget : social impact	Net benefit
TOTALS:	£ 5,500	£ 455,104	1 : 82.75	£ 449,604
Cooking up a Community	£ 2,500	£ 86,132	1 : 34.45	£ 83,632
Involvement in fundraising	£ 750	£ 21,626	1 : 28.84	£ 20,876
Older people partnership	£ 500	£ 84,472	1 : 168.94	£ 83,972
'The Shed' involvement	£ 500	£ 134,071	1 : 268.14	£ 133,571
Hull Champions Partnership	£ 1,250	£ 128,803	1 : 103.04	£ 127,553

Fig 1. HACT Social Value Calculator – results overview 2021

- For the purpose of calculating investment and SROI, the average hourly rate for volunteering is set at £23.26/hour in line with UK Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2022) and reflects 236 volunteer hours. These hours are provided/ exchanged through above mentioned 'timebank' principle, where time, knowledge and experience are exchanged freely between partnership organisations and community members.
- For transparency of accounting, 'timebank' credits are not expressed in monetary value in Levels' balance sheet and accounts below.

‘Levels’ Annual Report for the period							
From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 1st	Month April	Year 2021		Day 31st	Month March	Year 2022

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Levels		
Other names charity is known by	NA		
Registered charity number (if any)	1170752		
Charity's principal address	Studio 701		
	17 Princess Street		
	Hull		
	Postcode	HU2 8BJ	

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)
Petra van de Zande	Chair		
Linda Johnson	Secretary		
Richard Davies	Treasurer		
Lincoln Ahenkorah - Marfo			

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods	Elected by members of management committee

Section C Objectives and activities

The development of the capacities and skills of the inhabitants of the economically and socially disadvantaged communities of the City of Kingston upon Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire with a high percentage of social housing ("the Area of Benefit") and in particular, but not exclusively individuals who are tenants of Hull Churches Housing Association ("Tenants of HCHA") in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs, and to participate more fully in society; and

2. To promote social inclusion by preventing people living in the Area of Benefit and in particular, but not exclusively individuals who are Tenants of HCHA from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people living in the Area of Benefit and in particular, but not exclusively individuals who are Tenants of HCHA who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society in such ways as the Trustees of the CIO shall think fit; and

For the purpose of this clause 3(2) "socially excluded" means being excluded from the society, or part of society, as a result of being a member of an economically and socially deprived community.

3. The relief of unemployment amongst individuals living in the Area of Benefit and in particular, but not exclusively individuals who are Tenants of HCHA in such ways as the Trustees of the CIO shall think fit including, but not limited to the provision of education, training, re-training, volunteering and work experience opportunities and assistance to find employment; and
4. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals living in the Area of Benefit and in particular, but not exclusively individuals who are Tenants of HCHA who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Summary of the main activities undertaken in 2022

At a time where the cost-of-living crisis is affecting us all, the focus of our work is on bringing together all the support that is 'out there' and helping people navigate their way in finding what suits them.

We focus on upcycling and re-use projects, improving DIY and 'eating on a budget' skills, winter warmth and green energy advice.

Supporting Organisations and Grant Support for this period

OPP-HER Partnership Organisations
Hull Food Partnership
Neighbourhood Network Hull
Groundworks Hull
Hull ICP – Hull Champions
Forum
Hull City Council

Our thanks and appreciation also go to tenants, customers and staff of Hull Churches Housing Association, the Supporting and Membership Organisations' staff and volunteers from Older People Partnership Group and Groundwork Hull, who have given their time freely in support of the Charity's objectives and events throughout the past year.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- 80 community residents supported to access the right community services
- 12 training sessions on GDPR and Data Protection provided to grassroots VCS organisations
- 4 community groups provided with support and advice to becoming constituted
- Participated in 16 partnership Health and Wellbeing events aimed at combatting mental health decline
- Participated in 12 city-wide social inclusion and health inequality events

