

ROBES PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1174060

Details

Other names THE ROBES PROJECT

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-08-01

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

Contact

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Montague Chambers
Montague Close
London
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Website <http://robes.org.uk/>

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF POVERTY AMONG PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK AND LAMBETH BY THE PROVISION OF WINTER NIGHT SHELTERS, FOOD AND ADVICE, SUPPORT AND RE-SETTLEMENT SERVICES SO AS TO HELP THEM RE-BUILD THEIR LIVES.

Activities: The Robes Project is a volunteer run Charity, working with churches across Southwark and Lambeth to offer a helping hand out of homelessness. Our mission is to enable those who find themselves homeless to access various means of support and accompany our guests on their journey to rebuild their lives.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Lambeth
- Southwark

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-30	£226,857	£295,067	-	-
2024-04-30	£230,732	£290,147	-	-
2023-04-30	£195,534	£230,552	-	-
2022-04-30	£286,487	£335,517	-	-
2021-04-30	£318,211	£293,382	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew McCall	Chair	2025-10-08
Asad Ansari		2023-09-28
George O'Neill		2025-10-08
Juanita May-Lihg Fan		2025-10-08
Mark Banham		2025-10-08
Mary Ollard		2025-10-08
Matthew Hanney		2021-12-09
Sam Forsdike		2021-12-09
Wendy Thompson		2018-07-16

ROBES PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1174060

Accounts



Supporting local people out of homelessness



Contents

1. Introduction to our year	3
Welcome	4
About Robes	6
Chair's statement	7
2. What we do	8
Winter Night Shelter	9
Our venue & guests	10
Yonas' story	12
Monique's story	13
Guests comments	14
Outcomes	15
Wednesday Club	16
Osvaldo's story	17
Our volunteers	18
Outcomes	19
Corporate partnerships	20
Advice work	21
Tommy's story	22
3. How to get involved	23
Events and future plans for 2025-2026	24
Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes	25
Our supporters	26
4. Financial overview	27
Operational information	28
Independent examiner's report	33
Statement of financial activities	35
Balance sheet	36
Notes to the financial statements	37
Legal & admin	45
The Robes Prayer	47

1. Introduction to our year



Welcome

Robes is a small charity alleviating homelessness in the boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth with the assistance of over 550 incredible volunteers and 29 churches and community centres.

This year Robes grew in strength, with the addition of new host venues and volunteers, allowing us to run a second circuit.

This enabled us to support 79 individuals over the winter period in our shelters, and 153 individuals in total through the shelters, Wednesday Club and floating support.

Seeing all the people that make up the Robes village in action and the welcome and warmth shown to our guests was a wonderful thing, demonstrating that community support can offer not just immediate relief but long-term hope, and proving that human connection can be a powerful force for positive change.

When communities come together, they can create networks of support that go beyond just providing food or shelter.

These networks can help those experiencing homelessness feel seen and valued, combating the isolation and stigma that often accompany living on the streets. Acts of kindness, whether through volunteering time,

donating resources, or simply offering a smile and a kind word, create an atmosphere of empathy and understanding.

The kindness our volunteers demonstrate fosters dignity. Treating those experiencing homelessness with respect, listening to their stories, and offering support without judgment can help rebuild our guests self-worth and trust in others.

These small yet meaningful acts can empower our guests to take the first steps toward rebuilding their lives, whether through accessing job training, mental health services, or stable housing.

Ultimately, kindness doesn't just transform lives; it transforms communities. When individuals collectively take action, whether big or small, the ripple effect extends far beyond immediate needs, creating a culture of compassion and collective responsibility for everyone's well-being.

Robes is the fulcrum bringing together the community to provide dignity and hope to our guests. Thank you so much to each and every person who has become part of the Robes village.

A very special thank you this year to some of our trustees – Paul, Neil, Elinor, Myfanwy and Sam JH, who are stepping down for personal reasons.



“We now need the assistance of our supporters more than ever before.”

Your support of both Robes and myself & the team has been outstanding, and we've been really lucky to have you as long as we have.

With gratitude.

Lisa Moodie
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Lisa Moodie".

About Robes

Robes has been supporting those experiencing homelessness in Southwark and Lambeth since 2007.

Robes provides a volunteer led Winter Night Shelter for those in need, providing safety, nourishment, a warm place to sleep, and a community to connect to. We offer tailored advice, guidance and referrals in all areas, and work in partnership with our guests to aid move on to longer term accommodation. Once in their new dwellings, we offer a tenancy sustainment floating support service, aimed at preventing repeat rough sleeping.



Rob Rinder at our SleepOut ready to bed down for the night

Both our current and former guests are welcome all year round at our Wednesday Club, where they can receive breakfast, a hot lunch and showers. Wednesday Club is an opportunity for our guests to reconnect with their community, play some games, have some laughs, and our dedicated advice workers are on hand to assist with any challenges they may be facing.

Robes is a small but mighty charity, and with the assistance of our amazing volunteers, we are proud to support those who need it most.

Chair's statement

Homelessness right here in Southwark and Lambeth continues to rise; budgets are getting tighter and cost of living increases are particularly impacting the most vulnerable in our society. Frontline support for those in real need has never been so critical.

Over 600 volunteers working with our core enthusiastic and talented frontline staff team, have successfully delivered secure, warm night shelters including hot meals, across the two London Boroughs during the winter season, with support and advice services for our Guests continuing through the year.

As part of Robes "round the year" support, the staff team and volunteers have continued to deliver Wednesday Club hosting breakfast, lunch and advice at Crossway URC, Elephant & Castle. Robes particular want to thank those volunteer "corporate teams" involved in such a unique and fun "team building opportunity", as part of their organisation's charitable support.

Robes future plan is to continue this vital work through volunteer-supported night shelters, developing additional services that directly help our Guests in securing somewhere safe they can call Home.

Finally, an enormous "Thank You" to all the Robes Family. Our 2024 Sleep Out raised over £60,000! This year Robes are aiming even higher with your support – please join us for this year's "Cold Night, Warm Toes, Winter Sleep Out" - Friday 21st November 2025.



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

A handwritten signature of Paul Venning in black ink.

2. What we do



Shelter Guests – photography by @evemilnerphotography

Winter Night Shelter

This winter season we saw a high percentage of refugees who had been evicted from Home Office accommodation once they received their legal status, with around half of our guests experiencing this, primarily younger people. We also had a significant amount of guests over the retirement age, with our oldest guest being 81 years, and our youngest being 19.

In total, 79 guests benefited from the hospitality and support offered through our network of dedicated partner churches. We also increased our provision by offering a second circuit after Christmas with the support of new host venues.

Over the course of the season, we provided 3,465 bed spaces, ensuring our guests had a secure place to rest each night. Thanks to the generosity of our volunteers, we also served an outstanding 7,663 hot meals, offering nourishing dinners and hearty breakfasts that gave our guests comfort and strength each day.

Our volunteers played a vital role in creating a warm, inclusive environment where guests could find not only respite but also encouragement and support.

Working alongside our Advice Workers, guests were empowered to take steps toward overcoming homelessness.

During the two-week Christmas circuit break, Robes provided alternative accommodation, along with food vouchers, in person visits and on-call staff support to assist with any issues that arose—ensuring continuous care during a critical time.

There continues to be challenges in securing move-on accommodation due to a continued to a rise in homelessness and a shortage of affordable housing. As a result, we extended shelter stays for some guests beyond our usual timeframe to ensure their continued safety and support. We are continuing to build on our partnerships and relationships to increase accommodation options for our guests.

We extend our deepest thanks to our volunteers, partner churches, and supporters for their unwavering compassion and commitment.

Together, we are making a real difference.

Winter Night Shelter

Our venues

Winter Night Shelter venues

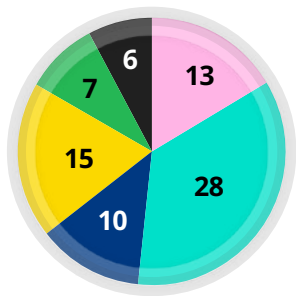
- Amott Road Baptist Church
- Chatsworth Baptist Church
- Christ Church Blackfriars
- Christ Church Clapham
- Copleston Church
- Finnish Church
- Haddon Hall Baptist Church
- Holy Spirit Contact Centre
- Montgomery Hall (St Mark's)
- Mostyn Road Methodist Church
- St Luke's Peckham
- St Michael's Stockwell
- St Pauls Lorrimore Square
- St Peters Clapham
- St Saviours Herne Hill
- St. John the Divine Kennington
- St. John the Evangelist
- St. John's Waterloo
- St. Luke's West Norwood
- St. Paul's Clapham



Winter Night Shelter

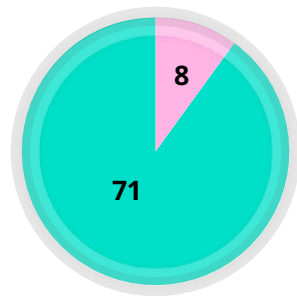
Our guests

Age



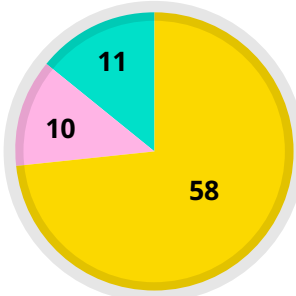
- 18 - 25 years
- 26 - 35 years
- 36 - 45 years
- 46 - 55 years
- 56 - 65 years
- 66+

Sex



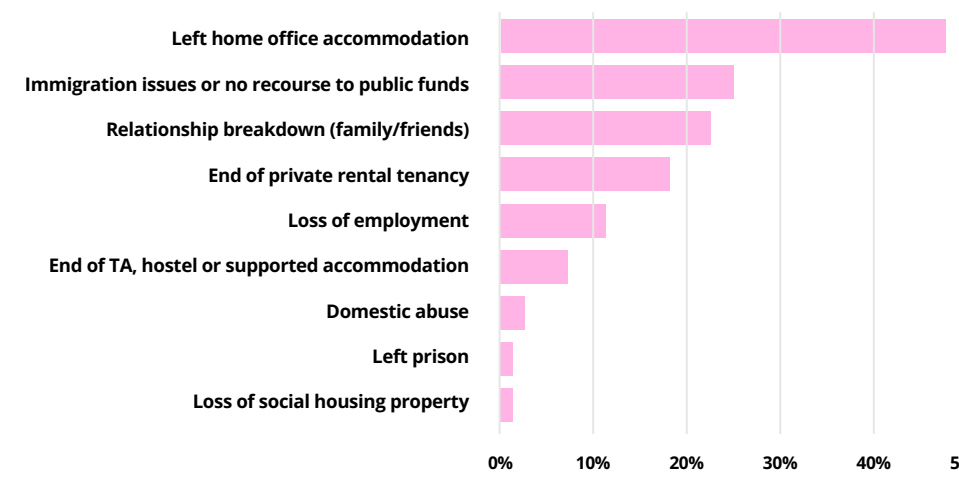
- Female
- Male

Nationality



- UK
- EU
- Rest of the world

Reasons for homelessness



Winter Night Shelter

Yonas' story

As a very young man Yonas left Eritrea several years ago as a refugee, seeking somewhere safe to live. He made the perilous journey via Russia and Poland.

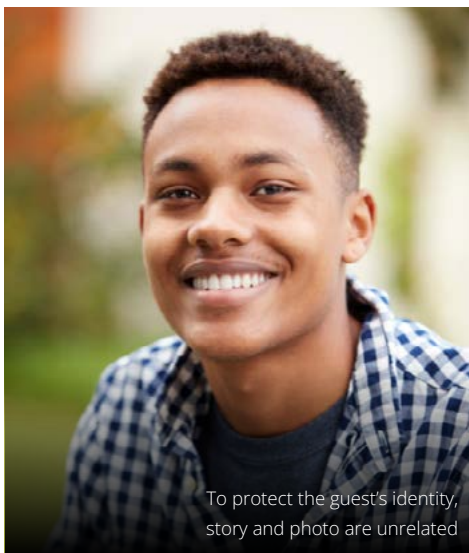
In Poland, he was held in detention as an illegal immigrant where he suffered beatings including having his arm broken by an overzealous security guard. Using public transport when he could and a lot of walking, he made his way across Europe and finally arrived in the UK in early 2024.

He was placed in Home Office accommodation in northern England until he was granted refugee status, and after this travelled down to London where he knew others from Eritrea. Aged 24, speaking very little English and with no real understanding of UK systems, he became street homeless. Yonas lived on the streets for around two months until he was picked up by St Mungo's rough sleeping outreach team in Southwark.

Yonas was referred to Robes shelter by St Mungo's where he received food, shelter, comfort and support for 9 weeks. He had previously been referred to New Horizon Youth Hub for under 25s in Bermondsey who were actively looking to accommodate him but they had a lengthy waiting list. As per his request, his Robes advice worker

looked for private rented accommodation. This was very difficult as rents in London are much higher than the Local Housing Allowance rates would allow, and as he was under 35 he was only entitled to a shared housing rate.

We then discussed other options with Yonas, and referred him to Housing Justice where he was accepted for the Refugee Lodgings Scheme. Housing Justice found him a room in a shared property and paid a deposit to the landlord. He is also being provided with a floating support service to help him maintain his tenancy. He is also waiting to start an English course as this will also greatly improve his ability to find employment.



To protect the guest's identity, story and photo are unrelated

Winter Night Shelter

Monique's story

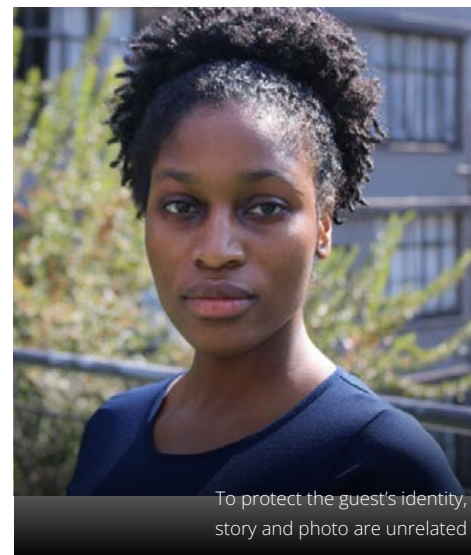
Monique, 50 years old, arrived from the Ivory Coast in the early 00s and eventually was granted Indefinite Leave to Remain. Monique lived for a number of years in Croydon with her mother until her mother sadly passed away.

After her mother's death, Monique lost her accommodation which was in her mother's name, and was unable to find an affordable alternative. She spent a very long time alternating between staying with different friends and periods of rough sleeping.

Monique had a number of different types of employment during this time including child minding, office admin and retail assistant, but with no secure home it was difficult to hold these jobs down. When she was referred to the Robes shelter by Spires, she was squatting in an abandoned house in Croydon.

Monique was at the shelter for almost 4 weeks, and had been granted £800 by Croydon Council to find accommodation in the private rented sector. She initially found work as a live-in au pair and left the shelters to start this role. She then revealed that this was only a short term role for a couple of weeks, and asked for Robes support to help find further accommodation.

Monique was also very proactive in looking for accommodation, and we linked her into the Night Shelter Lettings Network, which had affordable private rental properties. With encouragement and support from her advice worker at Robes, property viewings were arranged. Monique is now renting her own studio flat. This is giving her a solid base from which she is now looking more long-term, stable employment.



To protect the guest's identity, story and photo are unrelated

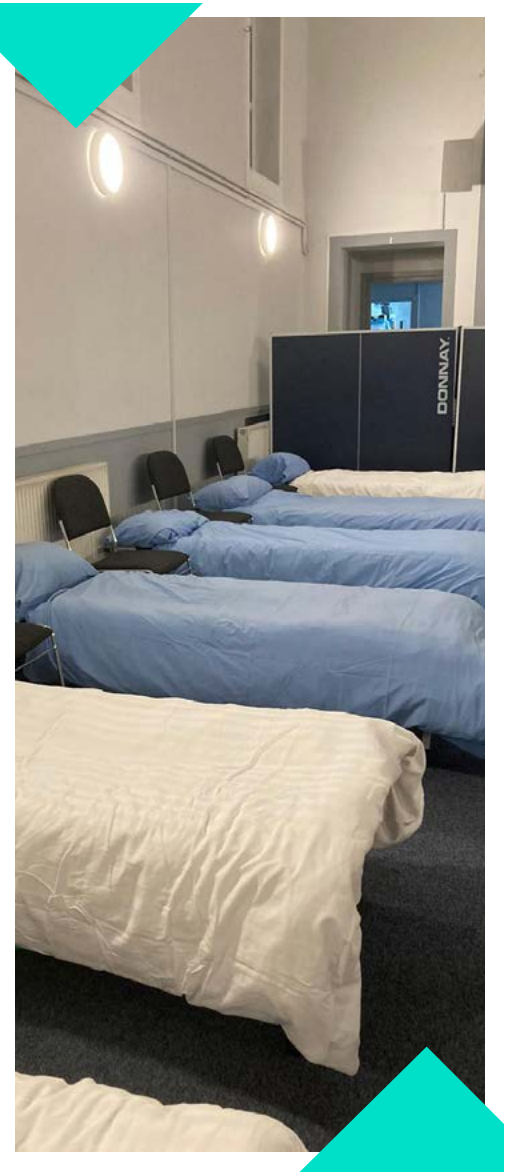
Winter Night Shelter

Guests comments

“
You guys saved my life when I needed a place to stay and I was really helpless.”
Robes Guest

“
You provided shelter and food when I wouldn't have had anywhere else to go or sleep.”
Robes Guest

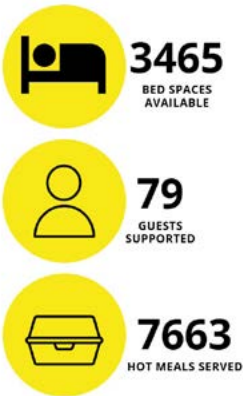
“
Thank you so much with all my Heart. I was taken in at a time when I was very desperate, homeless and had no one to help me in this country. I love the team and I will never forget the help you gave me - You took care of me.”
Robes Guest



Winter Night Shelter

Outcomes

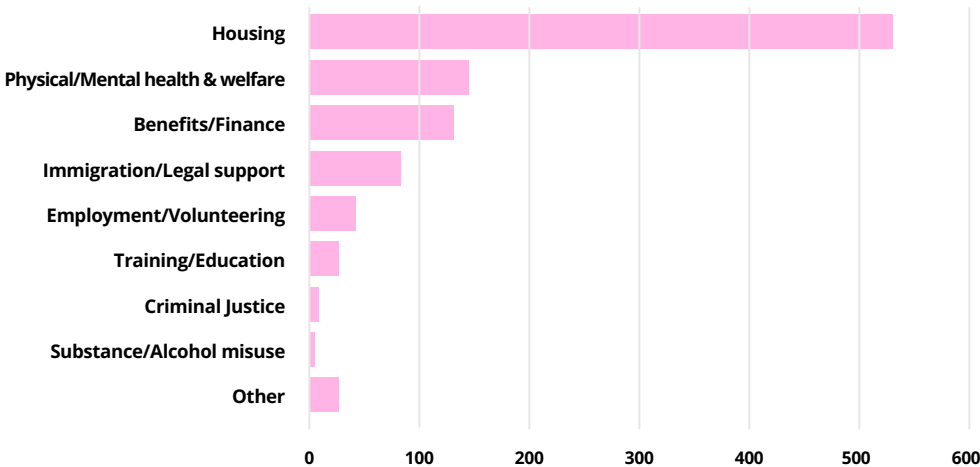
Key outputs



Shelter move on accommodation



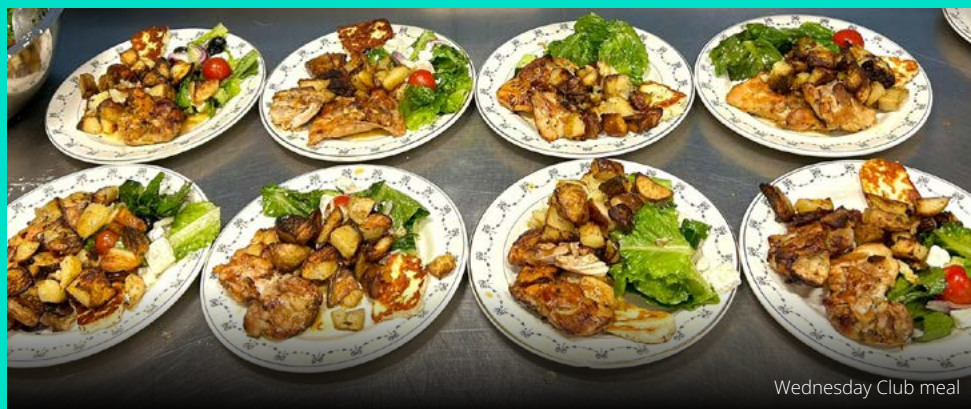
Shelter advice sessions



Wednesday Club

The Wednesday Club is Robes' weekly, year-round drop-in service, based at Crossways URC in Elephant & Castle. It's a safe, welcoming space where both past and present guests can come to relax, connect with others, and get the support they need.

Every Wednesday, guests can enjoy a continental breakfast, a hot, home-cooked lunch, access to showers, Wi-Fi, device charging, and a warm, comfortable place to spend the day. Our Advice Workers are always available to offer practical support and guidance, while activities and games provide moments of lightness, fun, and community.



Wednesday Club meal

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who helps make Wednesday Club possible. Over the past year, we've been supported by several corporate volunteering teams, as well as our core group of regular volunteers, who have gone above and beyond—preparing meals, keeping the space welcoming, and spending time with guests. Together, they've given over 800 hours of their time this year.

The Wednesday Club is about more than just services. It's the laughter, the friendly competition over board games, the conversations, the shared meals, and the genuine care that make it a place guests return to week after week. It's a space where people know they'll be welcomed, listened to, and supported—whatever stage of their journey they're on.

Wednesday Club

Oswaldo's story

Oswaldo had been a former guest of the winter shelter. He arrived in the UK 2012 from the EU. He had a variety of temporary work on short-term contracts in London. He spent various periods of time being street homeless or in hostel accommodation provided by homeless outreach teams.

Robes helped him to find a studio flat and Oswaldo subsequently found a job in the construction industry. The job ended within 6 months.

Unfortunately, he did not maintain contact with Robes and he eventually surrendered his tenancy as he was unable to continue paying the rent and was not familiar with the benefits system.

Several months ago he was picked up by a street homeless outreach team and provided with hostel accommodation. He then re-connected with Robes and has now resumed attending the Wednesday Club.

Our advice workers helped him to claim Universal Credit. He rekindled an interest in education and we supported him to enrol at college – he is now studying project management in construction.

He now seems more optimistic about his future as he has set himself his own realistic goals to achieve over the next couple of years. The Wednesday Club is there for him to flit in and out of as and when he needs to.



Wednesday Club guest – to protect the guest's identity story and photo are unrelated

Wednesday Club

Our volunteers

A special thank you to Crossway URC, who host our Wednesday Club. It has given us the opportunity to provide hot meals for our guests with the support of our dedicated volunteers as well as offer advice and guidance. Elaina is one of our incredible Wednesday Club volunteers.

Elaina

Volunteering with Robes since 2008, Elaina supports our guests both at our Wednesday Club and in the night shelter at St. Mark's, St. Michael's Stockwell and Mostyn Road. In addition to helping prepare delicious lunches and dinners for our guests, Elaina also helps with serving meals, setting up tables and supporting guests with filling in forms.

Elaina enjoys connecting with our guests, listening to their stories and having meaningful conversations. Her most memorable day at Wednesday Club was when she was asked to register a guest onto the Night Shelter Lettings Network. The following week, the guest went to a viewing and was offered accommodation – he has lived there ever since. “He couldn't stop thanking me,” Elaina recalls. “Ever since my time at Robes, I've constantly enjoyed seeing the guests

smile, feel happy and be welcomed with good hospitality knowing they are cared for while at Wednesday Club.”

Elaina feels Robes has had a significant impact on the community by creating a sense of belonging and connecting people with others who genuinely care through something as simple but powerful as a hot meal. She believes volunteers play an essential role, not only by being someone to talk to, but also by helping guests with their progress in areas such as finances, accommodation or health and well-being.

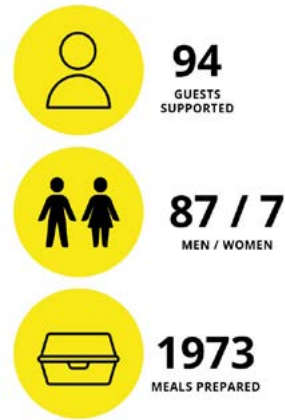
Elaina says volunteering with Robes has deepened her understanding and empathy towards people experiencing homelessness, highlighting the resilience of the human spirit. She describes the work Robes does as being of a high standard with strong dedication to guest well-being. She says it has been a very rewarding experience and encourages others to get involved. “It's a great way to give back to the community and make a positive impact.”



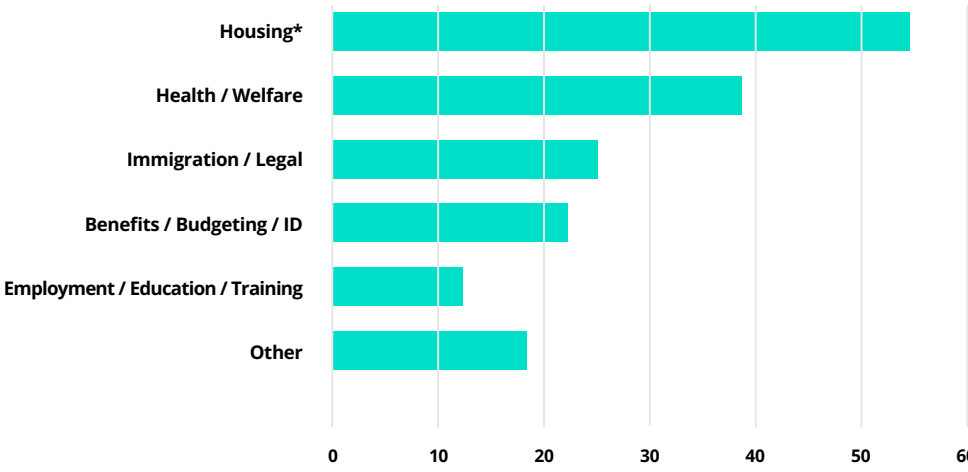
Wednesday Club

Outcomes

Key outputs



Wednesday Club advice sessions



Wednesday Club

Corporate partnerships

A helping hand

Our corporate partners have played a vital role in supporting the Wednesday Club—donating ingredients and working together as teams to prepare and serve meals to our guests.

We are deeply grateful for their hands-on involvement, which provides not only nourishing food but also meaningful, practical support. Their commitment is a powerful example of how we can work together to tackle homelessness and make a lasting difference in people's lives.

Wednesday Club corporate supporters

- AMV BBDO
- Baringa
- The Clearing
- Deep Mind
- UK Power Network

Additional Support

- Faith Chapel – Christmas gifts for Wednesday Club
- Family Volunteering Club – Decorating Wednesday Club for Christmas
- Higgins Construction – presentation on employment opportunities in the construction industry
- Salvation Army Employment Plus – fortnightly attendance for support with employability



One of our corporate teams at Wednesday Club

Advice work

At Robes, our experienced Advice Workers are dedicated to supporting our guests in finding their way out of homelessness and into stable accommodation.