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We follow the recommendation in the Charity Commission guidance RS3 which states our Reserves Policy must quantify and explain the purpose of any designated funds, along with the likely timing of that expenditure. Additionally, that the amount of any funds held as designated funds is appropriate to the purpose or use for which the funds have been designated.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

NA

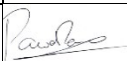

Further financial review details

See attached Statement of Financial Position.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Full Name	Signature	Position
Petra van der Zande		Chair
Richard Davies		Treasurer

Date: 13th January 2023

Balance at a glance

LEVELS

Ending Balance: £2,234.61

Lloyds Account Number: 77855168

Sort Code: 30-65-22

Date	Ref	Details	Fund	Category	Money In	Money Out	Balance
				Balance Brought Forward	£2,729.48		£2,729.48
06/04/2021	337065457	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.00	£2,714.48
04/05/2021	340017898	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.80	£2,698.68
24/05/2021	7345496683354697	Amazon Smile	Unrestricted	Donations	£6.99		£2,705.67
01/06/2021	342122092	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.00	£2,690.67
05/07/2021	345190210	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.37	£2,675.30
02/08/2021	347778865	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.00	£2,660.30
17/08/2021	5969466753958936	Amazon Smile	Unrestricted	Donations	£7.56		£2,667.86
31/08/2021	349993186	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.00	£2,652.86
10/09/2021	PPRD00000000A88AE	PayPal Giving Fund Authentication Code	Unrestricted	Donations	£0.01		£2,652.87
04/10/2021	352361890	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.37	£2,637.50
20/10/2021	500004	Donation	Unrestricted	Donations	£76.25		£2,713.75
02/11/2021	354739376	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.37	£2,698.38
03/12/2021	357146226	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£16.60	£2,681.78
06/12/2021	560006	Rooted In Hull Ltd HFP Grant	HFP Grant	Charitable Expenditure	£500.00		£3,181.78
13/12/2021	4388833398885783	Amazon Smile	Unrestricted	Donations	£6.52		£3,188.30
04/01/2022	359562858	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.37	£3,172.93
01/02/2022	361926707	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.37	£3,157.56
10/02/2022	000007	Fridge Freezer for BEN011	Unrestricted	Charitable Expenditure		£399.99	£2,757.57
23/02/2022	9593388645583795	Amazon Smile	Unrestricted	Donations	£12.20		£2,769.77
07/03/2022	364290316	Service Charges	Unrestricted	Bank Charges		£15.00	£2,754.77
31/03/2022	BP003	levels.org & co.uk domain names	Unrestricted	IT & Communications		£20.16	£2,734.61
31/03/2022	BP004	Donations to HCHA for Hull to Ukraine	Unrestricted	Charitable Expenditure		£500.00	£2,234.61

LEVELS

Total Receipts & Payments for the year ending 31/03/2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Previous Year
Receipt				
Donations	109.53	0.00	109.53	0.00
Grant Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	109.53	0.00	109.53	0.00
Payments				
Bank Charges	(184.25)	0.00	(184.25)	(82.82)
Charitable Expenditure	(899.99)	500.00	(399.99)	(8.69)
Indirect Staff Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	(927.50)
IT & Communications	(20.16)	0.00	(20.16)	(40.32)
Marketing & Recruitment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rates & Rent	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Salaries & N.I.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sundry Items	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Training	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travel & Subsistence	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	(1,104.40)	500.00	(604.40)	(1,059.33)
Net receipts / (payments)	(994.87)	500.00	(494.87)	(1,059.33)
Balance Brought Forward	2,808.00	11.48	2,819.48	3,878.81
Balance Carried Forward	1,813.13	511.48	2,324.61	2,819.48
Made up of:				
Bank	2234.61			
Cash	90			
	2324.61			
Check:	0.00			

Accounts Prepared by: Lee Westmoreland

Date: 31st March 2022

Accounts Approved by: Richard Davies

Date: 13th January 2023