We do this by supporting the guests in all aspects of their lives that have an impact on their housing situation.

It is important for us to have a strong network of partner organisations, creating web of support for our guests.

Each year, we evaluate the support our guests need and update our information database so that we can signpost them to the most appropriate agency. Likewise, we look to deal with the challenges presented by guests and devise ways of providing a more responsive support service e.g. translations, immigration advice services, employment/training/education opportunities, mental health services, safeguarding strategies.

The journey starts with a referral from our partner agencies – local charities, day centres and homeless outreach teams. We review the referrals and invite potential guests in for an interview. If accepted into the shelter, guests will be provided with a warm, safe space to sleep at night, a hot and nutritious breakfast and dinner and travel

allowances to attend appointments and other commitments.

We work collaboratively with the guest and referral agency in finding stable accommodation. We attend property viewings and source funding for deposits/rent in advance/incentive payments. We provide a floating support service following a move-on to ensure tenancy sustainment.

Above all, the advice team at Robes is committed to highlighting the strengths of the guests they work with, fostering a supportive environment conducive to personal growth and empowerment.



Advice Worker with guest at Wednesday Club

Advice work

Tommy's story

Tommy immigrated from Sri Lanka a long time ago and obtained Indefinite Leave to Remain. For many years he worked as a handy man for an estate, where accommodation was part of his salary package. He found himself homeless when the landlord sold the building without letting him know. Tommy was alone and scared, he had no one to help him get back on his feet.

Tommy has no family in the UK. His wife and children are all back home, and due to long working hours he doesn't have a strong network of friends.

At the age of 76 Tommy had no choice but to sleep on the streets. He approached a local homeless support centre, Spires, who then referred him to Robes to attend the Winter night shelter.

Tommy stayed with Robes for around a month, whilst Robes approached his local council and petitioned for him to be placed in sheltered accommodation. Tommy has now moved into temporary accommodation through the local authority until a sheltered accommodation vacancy arises.

Tommy is so happy to be housed and is very appreciative for Robes support, both during the shelter and for the ongoing Floating Support he has received since.

During floating support, Tommy has been supported with a number of things. We helped him update his address with organisations that needed it. We assisted him to bring his belongings to his new flat from storage, and purchased some things to help him start out, such as cups, glasses and washing up liquid, milk, tea, coffee etc.

There has been issues with his pension credit – for 15 months he has only been receiving £75 a week instead of the £155 he should be getting. We have been working to resolve this – DWP have admitted an error, but only want to back date for 3 months instead of the 15 months he is entitled to, so we are currently supporting around challenging their decision.

Despite being 76, Tommy is still very keen to keep working. We have linked him in with some employment agencies, made appointments for him with the Salvation Army Employment Plus team, and invited him to a presentation from Higgins Construction who were offering roles in the sector.

Tommy has also been supported around getting dentistry, and we provided evidence and filled in a form so that he became exempt from paying for his NHS treatments.

3. How to get involved



Events and future plans for 2025-2026

Robes are always looking for new fundraising opportunities and partnerships to ensure we can continue to provide support to our guests.

8th October 2025

AGM event at Southwark Cathedral

3rd November 2025

Start of Shelter Season

21st November 2025

SleepOut 2025 – celebrating the SleepOut's 15th anniversary - Registration now open

Further details at:

robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

17th December 2025

Wednesday Club Christmas

Feb/Mar 2026 (date TBC)

SleepOut Committee thank you dinner

31st March 2026

End of shelter season

April 2026 (date TBC)

Team Leader thank you dinner

6th June 2026

Volunteer thank you event

Shelter

We are hoping to run two circuits this year, so if your church hasn't been involved before, or it's been a while, please get in touch:

project.officer@robes.org.uk

Wednesday Club

Our Wednesday Club service continues at Crossway United Reform Church, providing stability and security for our current and former guests. We have been fortunate to have a number of corporate partners supporting this year, and look forward to more.

Volunteers

Robes would be nothing without the incredible support of our volunteers. If you would like to join them and make a difference to those experiencing homelessness, then please contact: project.offier@robes.org.uk

Fundraising & events

Robes has been fortunate to have various corporate teams, community teams and individuals support us with fundraising this year. It's simple to do, and anyone can put on a fundraising event. For more information, go to: robes.org.uk/fundraise

Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes

Robes would like to acknowledge and express our deep gratitude to Maggie Still for her contribution as Chair of the SleepOut Committee for the past six years. Maggie has now stepped down and handed the reins over to Kristin Ruby.

Once again Southwark Cathedral hosted the annual SleepOut for Robes.

This support given to Robes is seen as an important event in the yearly Cathedral calendar and is an essential component of the overall vision of the Cathedral community. The SleepOut does not aim to replicate the experience of rough sleeping but provides an opportunity for the community to come together to raise awareness and vital funds.

On the evening once everyone had officially registered it was time to grab their spot with their sleeping bags. Then it was soon time to enjoy the entertainment laid on.

We had invited the ever popular and ever supportive South London Jazz Orchestra and this time we had a wonderful group of dancers from Swing Patrol - a few of the audience even bravely joined in. Then Dean Mark Oakley interviewed our celebrity guest Rob Rinder. Rob proved a big draw in attracting an audience to come and donate

money to the night but who weren't sleeping out. He also insisted on sleeping out himself.

After the entertainment there was a short service of Compline which although not compulsory to attend proved a quiet moment before the bedding down and inevitable cold night that followed.

We were also able to include many more young people than in previous years who enjoyed pizza and a silent disco in the Library. They particularly enjoyed their surprise visitor who was no less than the Mayor of Southwark. The importance of the next generation who understand what Robes is for cannot be overstated.

This year we raised just over £60,000 which will go a good way to helping the work of Robes.

All in all a very successful and worthwhile evening - thanks to all who made it possible.

Maggie Still
Chair of the SleepOut Committee

Be part of Robes SleepOut 2025

**Friday 21st November
7pm - 7am**

Help us to help those experiencing homelessness by giving up your bed for the night. Register now:
robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

There will be an evening of live entertainment

Our supporters

Partners

- Alexander Trust
- AMV BBDO
- Byrne Bros
- The Clearing
- Cost of Living Crisis Concerts
- Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Trust
- The George Goodsir Charitable Trust
- The Good Luck Charitable Trust
- Lambeth Estates Residents Association
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- The Shadworth Hodgson Bequest
- StreetSmart
- The Worshipful Company of Dyers

Referral organisations

- Ace of Clubs
- Crisis
- Croydon Crisis
- De Paul Nightstop
- The Manna Society
- The Passage
- Shelter
- South London Refugee Association
- Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers
- Spires
- St Mungos
- Thames Reach
- Webber Street Day Centre

Churches who assisted with Shelters, volunteers and gifts for guests

- All Saints Church West Dulwich
- Amott Road Baptist Church
- Bermondsey Central Hall Methodist Church
- Brixton Hill Methodist Church
- Chatsworth Baptist Church
- Christ Church Blackfriars
- Christ Church Clapham
- Copleston Church
- Crossways United Reform Church
- Faith Chapel Peckham
- Finnish Church
- Haddon Hall Baptist Church
- Holy Spirit Clapham
- Mostyn Road Methodist Church
- Southwark Cathedral
- St Andrew's Waterloo
- St John the Evangelist East Dulwich
- St John the Divine Kennington
- St John's Waterloo
- St Luke's West Norwood
- St Luke's Peckham
- St Mark's Kennington (Montgomery Hall)
- St Mary Magdalen Bermondsey
- St Mary's Newington
- St Matthew at the Elephant
- St Michael's Church Stockwell
- St Paul's Clapham
- St Paul's Herne Hill
- St Paul's Lorrimore Square
- St Peter's Clapham
- St Peter's Streatham
- St Saviour's Herne Hill

4. Financial overview



Operational information

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Robes Project was initially set up as an unincorporated charity by a Constitution adopted 1 October 2008, amended by Special Resolution on 20 July 2009. It was registered as a Charity on 10 November 2009 and is governed by a Committee of Trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting. The areas of benefit are the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

On 1 August 2017 the Charity set up a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) called 'Robes Project'. The Charity and the CIO were merged on 18 January 2020. An asset transfer order was signed on 18 January 2020. The assets have now been transferred to the CIO and the old un-incorporated charity closed.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than 5, and until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, no more than 9.

Objectives

The objects of the CIO are the relief of poverty among people who are homeless in the London boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter night shelters, food and advice, support and re-settlement services so as to help them re-build their lives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees consider that the work of the Robes Project is to provide relief to poor and disadvantaged people in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter shelter, food and support helping to make these boroughs a safer, more humane place for everyone. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and no Trustee receives any private benefit from the Charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Governance and management

The Charity is run by its Trustees who meet bi-monthly to determine the strategy of the Charity, to discuss operational matters and to formulate policy. The Charity Manager attends all Trustee meetings. Sub-committees dealing with specific functions support the Board of Trustees and certain items of executive responsibility are delegated to individual Trustees to facilitate decision-making and to support staff efforts. All delegated matters are closely reported upon to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for delivering day to day services to our guests primarily to the Charity Manager, staff and volunteer teams.

The Charity Manager is responsible for individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Committee seek to recruit Trustees from among the churches participating in the Project who have relevant skills and experience to assist in running the Project. New Trustees are given an induction pack.

Operational information

Risk management

The Trustees recognise that there are risks to which the Charity is exposed. Systems have been established to mitigate known risks, including financial controls, employment procedures, agreements with participating churches and volunteer training. The Trustees keep proper accounting records and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Health and safety, equal opportunities and quality standards are prioritised. Records and archives are securely stored and electronic data carefully protected.

A significant risk the Charity faces is its over reliance on the SleepOut as a fundraising event, as reflected in the events of both the current and previous year. It looks to mitigate against this risk by diversifying its funding sources which has continued to prove a successful venture. Another significant risk would be if a serious safeguarding issue were to cause the Charity to lose the confidence of guests and referring partners. The Charity mitigates against this by thorough training for staff and volunteers.

Financial review

Total expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2025 was £295,067, up from £290,147 in the previous year. During the year, income decreased by £3,875, an decrease of 2% on the previous year.

At 30 April 2025, the total reserves stood at £177,901, Of these reserves, £374 is restricted to our ongoing projects. Another £80,000 of unrestricted reserves is designated to support 'Inn from the Cold' moving forward, leaving £97,527 as general funds.

Reserves policy

As part of the annual review of the reserves policy, the Trustees of the Robes Project assess the financial risks surrounding the Charity's ability to provide the services we offer to the homeless in Lambeth and Southwark. In so doing the Trustees aim to hold a minimum free reserves level of £80,000 - £150,000. The current free reserves of £97,527 are safely within this bracket.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of expenditure over income for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

Operational information

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 4 to 32 of this document as well as the legal and administrative information on page 45, meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement

of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 19 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

Independent examiner's report

Independent examiner's report to the Board of Trustees of Robes Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Robes Project (charity number 1174060) for the year ended 30 April 2025 set out on pages 35 to 44.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The CIO's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The CIO's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the CIO and the CIO's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement overleaf.

Independent examiner's report

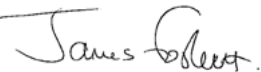
Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



James Foscett FCA
For and on behalf of Dux Advisory Limited

Dated: 18 December 2025

Kennel Club House
Gatehouse Way
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP19 8DB

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 30 April 2025

		Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations	2	218,373	-	218,373	226,849
Investments	3	8,484	-	8,484	3,883
Total income		226,857	-	226,857	230,732
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	5,238	-	5,238	11,734
Charitable activities	4 & 5	288,782	1,047	289,829	278,413
Total expenditure		294,020	1,047	295,067	290,147
Net income/(expenditure)		(67,163)	(1,047)	(68,210)	(59,415)
Transfer between funds	10	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(67,163)	(1,047)	(68,210)	(59,415)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	244,690	1,421	246,111	305,526
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	177,527	374	177,901	246,111

The notes on pages 37 to 44 form part of the financial statements.

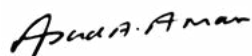
Balance sheet

As at 30 April 2025

	Notes	£	Total funds 30-Apr-25 £	Total funds 30-Apr-24 £
Current assets:				
Debtors and prepayments	8	3,599		1,748
Cash at bank and in hand		186,181		254,892
Total current assets		189,780		256,640
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
	9	(11,879)		(10,529)
Net current assets		177,901		246,111
Net assets		177,901		246,111
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds	10 & 11		374	1,421
Unrestricted funds:				
Designated funds	10 & 11	80,000		80,000
General funds	10 & 11	97,527		164,690
		177,527		244,690
		177,901		246,111

The notes on pages 37 to 44 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 19 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Asad Ansari
Treasurer

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 April 2025, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 April 2025 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements. The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment and the ongoing economic environment has no impact on this assessment.

Legal status

The Robes Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £1 per member of the Charity. The registered office is Southwark Cathedral Office, Montague Chambers, Montague Close, London, SE1 9DA.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and income from fundraising events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Notes to the financial statements

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 4 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised. There are no assets held over this level currently.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Robes Project operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Notes to the financial statements

2. Income from donations & legacies

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-25
	£	£	£
Donations	69,229	-	69,229
SleepOut	60,556	-	60,556
Other fundraising events	14,288	-	14,288
Trusts and foundations	74,300	-	74,300
	218,373	-	218,373

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£
Donations	95,127	-	95,127
SleepOut	60,241	-	60,241
Other fundraising events	7,445	-	7,445
Trusts and foundations	48,868	15,168	64,036
	211,681	15,168	226,849

3. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-25
	£	£	£
Bank interest	8,484	-	8,484
	8,484	-	8,484

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£
Bank interest	3,883	-	3,883
	3,883	-	3,883

Notes to the financial statements

4. Total expenditure

	Staff costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Other direct costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Indirect costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-25
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	4,342	896	5,238
Charitable activities	179,132	61,123	49,574	289,829
	179,132	65,465	50,470	295,067

	Staff costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Other direct costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Indirect costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	10,065	1,669	11,734
Charitable activities	170,774	68,031	39,608	278,413
	170,774	78,096	41,277	290,147

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities. The prior year figures have been reallocated to show the support costs attributed to each activity. Indirect costs include the following costs:

All expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted in nature in both the current and previous financial years.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 6.

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£
Office rent	17,205	16,586
IT and communications	9,699	6,104
Administrative costs	4,613	2,949
Finance support	10,918	10,429
Other professional support	2,305	-
Governance costs	5,730	5,209
	50,470	41,277

Notes to the financial statements

4. Total expenditure continued

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£
Independent examination fees	2,244	1,764
Statutory accounts preparation	1,584	1,536
Insurance	1,902	1,909
	5,730	5,209

5. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-25
	£	£	£
Staff costs	179,132	-	179,132
Other direct costs	60,076	1,047	61,123
Indirect costs	49,574	-	49,574
	288,782	1,047	289,829

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£
Staff costs	158,541	12,233	170,774
Other direct costs	61,398	6,633	68,031
Indirect costs	38,776	832	39,608
	258,715	19,698	278,413

Notes to the financial statements

6. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£
Gross salaries	161,824	155,378
Employer's national insurance	11,359	9,926
Employer's pension	5,949	5,470
	179,132	170,774

The average headcount during the year was 5 persons (2024: 5 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2024: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £60,095 (2024: £57,645).

7. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £5,949 (2024: £5,470).

£496 of employer contributions were outstanding at year end (2024: £477).

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

8. Debtors and prepayments

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£
Prepayments	3,162	1,748
Other debtors	437	-
	3,599	1,748

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-25	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,064	3,684
Accruals	4,224	3,666
HMRC control account	2,699	2,321
Pension control account	892	858
	11,879	10,529

Notes to the financial statements

10. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward year ended 30-Apr-25	Income for the year year ended 30-Apr-25	Expenditure in the year year ended 30-Apr-25	Transfers between funds year ended 30-Apr-25	Balance carried forward year ended 30-Apr-25
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Total designated funds	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	164,690	226,857	(294,020)	-	97,527
Total unrestricted funds	244,690	226,857	(294,020)	-	177,527
Restricted funds					
Inn from the Cold	1,421	-	(1,047)	-	374
Total restricted funds	1,421	-	(1,047)	-	374
Total funds	246,111	226,857	(295,067)	-	177,901

	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-24
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Total designated funds	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	219,575	215,564	(270,449)	-	164,690
Total unrestricted funds	299,575	215,564	(270,449)	-	244,690
Restricted funds					
National Lottery	-	15,168	(15,168)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	5,951		(4,530)		1,421
Total restricted funds	5,951	15,168	(19,698)	-	1,421
Total funds	305,526	230,732	(290,147)	-	246,111

The **Inn from the Cold** designated fund has been earmarked for providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation.

The **Inn from the Cold** restricted fund consists of donations and grants to support guests in accessing the private rented sector by providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation.

The **National Lottery** restricted fund consists of a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund as part of their Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund.

Notes to the financial statements

11. Analysis of net assets

	General Funds Year ended 30-Apr-25	Designated Funds Year ended 30-Apr-25	Restricted Funds Year ended 30-Apr-25	Total Funds Year ended 30-Apr-25
	£	£	£	£
Current assets	109,406	80,000	374	189,780
Current liabilities	(11,879)	-	-	(11,879)
	97,527	80,000	374	177,901

	General Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24	Designated Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24	Total Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£
Current assets	175,219	80,000	1,421	256,640
Current liabilities	(10,529)	-	-	(10,529)
	164,690	80,000	1,421	246,111

12. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2024: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses (2024: £NIL).

13. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions (2024: £NIL) carried out with related parties other than unrestricted donations received from trustees totalling £1,200 (2024: £2,850).

14. Guarantees and secured charges

As at 30 April 2025 Charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured against assets of the Charity (2024: £NIL).

Legal & admin

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 30th April 2025.

Trustees

Paul Venning – Chair
Asad Ansari – Treasurer
Elinor Wakefield
Matthew Hanney
Myfanwy Lloyd
Neil Tryner
Sam Forsdike
Sam Johnson-Hill
Wendy Thompson

Secretary to the Trustees

Nick Hodgson



Principal Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Dux Advisory Limited
Kennel Club House,
Gatehouse Way,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
HP19 8DB



Accountant

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU



Charity Registration Number

1174060

Registered Address

Robes Project
Southwark Cathedral
Montague Close
London
SE1 9DA

Contact us

rob.es.admin@rob.es.org.uk
020 7407 5623
rob.es.org.uk

@rob.esproject_

@rob.esproject

The Robes Prayer

Jesus said, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' (Matthew 8.20).

God of hospitality,
as Jesus sat at the table of friend and stranger,
as he accepted a space in the home of others,
bless us as we offer
a safe space to rest and eat and sleep
to those who have nowhere to call home.
As we receive our guests
may we know that we receive you
and as we feed and shelter others
may we know that we are fed
and held in your love.

Amen



Team Leader Dinner



**Volunteer Coordinator
of the Year 2025**



Macey Osei-Kissi, Robes

"Macey has an incredible can do attitude. She will not allow any task to daunt her. Everything that she does is with a smile, genuine kindness and thoughtfulness for the volunteers she so passionately supports."

Community
Southwark



Southwark Cathedral's SleepOut 2026 for Robes

Friday 20th November 2026
7pm to 7am Saturday morning

Further details can be found at robes.org.uk or [@RobesProject](https://twitter.com/RobesProject).

Support those experiencing homelessness locally and join in our sponsored SleepOut.

ROBES PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1174060

Accounts



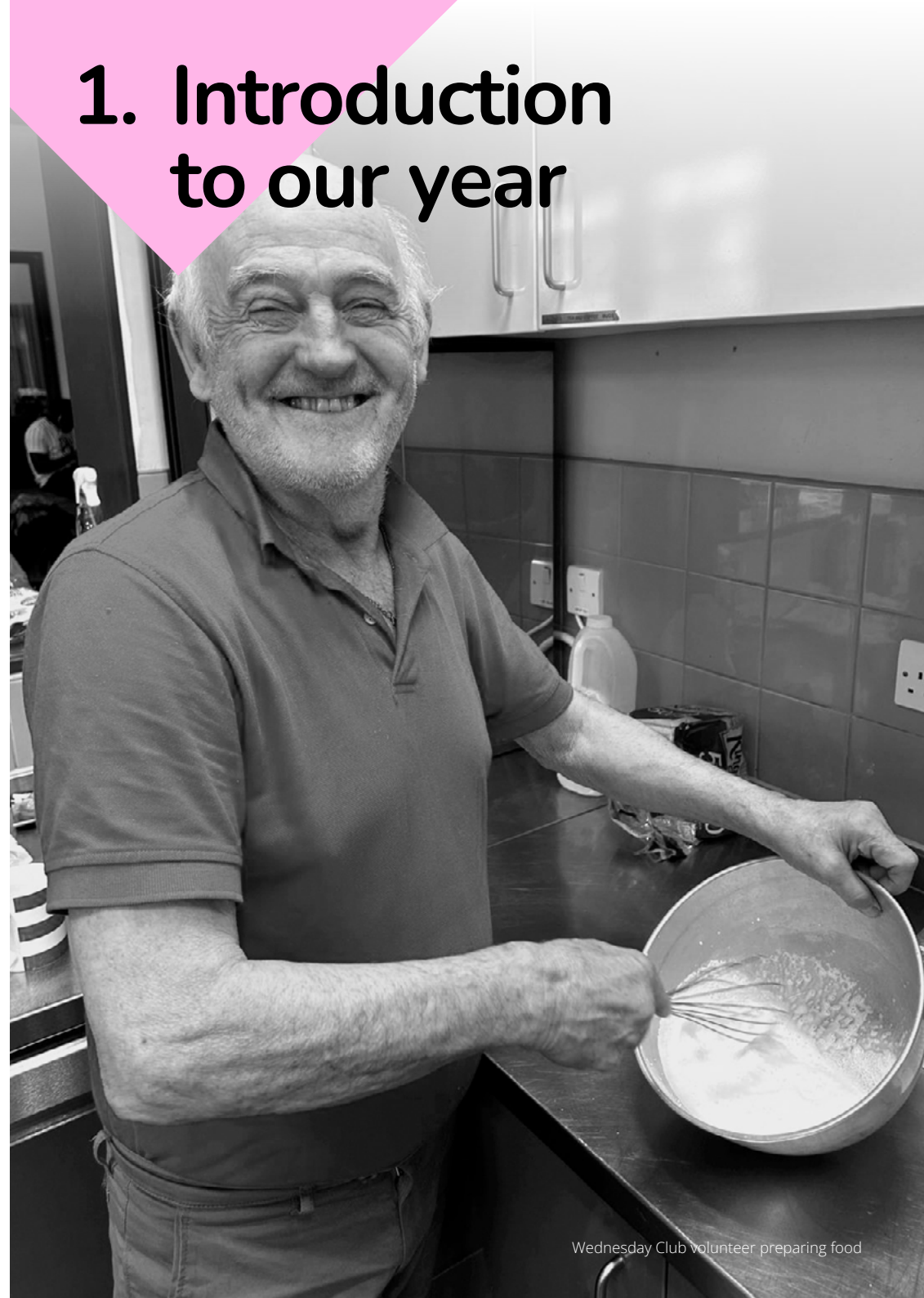
Supporting local people out of homelessness



Contents

1. Introduction to our year	3
Welcome	4
About Robes	6
Chair's statement	7
2. What we do	8
Winter Night Shelter	9
Our guests	10
Amir's story	11
Daniel's story	12
Guests comments	13
Outcomes	14
Wednesday Club	15
Jacob's story	16
Our volunteers	17
Outcomes	18
Corporate partnerships	19
Advice work	20
Jane's story	21
3. How to get involved	22
Events and future plans for 2024-2025	23
Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes	24
Our supporters	25
4. Financial overview	26
Operational information	27
Independent examiner's report	32
Statement of financial activities	34
Balance sheet	35
Notes to the financial statements	36
Legal & admin	45
An Ode to Robes	46

1. Introduction to our year



Wednesday Club volunteer preparing food

Welcome

Robes is a small charity alleviating homelessness in the boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth with the assistance of over 550 incredible volunteers and 29 churches and community centres.

The past year has been a busy one, with further staff changes and now stabilisation of the team, and the first full season for us all. As I reflect on the last year, one theme keeps emerging, and that is the power of community.

The Robes team feel incredibly privileged to be working alongside such wonderful, warm, compassionate and dedicated supporters who come in all different shapes and sizes, helping Robes to deliver its services to those who need it most. The commitment from the Churches to support Robes in a tangible way, opening up their doors with compassion, is a beautiful thing.

Seeing the teams of volunteers in our shelters was a joy, all playing different roles to make sure our guests felt welcomed and safe, and being aware that there were also volunteers behind the scenes that contributed to making the shelter work. We had huge appreciation for the team leaders who play a significant role in making sure it all runs smoothly.

The dedication of our Wednesday Club volunteers, who week after week provide ongoing nourishment and company for our guests all year round was hugely appreciated (as was the banter). Our wonderful SleepOut committee play a key role in the Robes community, and our occasional volunteers who help out with things such as photography, bedding delivery and the like also had a vital role to play in supporting Robes this past year.

Our fantastic corporate teams, like The Clearing who made us their charity of the year, strengthen the Robes community by providing volunteering, funds and expertise. Of course, there are also the Robes champions, those who participate in or donate to events like the SleepOut, or who quietly promote the Robes profile and reputation.

In a year where homelessness was ever growing, the support from the Robes Village made a huge difference and meant that we were able to accommodate 49 guests during the shelter season. I'd also like to thank the staff team for all of their hard work in supporting both our guests and members of the Robes Community – you guys are the best!

We now need the assistance of our supporters more than ever before. Rough sleeping records have hit an all-time high



“We now need the assistance of our supporters more than ever before.”

and sadly we anticipate more need this coming Winter. We are hoping to open two circuits this shelter season to support as many guests as possible – so spread the word and help grow our community.

With best wishes and sincere gratitude to all in the Robes Village.

Lisa Moodie
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Lisa Moodie'.

About Robes

Robes has been supporting those experiencing homelessness in Southwark and Lambeth since 2007.

Robes provides a volunteer led Winter Night Shelter for those in need, providing safety, nourishment, a warm place to sleep, and a community to connect to. We offer tailored advice, guidance and referrals in all areas, and work in partnership with our guests to aid move on to longer term accommodation. Once in their new dwellings, we offer a tenancy sustainment floating support service, aimed at preventing repeat rough sleeping.



Volunteers at our SleepOut ready to bed down for the night

Both our current and former guests are welcome all year round at our Wednesday Club, where they can receive breakfast, a hot lunch and showers. Wednesday Club is an opportunity for our guests to reconnect with their community, play some games, have some laughs, and our dedicated advice workers are on hand to assist with any challenges they may be facing.

Robes is a small but mighty charity, and with the assistance of our amazing volunteers, we are proud to support those who need it most.

Chair's statement

Robes' ability to help the homeless in Southwark and Lambeth year on year, goes from strength to strength; providing vital frontline support for those in real need.

Success this past year has seen our continued volunteer-supported night shelters across these London Boroughs. Our frontline staff team enthusiastically led by Lisa and wonderfully supported by great trustees, shelter team leaders and volunteers alike, continue to make it all happen, taking challenge after challenge in their stride!

A huge Thank You to all Wednesday Club volunteers hosting breakfast, lunch and advice at Crossway URC, Elephant & Castle, including the increasing number of "corporate teams" who are now involved in such a unique and fun "team building opportunity", as part of their organisation's charitable support.

Robes critical long-term plan is to robustly sustain our vital work through volunteer-supported night shelters, whilst exploring static shelter options to deliver additional help to our Guests.

Finally, an enormous "Thank You" to all the Robes Family. Our 2023 Sleep Out raised £59,094! This year Robes are aiming even

higher with your support – do join us for this year's "Once In A Winter Sleep Out" - Friday 29th November 2024.



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

2. What we do



Robes staff team

Winter Night Shelter

This year the shelter season started with a bang, with a record referral number of guests needing somewhere safe and warm to stay over Winter. We had 49 guests over the course of the season who benefited from the hospitality and kindness of the churches we work so closely in partnership with.

Over the course of the season, there were 2,475 bed spaces available, offering our guests warmth and safety.

Our compassionate and dedicated volunteers generously provided an incredible total of 5,940 hot meals, nourishing our guests in the evening and setting them up with a hot breakfast every day. Each volunteer contributed to the creation of an inclusive and welcoming space for our guests to receive respite, whilst they worked in partnership with our Advice Workers to navigate their way out of homelessness.

For the two weeks over Christmas during the circuit break, Robes financed alternative accommodation and provided food vouchers and support, including on call staff members to assist with any difficulties.

Over the past year it has become more challenging to find move on accommodation

due to the record numbers of homelessness, and limited affordable accommodation. To allow for this, we accommodated some guests for a longer period of time than we ordinarily would. Next year we hope to run two circuits to be able to assist as many guests as possible.

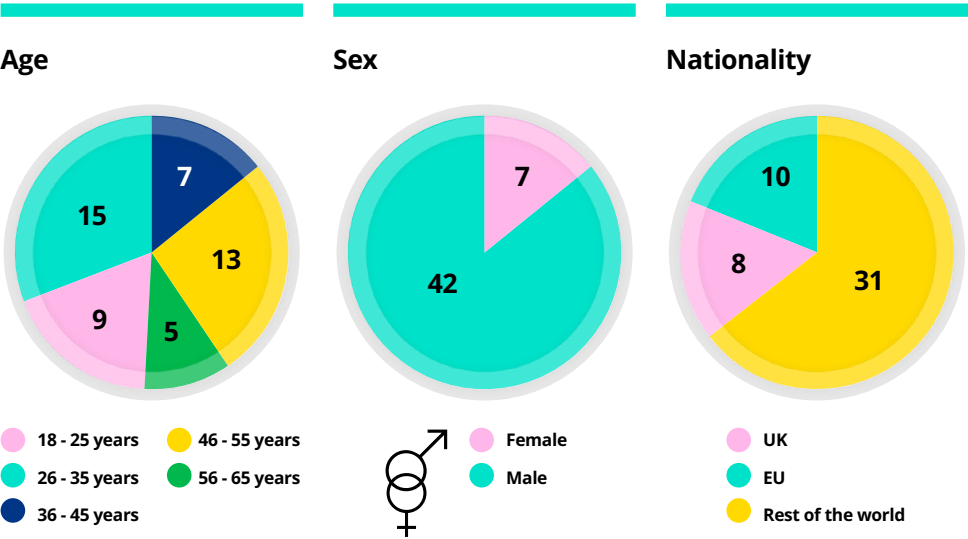
Winter Night Shelter venues

- Christ Church Blackfriars
- Christ Church Clapham
- Copleston Church
- Holy Spirit Contact Centre
- Montgomery Hall
- St. John the Divine Kennington
- St. John the Evangelist
- St. John's Waterloo
- St. Luke's West Norwood
- St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey
- St. Matthews at the Elephant
- St. Paul's Clapham

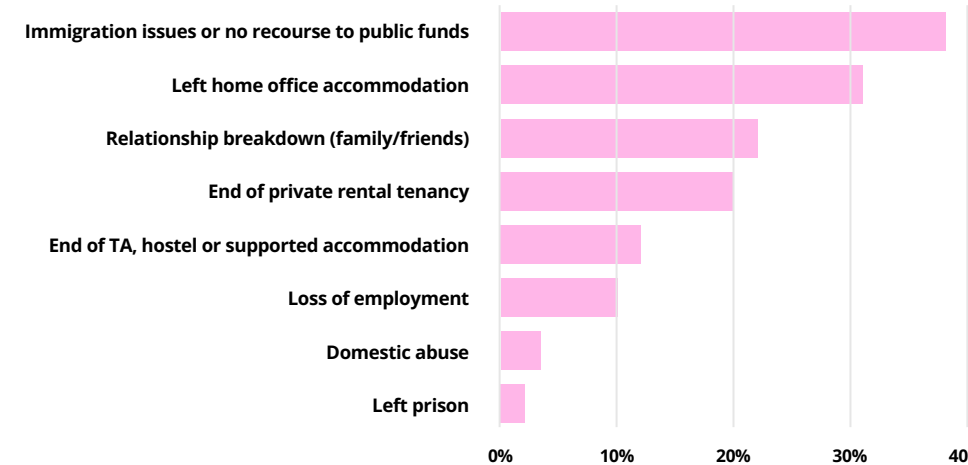


Winter Night Shelter

Our guests



Reasons for homelessness



Winter Night Shelter

Amir's story

Amir was an EU national with full settled status as he had lived in the UK for a number of years. This means he was able to work and claim benefits. He became homeless after losing his job and being unable to pay his rent – he was having difficulties getting on benefits, and the housing allowance would not cover the price of his accommodation. Amir found himself rough sleeping.

Referred to us by Webber Street homeless day centre, Amir's benefits were quickly sorted, and he found some casual work. However, this was cash in hand, and we encouraged Amir to find legitimate work, assisting him to go on a course to upskill him.

Although Amir initially denied it, there were concerns that he may have an alcohol misuse problem. We continued to gently explore this with Amir, in the hope that we could get him the appropriate help. Despite these concerns, Amir worked well with our advice workers, and was proactive in helping to find move on accommodation.

Our advice workers helped with property searches and attended viewings with Amir, and once appropriate and affordable

accommodation had been found, worked with Housing Justice on a landlord incentive to secure the property for him. We ensured his housing benefit was set up to go directly to the landlord, helped him notify universal credit about the changes, and signposted him to a donation hub that was local to his new home to obtain free furnishings for his new flat.

A few days before he was due to move on, Amir finally confided that he did have an alcohol misuse problem and requested help with this. Together, we made a referral to CGL and we also found local AA meetings he could access.



Former shelter guest. To protect the guest's identity, story and photo are unrelated

Winter Night Shelter

Daniel's story

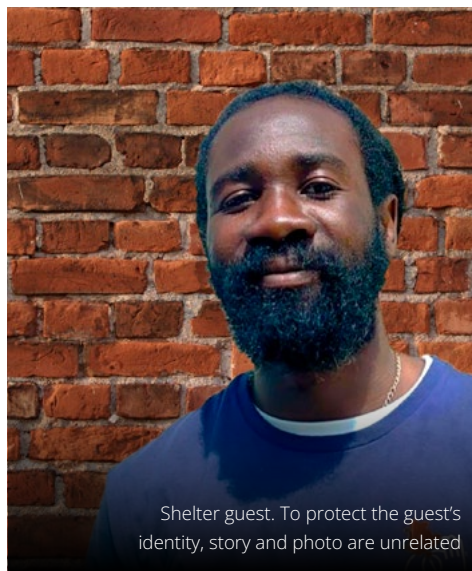
Daniel initially became homeless when he lost his job and was unable to afford his rent. For three years after this, he struggled to find regular employment or secure housing, working various temporary and casual jobs and doing a combination of sofa surfing and rough sleeping.

When Daniel was referred to Robes by Spires, he had been rough sleeping for several months, was having difficulties with the job centre and was not in receipt of benefits. This was due to a course that he had been on, which he withdrew from as he was being bullied.

Daniel was accepted right at the end of the season as a "respite only" guest – these are guests we are happy to accommodate to provide them with respite, but due to how soon the shelters will be closing we make both the referring agency and guest aware that they are the ones with primary responsibility for finding alternative accommodation as we are unlikely to be able to due to time constraints.

Unfortunately, Daniel's benefit issues were not resolved at the time of the shelter closing, and he was unable to find accommodation. However, Robes continued working with

Daniel and Spires, with his benefit issues being resolved and various referrals for accommodation made. A month after the shelters closed, Daniel moved into Emmaus, where he receives accommodation, meals and employment in their social enterprise. Daniel has settled in really well and is looking to resume his studies later this year.



Shelter guest. To protect the guest's identity, story and photo are unrelated

Winter Night Shelter

Guests comments

“

The service provided by the Robes Project is excellent not only during the nights with shelter, but also the advice and support given afterwards even if you are not a homeless person any longer. You do a great job therefore I express my gratitude and admiration.”

Robes Guest

“

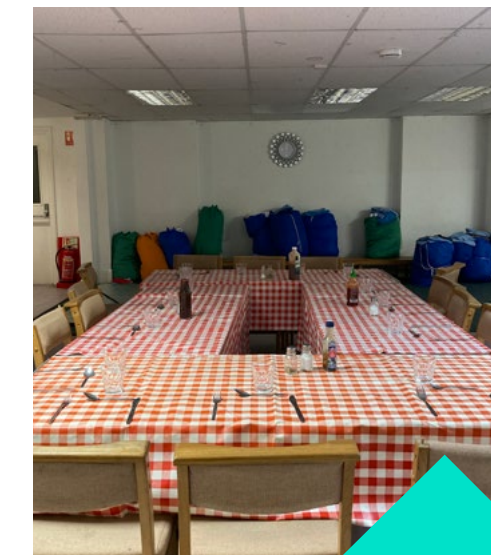
I was pleased with the way I was treated humanely.”

Robes Guest

“

I enjoyed living together with people from other traditions and cultures.”

Robes Guest



Winter Night Shelter

Outcomes

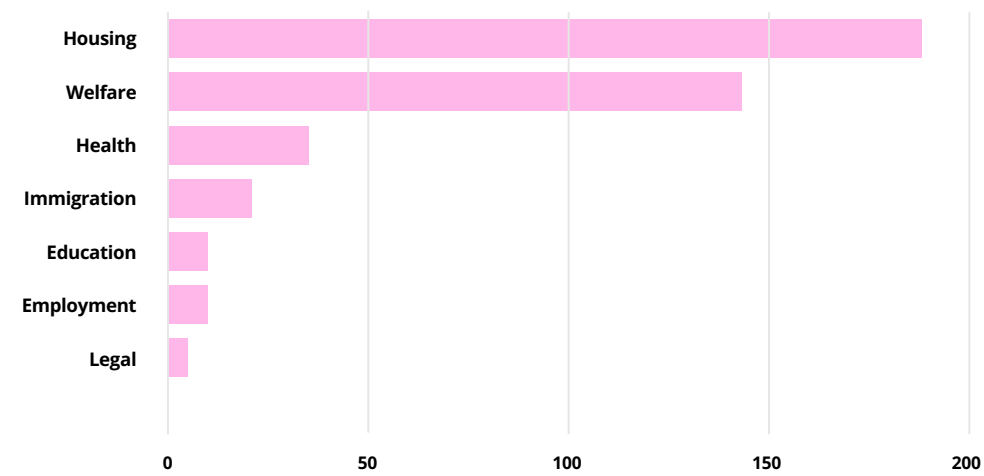
Key outputs



Shelter move on accommodation



Shelter advice sessions



Wednesday Club

The Wednesday Club is Robes weekly year round provision, providing day services for guests old and new at Crossways URC in Elephant & Castle. Here our current and former guests can access support and guidance from our advice workers, a continental breakfast, warming nutritious lunch, showers, the internet, a warm space, charging facilities, activities, and most importantly a warm welcome and a friendly ear.

We were sad to say goodbye to Wootton this year, who stepped down as Wednesday Club Coordinator, and want to pay tribute to his hard work and dedication. We haven't let

him down, as our core team of volunteers have increased and the club has gone from strength to strength.

We'd like to thank the volunteers who support Wednesday Club. We have seen a number of corporate partners volunteer this past year and are grateful for their help. We owe a particular debt of gratitude to our core team of regular volunteers who cook, clean, and welcome and entertain our guests all year round. Between them they have given over 800 hours of their time this past year to support our guests.

The games, the banter, the warmth, the laughter, the food, the atmosphere, and yes – even the scrabble competitions, all combine to create a place of safety and familiarity where guests known they will be supported, listened to, and helped.



Wednesday Club

Jacob's story

A former guest, Jacob is a Russian man who came to the UK about 12 years ago. Of Greek descent, he also holds a Greek passport. He came back to the Wednesday Club after about three years' absence, as he wanted support around his immigration.

He was sign posted to an advice centre that specialises in advising Eastern European nationals. After this, Jacob started attending Wednesday Club more regularly, accessing further support from the advice workers.

He has been assisted to change GP and register to vote. Jacob has also been supported around his benefits.

Our advice workers have helped him understand the importance of reporting changes to Universal Credit and how to do this, and have explained how to upload documents and photos to his journal. When the system wasn't working properly and Jacob couldn't do this, he was advised to go to the Job Centre in person as he faced a deadline for submission.

Jacob has been in stable hostel accommodation for at least the last two years and would now like to find employment having been a lorry driver in the past.

We helped Jacob to complete a DVLA application to exchange his Greek driving licence for a British one, and advised him that his GP would need to supply information as to his suitability for driving.



Wednesday Club guest. To protect the guest's identity, story and photo are unrelated

Wednesday Club

Our volunteers

A special thank you to Crossway URC who have hosted our Wednesday Club. It has given us an opportunity to feed our guests with the assistance of our dedicated volunteers, and provide advice and guidance. Vilma is one of our incredible Wednesday Club volunteers.

Vilma

Volunteering with Robes since August 2023, Vilma offers support to our guests both at our Wednesday Club and in the night shelter at St Johns Waterloo. In addition to cooking delicious lunches and dinners for our guests, Vilma also helps with both cleaning duties, and hosting – playing games with our guests and providing a friendly ear.

Vilma enjoys the engagement with our guests – having conversations, listening to their stories, and being able to engage in meaningful conversation. Her most memorable day at Wednesday Club was when we celebrated Christmas with a traditional lunch, it was heartwarming for her to see guests in their best dress overjoyed for this celebration lunch.

Vilma feels Robes has had a significant impact on the community by providing a safe and secure place for homeless people to sleep along with a hot meal and showers. She feels we are not only providing necessities but also the sense of dignity and community for those that need it the most.

Vilma said that volunteering with Robes has deepened her understanding and empathy towards homeless people highlighting the resilience in humanity. She says it has been a very rewarding experience and she encourages others to get involved, it is a very good way to give back to the community and make a positive impact.

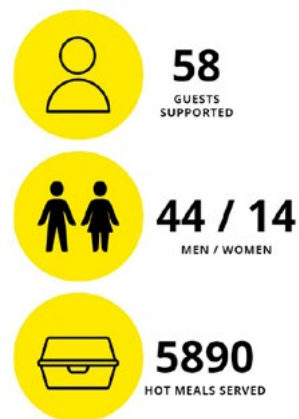


Wednesday Club volunteers

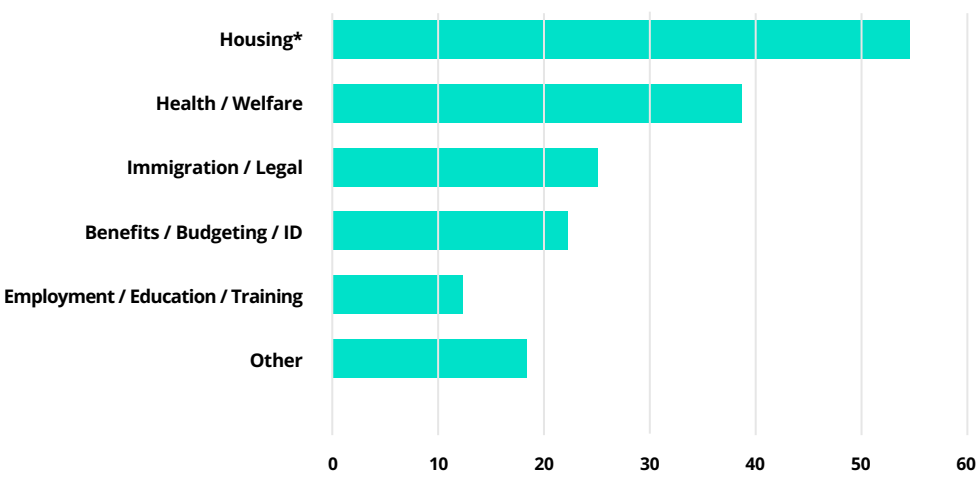
Wednesday Club

Outcomes

Key outputs



Wednesday Club advice sessions



Wednesday Club

Corporate partnerships



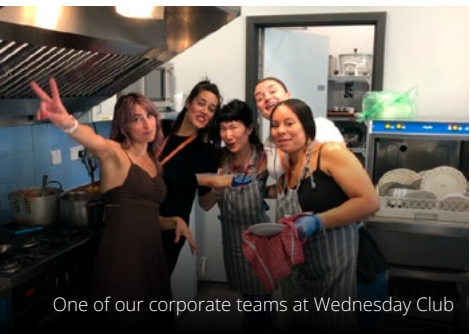
A helping hand

Our corporate teams have supported us to run our Wednesday Club – providing ingredients and cooking as a team to feed our hungry guests.

We greatly appreciate their support providing tangible assistance – tackling homelessness in partnership.

Wednesday Club corporate supporters

- Amazon
- Attorney General's Office
- Curry's
- Deep Mind
- Nexus Planning
- Richmond Pharmacology



One of our corporate teams at Wednesday Club

“

Volunteering at the Wednesday Club of The Robes Project was profoundly impactful. It was incredibly rewarding to prepare and share meals with the guests and see firsthand the positive difference Robes makes in their lives. The enthusiasm and dedication of both the AWS and Robes volunteers created a collaborative and supportive environment. This initiative strengthened our team's bond and deepened our understanding and commitment to addressing homelessness in London. We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to such a meaningful cause and look forward to continuing our partnership with Robes.”

Nika Lippert, Security Strategist at Amazon Web Services

Advice work

At Robes, our experienced Advice Workers are dedicated to supporting our guests in finding their way out of homelessness and into stable accommodation.

We do this by supporting the guests in all aspects of their lives that have an impact on their housing situation, signposting them to relevant organisations who may specialise in fields such as immigration or employment.

It is important to us to have a strong network of partner organisations, creating web of support for our guests.

The journey starts with a referral from our partner agencies – local charities, day centres and homeless outreach teams. We review the referrals and invite potential guests in for an interview. If accepted into the shelter, guests will be provided with a warm, safe space to sleep at night, a hot and nutritious breakfast and dinner, and travel allowances to access appointments and other commitments.

We work collaboratively with the guest and referral agency in finding stable accommodation and are always available to support former guests as they navigate the new chapter of their lives and focus on tenancy sustainment.

Above all, the advice team at Robes is committed to highlighting the strengths of the guests they work with, fostering a supportive environment conducive to personal growth and empowerment.



Advice Worker with guest at Wednesday Club

Advice work

Jane's story

Jane became homeless after her child passed away six years ago and she struggled to cope. At the time she was trying to get her immigration issues resolved and had strong support through her local faith community. Jane withdrew from all support in place and did not get assistance to help her through her bereavement, leading her to rough sleep.

Over the following years, Jane has alternated between sofa surfing and rough sleeping. She has struggled to come up with the fees to apply for leave to remain and to find legal representation. Jane also struggled to find resources to feed herself.

Seeking assistance, she was referred to Robes Winter Night Shelter. Here she found safety and warmth, a bed to rest in, two meals a day and essential toiletries. What Jane appreciated most was the support from the advice workers.

Robes supported Jane in registering with a GP, and sought the right immigration support for her – she was supported to apply for leave to remain, and is now awaiting a result from the Home Office. Jane was also offered a referral to counselling to assist her with her

low mood, but decided not to take this up. Although options for someone with no recourse to public funds who cannot work is limited, Robes were able to refer her to a longer-term shelter that had spaces for no recourse guests. Jane remains hopeful that once her immigration is sorted, she will be one step closer to returning to a normal life.



Wednesday Club continental breakfast

3. How to get involved



Southwark Diocesan Board of Education Multi-Academy
Trust team at SleepOut

Events and future plans for 2024-2025

Robes are always looking for new fundraising opportunities and partnerships to ensure we can continue to provide support to our guests.

Throughout August 2024

Community Chow Down Event

17th August 2024

Musical fundraiser to be held at Amott Road Baptist Church

12th September 2024

Corporate team AMV BBDO fundraising day for Robes

25th September 2024

AGM event at Southwark Cathedral

4th November 2024

Start of Shelter Season

29th November 2024

SleepOut 2024 - Registration now open
Further details: robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

30th March 2025

End of shelter season

26th April 2025

Team Leader thank you dinner

Shelter

We are hoping to run two circuits this year, so if your church hasn't been involved before, or it's been a while, please get in touch:

project.officer@robes.org.uk

Wednesday Club

Our Wednesday Club service continues at Crossway United Reform Church, providing stability and security for our current and former guests. We have been fortunate to have a number of corporate partners supporting this year, and look forward to more.

Volunteers

Robes would be nothing without the incredible support of our volunteers. If you would like to join them and make a difference to those experiencing homelessness, then please contact: project.offier@robes.org.uk

Fundraising & events

Robes has been fortunate to have various corporate teams, community teams and individuals support us with fundraising this year. It's simple to do, and anyone can put on a fundraising event. For more information, go to: robes.org.uk/fundraise

Southwark Cathedral

SleepOut for Robes

On a cold Winter's night at the end of November Southwark Cathedral once again hosted the annual SleepOut under the stars. This is one of the main fundraising events that takes place for Robes.

Those who participate in the SleepOut have the opportunity to get a glimpse into what many of our guests have to endure every night. We are very grateful to all those who bed down in the churchyard. We are also grateful to those who sponsor our brave participants, and to those who donate to come to the entertainment portion of the evening.

In addition to those braving the cold there is a regular army of volunteers who are there to keep everyone secure, providing hot drinks throughout the night, cooking a hearty breakfast early the next morning and a myriad of other tasks that need doing to make the evening go well.

The evening begins with a programme of entertainment before everyone beds down for the night. This year the popular South London Jazz Orchestra put on a brilliant performance (and incited some enthusiastic dancing by some of the audience)! Prior to the music we reprised the quiz show

"Thou Shalt Not Lie" as it proved a hit the previous year.

This year we raised nearly £60,000 which will go a good way to helping the work of Robes. Each year we now also welcome young people. If old enough they sleep with an appropriate adult outside with the very young sleeping inside the Cathedral. It's always an enjoyable and thoroughly worthwhile event and we are grateful to all those who work hard to make it a success.

Maggie Still

Chair of the SleepOut Committee



Be part of Robes SleepOut 2024

**Friday 29th November
7pm - 7am**

Help us to help those experiencing homelessness by giving up your bed for the night. Register now:
robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

There will be an evening of live entertainment

Our supporters

Partners

- Alexander Trust
- Byrne Bros
- The Clearing
- Community Organisations
- Cost of Living Fund
- Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Trust
- Eve Milner Photography
- Fine & Country
- The Good Luck Charitable Trust
- Living Bankside
- Post Card Productions
- The Shadworth Hodgson Bequest
- StreetSmart
- The Worshipful Company of Dyers

Referral organisations

- 999 Club
- Ace of Clubs
- Crisis
- De Paul Nightstop
- London City Mission
- The Manna Society
- The Passage
- Shelter
- South London Refugee Association
- Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers
- Spires
- St Mungos
- Thames Reach

Churches who assisted with Shelters, volunteers and gifts for guests

- Bermondsey Central Hall Methodist Church
- Chatsworth Baptist Church
- Christ Church Blackfriars
- Christ Church Clapham
- Copleston Church
- Crossways United Reform Church
- Faith Chapel Peckham
- Finnish Church
- Holy Spirit Clapham
- Mostyn Road Methodist Church
- Southwark Cathedral
- St Anne and All Saints Church
- St John the Evangelist East Dulwich
- St John's the Divine
- St John's Waterloo
- St Luke's West Norwood
- St Mark's Kennington (Montgomery Hall)
- St Mary Magdalene Bermondsey
- St Matthew at the Elephant
- St Michael's Church Stockwell
- St Paul's Clapham
- St Paul's Herne Hill
- St Saviour's Herne Hill

4. Financial overview

Operational information

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2024.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Robes Project was initially set up as an unincorporated charity by a Constitution adopted 1 October 2008, amended by Special Resolution on 20 July 2009. It was registered as a Charity on 10 November 2009 and is governed by a Committee of Trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting. The areas of benefit are the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

On 1 August 2017 the Charity set up a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) called 'Robes Project'. The Charity and the CIO were merged on 18 January 2020. An asset transfer order was signed on 18 January 2020. The assets have now been transferred to the CIO and the old un-incorporated charity closed.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than 5, and until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, no more than 9.

Operational information

Objectives

The objects of the CIO are the relief of poverty among people who are homeless in the London boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter night shelters, food and advice, support and re-settlement services so as to help them re-build their lives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees consider that the work of the Robes Project is to provide relief to poor and disadvantaged people in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter shelter, food and support helping to make these boroughs a safer, more humane place for everyone. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and no Trustee receives any private benefit from the Charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Governance and management

The Charity is run by its Trustees who meet bi-monthly to determine the strategy of the Charity, to discuss operational matters and to formulate policy. The Charity Manager attends all Trustee meetings. Sub-committees dealing with specific functions support the Board of Trustees and certain items of executive responsibility are delegated to individual Trustees to facilitate decision-making and to support staff efforts. All delegated matters are closely reported upon to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for delivering day to day services to our guests primarily to the Charity Manager, staff and volunteer teams.

The Charity Manager is responsible for individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Committee seek to recruit Trustees from among the churches participating in the Project who have relevant skills and experience to assist in running the Project. New Trustees are given an induction pack.

Risk management

The Trustees recognise that there are risks to which the Charity is exposed. Systems have been established to mitigate known risks, including financial controls, employment procedures, agreements with participating churches and volunteer training. The Trustees keep proper accounting records and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Health and safety, equal opportunities and quality standards are prioritised. Records and archives are securely stored and electronic data carefully protected.

A significant risk the Charity faces is its over reliance on the SleepOut as a fundraising event, as reflected in the events of both the current and previous year. It looks to mitigate against this risk by diversifying its funding sources which has continued to prove a successful venture. Another significant risk would be if a serious safeguarding issue were to cause the Charity to lose the confidence of guests and referring partners. The Charity mitigates against this by thorough training for staff and volunteers.

Financial review

Total expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2024 was £290,147, up from £230,552 in the previous year. This is due to an increase in staffing levels during the current year, exacerbated by a period in the prior year where the charity was recruiting a full new team. During the year, income increased by £35,198, an increase of 18% on the previous year, mainly due to a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund as part of their Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund.

At 30 April 2024, the total reserves stood at £246,111. Of these reserves, £1,421 is restricted to our ongoing projects. Another £80,000 of unrestricted reserves is designated to support 'Inn from the Cold' moving forward, leaving £164,690 as general funds.

Operational information

Reserves policy

As part of the annual review of the reserves policy, the Trustees of the Robes Project assess the financial risks surrounding the Charity's ability to provide the services we offer to the homeless in Lambeth and Southwark. In so doing the Trustees aim to hold a minimum free reserves level of £80,000 - £150,000. The current free reserves of £164,690 are safely, but not excessively, above this limit.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of expenditure over income for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 4 to 31 of this document as well as the legal and administrative information on page 45, meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement

of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 18 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

Independent examiner's report

Independent examiner's report to the Board of Trustees of Robes Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Robes Project (charity number 1174060) for the year ended 30 April 2024 set out on pages 34 to 44.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The CIO's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The CIO's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the CIO and the CIO's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Bianca Permal FCA

For and on behalf of Dux Advisory Limited

Dated: 18 September 2024

4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 30 April 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24 £	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24 £	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24 £	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-23 £
Income from:					
Donations	2	211,681	15,168	226,849	193,817
Investments	3	3,883	-	3,883	1,717
Total income		215,564	15,168	230,732	195,534
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	11,734	-	11,734	11,445
Charitable activities	4 & 5	258,715	19,698	278,413	219,107
Total expenditure		270,449	19,698	290,147	230,552
Net income/(expenditure)		(54,885)	(4,530)	(59,415)	(35,018)
Transfer between funds	10	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(54,885)	(4,530)	(59,415)	(35,018)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	299,575	5,951	305,526	340,544
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	244,690	1,421	246,111	305,526

The notes on pages 36 to 44 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 30 April 2024

	Notes	Total funds 30-Apr-24 £	Total funds 30-Apr-23 £
Current assets:			
Debtors and prepayments	8	1,748	1,250
Cash at bank and in hand		254,892	313,814
Total income		256,640	315,064
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(10,529)	(9,538)
Net current assets		246,111	305,526
Net assets		246,111	305,526
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	10 & 11	1,421	5,951
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	10 & 11	80,000	80,000
General funds	10 & 11	164,690	219,575
		244,690	299,575
		246,111	305,526

The notes on pages 36 to 44 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 18 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Asad Ansari

Asad Ansari
Treasurer

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 April 2024, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 April 2024 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements. The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment and the ongoing economic environment has no impact on this assessment due to the high reserves held by the Charity.

Legal status

The Robes Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £1 per member of the Charity. The registered office is 11B Park Street, London, SE1 9AB.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and income from fundraising events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred. Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Notes to the financial statements

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 4 of the financial statements. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised. There are no assets held over this level currently.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Robes Project operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Notes to the financial statements

2. Income from donations & legacies

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£
Donations	95,127	-	95,127
SleepOut	60,241	-	60,241
Other fundraising events	7,445	-	7,445
Trusts and foundations	48,868	15,168	64,036
	211,681	15,168	226,849

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£	£
Donations	112,105	-	112,105
SleepOut	47,724	-	47,724
Other fundraising events	6,988	-	6,988
Trusts and foundations	27,000	-	27,000
	193,817	-	193,817

3. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£
Bank interest	3,883	-	3,883
	3,883	-	3,883

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£	£
Bank interest	1,717	-	1,717
	1,717	-	1,717

Notes to the financial statements

4. Total expenditure

	Staff costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Other direct costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Indirect costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	10,065	1,669	11,734
Charitable activities	170,774	68,031	39,608	278,413
	170,774	78,096	41,277	290,147

	Staff costs year ended 30-Apr-23	Other direct costs year ended 30-Apr-23	Indirect costs year ended 30-Apr-23	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	9,446	1,999	11,445
Charitable activities	115,860	64,982	38,265	219,107
	115,860	74,428	40,264	230,552

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities. The prior year figures have been reallocated to show the support costs attributed to each activity.

All expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted in nature in both the current and previous financial years.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 6.

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£
Office rent	16,586	14,036
IT and communications	6,104	7,037
Administrative costs	2,949	4,348
Finance support	10,429	9,871
Governance costs	5,209	4,972
	41,277	40,264

Notes to the financial statements

4. Total expenditure continued

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£
Independent examination fees	1,764	1,680
Statutory accounts preparation	1,536	1,536
Insurance	1,909	1,756
	5,209	4,972

5. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£
Staff costs	115,860	12,233	170,774
Other direct costs	61,398	6,633	68,031
Indirect costs	38,776	832	39,608
	258,715	19,698	278,413

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Restricted funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Total funds year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£	£
Staff costs	158,541	-	115,860
Other direct costs	64,982	-	64,982
Indirect costs	38,265	-	38,265
	219,107	-	219,107

Notes to the financial statements

6. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£
Gross salaries	155,378	106,205
Employer's national insurance	9,926	6,082
Employer's pension	5,470	3,573
	170,774	115,860

The average headcount during the year was 5 persons (2023: 4 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2023: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £57,645 (2023: £32,350).

7. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £5,470 (2023: £3,573).

£477 of employer contributions were outstanding at year end (2023: £270).

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

8. Debtors and prepayments

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£
Prepayments	1,748	1,250
	1,748	1,250

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-24	Total costs year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,684	3,436
Accruals	3,666	3,582
HMRC control account	2,321	2,034
Pension control account	858	486
	10,529	9,538

Notes to the financial statements

10. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward year ended 30-Apr-24	Income for the year year ended 30-Apr-24	Expenditure in the year year ended 30-Apr-24	Transfers between funds year ended 30-Apr-24	Balance carried forward year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	219,575	215,564	(270,449)	-	164,690
	299,575	215,564	(270,449)	-	244,690
Restricted funds					
National Lottery	-	15,168	(15,168)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	5,951	-	(4,530)		1,421
	5,951	15,168	(19,698)	-	1,421
	305,526	230,732	(290,147)	-	246,111

The **Inn from the Cold** designated fund has been earmarked for providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation.

The **National Lottery** restricted fund consists of a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund as part of their Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund.

The **Inn from the Cold** restricted fund consists of donations and grants to support guests in accessing the private rented sector by providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation.

Notes to the financial statements

	Balance brought forward year ended 30-Apr-23	Income for the year year ended 30-Apr-23	Expenditure in the year year ended 30-Apr-23	Transfers between funds year ended 30-Apr-23	Balance carried forward year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	254,593	195,534	(230,552)	-	219,575
	334,593	195,534	(230,552)	-	299,575
Restricted funds					
Inn from the Cold	5,951	-	-		5,951
	5,951	-	-	-	5,951
	340,544	195,534	(230,552)	-	305,526

Notes to the financial statements

11. Analysis of net assets

	General Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24	Designated Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24	Restricted Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24	Total Funds Year ended 30-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£
Current assets	175,219	80,000	1,421	256,640
Current liabilities	(10,529)	-	-	(10,529)
	164,690	80,000	1,421	246,111

	General Funds Year ended 30-Apr-23	Designated Funds Year ended 30-Apr-23	Restricted Funds Year ended 30-Apr-23	Total Funds Year ended 30-Apr-23
	£	£	£	£
Current assets	229,113	80,000	5,951	315,064
Current liabilities	(9,538)	-	-	(9,538)
	219,575	80,000	5,951	305,526

12. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2023: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses (2023: £NIL).

13. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions (2023: £NIL) carried out with related parties other than unrestricted donations received from trustees totalling £2,850 (2023: £1,200).

14. Guarantees and secured charges

As at 30 April 2024 Charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured against assets of the Charity (2023: £NIL).

Legal & admin

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 30th April 2024.

Trustees

Paul Venning – Chair
Asad Ansari – Treasurer
Elinor Wakefield
Matthew Hanney
Myfanwy Lloyd
Neil Tryner
Sam Forsdike
Sam Johnson-Hill
Wendy Thompson

Secretary to the Trustees

Nick Hodgson



Principal Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Dux Advisory Limited
Kennel Club House,
Gatehouse Way,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
HP19 8DB



Accountant

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU



Charity Registration Number

1174060

Registered Address

Robes Project
Southwark Cathedral
Montague Close
London
SE1 9DA

Contact us

rob.es.admin@rob.es.org.uk
020 7407 5623
rob.es.org.uk

@rob.esproject_

@rob.esproject

An Ode to Robes

A cozy place to go to bed,
Fluffy pillows to rest your head,
Secure and snug in your home,
A place that you can call your own.

For many this is not the case,
Abandoned by the human race
And left to sleep out on the street
Not knowing when they next will eat.

A group of people said "no more –
We have to help the homeless soar"
They said that something must be done
And were led by Reverend Anderson

Volunteers came on board,
Churches opened up their doors.
Robes was born and started to meet
Those needing shelter from the street.

And in Winter those needing respite
Were welcomed in from the cold night,
And given a warm meal that they could eat,

And somewhere comfortable to rest their feet.

This vital support continues on,
The churches help is still strong,
And warmly welcoming the guests,
The amazing volunteers – they are the best!

And after the guests have had a rest,
Robes staff do their very best
To help them find a place of their own
Of safety, that the guests can call home.

They settle in and Robes is there
To help with any challenges they bear,
Advice is provided throughout the year,
Guests can always find a friendly ear.

Finally.....

They have a cozy place to go to bed,
Fluffy pillows to rest their head,
Secure and snug in their home,
A place that they can call their own.





Southwark Cathedral's SleepOut 2025 for Robes

**Friday 21st November 2025
7pm to 7am Saturday morning**

Further details can be found at **robes.org.uk** or **[@RobesProject](https://twitter.com/RobesProject)**.

Support those experiencing homelessness locally and join in our sponsored SleepOut.

ROBES PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1174060

Accounts



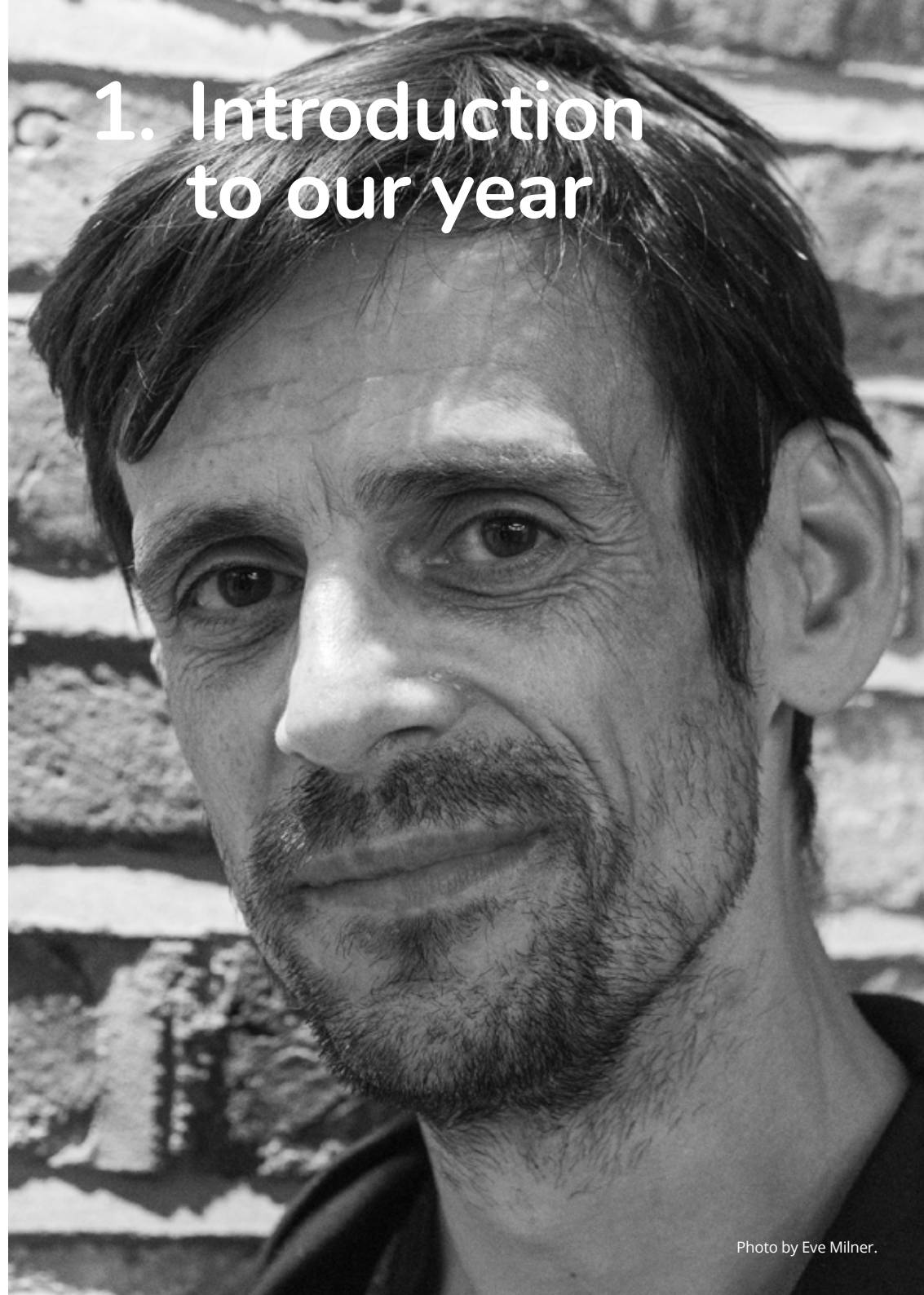
Supporting local people out of homelessness



Contents

1. Introduction to our year	1
Welcome	2
About Robes	3
Chair's Statement	4
2. What we do	5
Winter Night Shelter	6
Our Guests	7
Ayla's Story	8
Steven's Story	9
Guests Comments	10
Outcomes	11
Wednesday Club	12
Claire's Story	13
Our Volunteers	14
Statistics	16
Corporate Partnerships	17
Tribute to Aubyn Lue	18
Advice Work	19
From Referral to Home	20
Jonathan's Journey	21
3. How to get involved	22
Events and Future Plans for 2023–2024	23
Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes	24
Our Supporters	25
4. Financial Information	26
Operational Information	27
Independent Examiner's Report	32
Statement of Financial Activities	34
Balance Sheet	35
Notes to the Financial Statements	36
Legal & Admin	45
An Ode to Robes	46

1. Introduction to our year



Welcome

Robes is a small charity alleviating homelessness in the boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth with the assistance of over 550 incredible volunteers and 29 churches and community centres.

This financial year has been one of change, with a new staff team for Robes – I would like to take this opportunity to thank those staff members who have now moved on who contributed so much to the continued success of Robes, especially through the difficult times during the pandemic. I would also like to thank the new staff who have come on board, for their enthusiasm and dedication to the organisation, and for continuing the good work supporting those who need it most. Gratitude and a special mention must also go to all of our Robes supporters, who have so warmly welcomed the new team.

The 2022 – 2023 year has been a challenging one for the sector – after four years of decreases in the numbers of rough sleepers, 2022 saw an increase in people experiencing homelessness. Nearly half the people rough sleeping in England were found in London during the 2022 Rough Sleeper Count, where there was a massive 34% increase in rough sleeping numbers. Lambeth had the 5th highest number of people experiencing rough sleeping in London, and the rates of homelessness in Southwark increased by 40%.



This year also saw the return of the rotating Winter Night Shelter, after the pandemic put a pause on this. A huge thank you to the participating churches and volunteers, who helped make this happen. We eased back into things, with just the one circuit, and were able to support 30 people experiencing homelessness.

With the increase in rough sleeping, and the ongoing cost of living crisis, it's clear that Robes work is more relevant than ever. The team and I are looking forward to continuing the vital work that Robes does in partnership with our incredible supporters, and are excited about our future development and impact.

Thank you for taking an interest in Robes.

Lisa Moodie

Chief Executive Officer

About Robes

Robes has been supporting those experiencing homelessness in Southwark and Lambeth since 2007.

Robes provides a volunteer led Winter Night Shelter for those in need, providing safety, a warm bed and food, somewhere to sleep, and a community to connect to. We offer tailored advice, guidance and referrals in all areas, and work in partnership with our guests to aid move on to longer term accommodation. Once in their new dwellings, we offer a tenancy sustainment Floating Support service, aimed at preventing repeat rough sleeping.

Both our current and former guests are welcome all year round at our Wednesday Club, where they can receive breakfast, a hot lunch and showers. Wednesday Club is an opportunity for our guests to reconnect with their community, play some games, have some laughs, and our dedicated Advice Workers are on hand to assist with any challenges they may be facing.

Robes is a small but mighty charity, and with the assistance of our amazing volunteers, we are proud to support those who need it most.



Advice Worker and Guests.
Photo by Eve Milner.

Chair's Statement

Robes' ability to successfully deliver in the face of change and uncertainty remains undiminished.

This past year has seen a programme of rebuilding and revitalising our volunteer-supported night shelters across Southwark and Lambeth, as we brought in and developed a brand new front line staff team, spearheaded by Lisa and wonderfully supported by great trustees, team leaders and volunteers alike.

Our Wednesday Club hosting breakfast, lunch and advice at Crossway URC, Elephant & Castle, is an amazing example of Robes bringing practical help to those in need. Fantastic to welcome the "corporate teams" who have stepped forward to help and enjoy the "team building opportunity" at this unique event!

Our long-term plan to secure Robes vital work through a multi layer approach of static shelters and volunteer-supported night shelters remains our critical focus.

A huge "Thank You" to all the Robes Family. Our 2022 SleepOut raised £47,724! This year we are looking to really ramp that up – everybody welcome to join us! – 2023 SleepOut – Friday 24th November.



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Venning".

2. What we do



Winter Night Shelter

On Monday, November 28, 2022, we began the Winter Night Shelter season for this year. We worked in partnership with 13 churches across Southwark and Lambeth to give 30 guests a safe and positive shelter environment.

Over the season there were 3,600 bed spaces available. Our compassionate and dedicated volunteers generously provided an incredible total of 1,998 hot meals, nourishing our guests in the evening and setting them up with a hot breakfast every day. Each volunteer contributed to the creation of an inclusive and welcoming shelter season for our guests to receive respite as they navigate their way out of homelessness in partnership with our Advice Workers. Guests received generously donated clothing and essential items, as well as practical support.

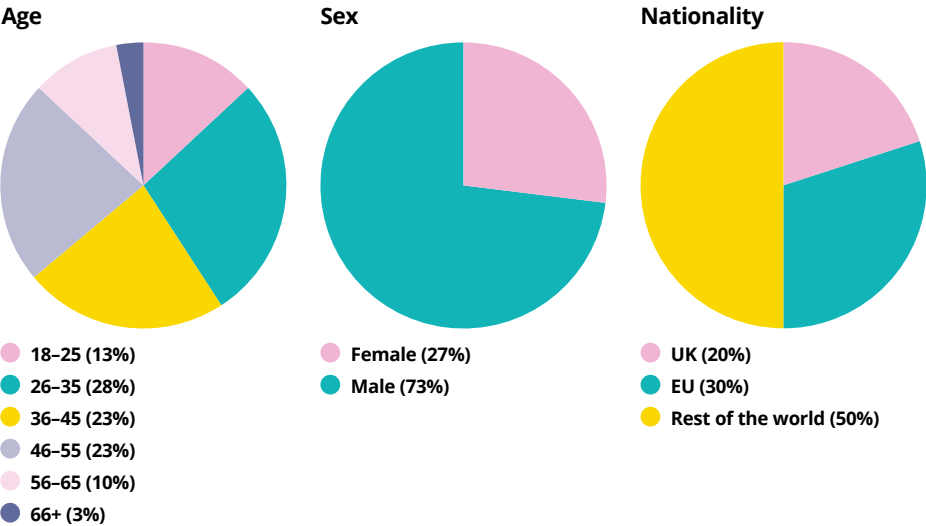
To ensure a smooth transition for our guests between circuits, we provided support for them throughout the holiday season. We relocated them to Friendship House, where they were each given a room and access to a communal kitchen. We have provided guests with food vouchers, extra food in the kitchens and a dedicated Robes staff member on call. They were able to use the facilities at Friendship House which included a study room, laundry room and gym.



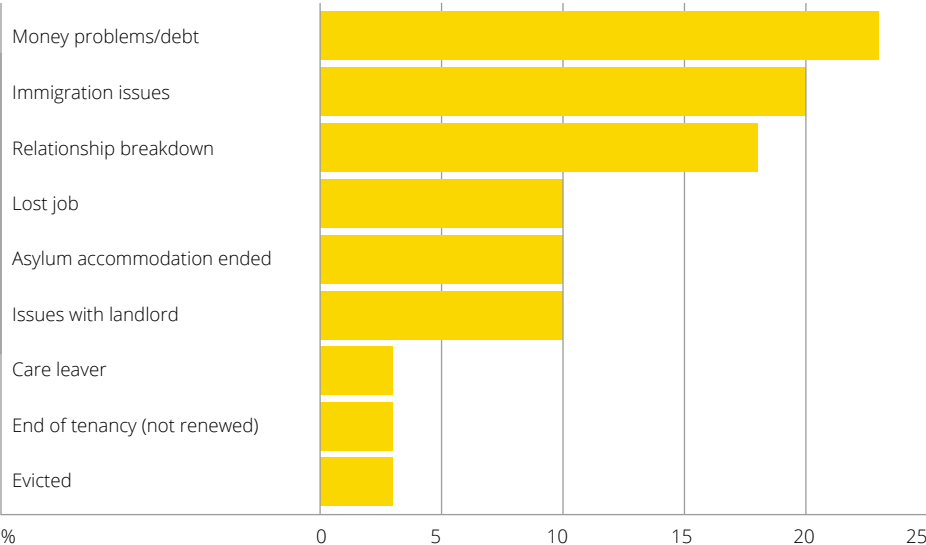
Friendship House
(Christmas period provision).
Photo by Eve Milner.

- Winter Night Shelters**
- Christ Church Blackfriars
 - Christ Church Clapham
 - Holy Spirit Clapham
 - Holy Trinity Clapham
 - Mostyn Road Methodist Church
 - St. John the Evangelist
 - St. John's Waterloo
 - St. Luke's West Norwood
 - St. Mark's Kennington (Montgomery Hall)
 - St. Mary Magdalene
 - St. Matthew's at the Elephant
 - St. Paul's Clapham
 - St. Saviour's Herne Hill

Winter Night Shelter Our Guests



Reason for homelessness



Winter Night Shelter

Ayla's Story

Ayla became homeless after suffering financial hardship, sleeping rough in bus shelters for two months. The bus drivers became her emotional support network. Ayla became aware of Crisis Croydon, who referred her to Streetlink.

Thames Reach Outreach Team found Ayla rough sleeping during SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol), and she was placed in an emergency shelter. After this, Ayla was given various emergency accommodation in Lewisham, Deptford, Greenwich, Docklands, and a Crisis shelter, before coming to Robes in January.

Ayla appreciated the fact that Robes had a face-to-face interview with her and felt welcomed by the Advice Workers. The entry time for the night shelter was suitable for Ayla as she was able to run her errands during the day and arrive at the night shelter for 7pm. She enjoyed having a hot, home cooked meal at the shelters each night, a warm bed, and safety. She felt the community spirit at the shelter each night as she sat at the table with the rest of the guests and volunteers, with real cutlery and crockery, enjoying a hearty, nutritious meal. After Robes, Ayla moved on to supported accommodation. Her goal on joining the shelter was to find a place to live that she could call a home. After nine months of homelessness, she finally collected her keys to her new flat.



Shelter Guest. To protect the guest's identity the photo and story are unrelated. Photo by Eve Milner.

Winter Night Shelter

Steven's Story

Steven came to Robes after being referred by Crisis. His family background had been dysfunctional, and relationship breakdown with his mother led to him becoming homeless and sneaking into garages at night to sleep in safety.

Steven has a brother who has poor mental health and substance misuse issues, and Steven has always felt a sense of responsibility towards him. After Steven's change in circumstance, he found that he was no longer able to support his brother as he had always done in the past. As a result Steven started experiencing severe low mood, with elevated levels of anxiety, frequent panic attacks, and suicidal thoughts.

Robes supported Steven in seeking mental health support from his GP and arranged a substantial number of property viewings for Steven to attend. Steven was at first discouraged by the sheer number of people who would attend these viewings, and disappointed when he was not selected by the landlords.

After persevering through all of this, Steven was accepted by a private landlord and is no longer homeless. His mental health has greatly improved, and Steven is appreciating the little things in life as he continues working to better himself and care for his brother.



Shelter Guest. To protect the guest's identity the photo and story are unrelated. Photo by Eve Milner.

Winter Night Shelter

Guests Comments



Having your own home and a place to call home after so long is an adjustment... but it's a good adjustment. There are the times where you reflect on all that you have been through, but I have been fortunate to have met the best people along the way.

Without Robes, I would have been back at the bus shelter after Christmas."

Robes Guest



It's the quiet that you don't realise you miss – when you're homeless, you spend so much time outside that you forget what silence sounds like."

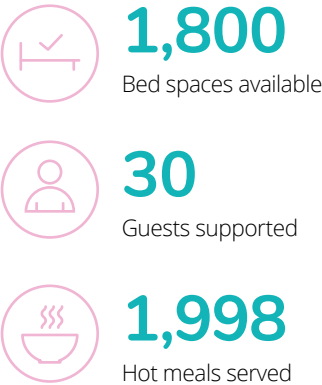
Robes Guest



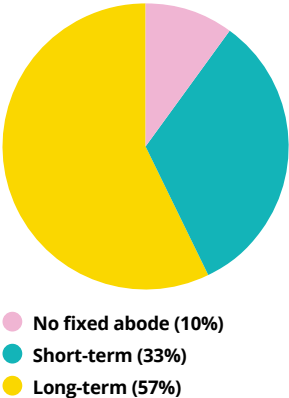
Winter Night Shelter

Outcomes

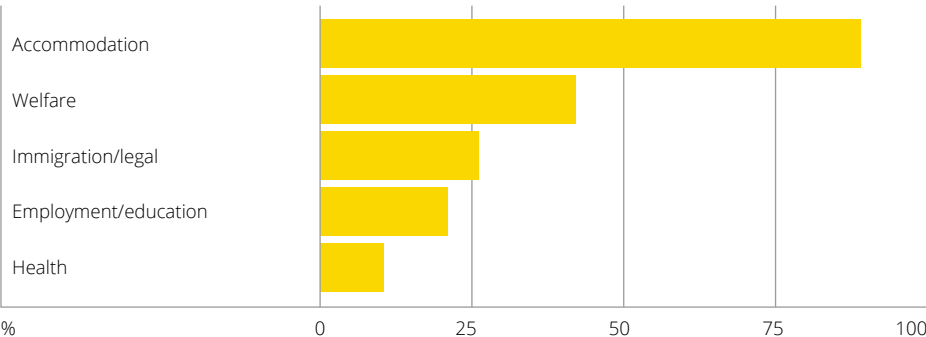
Key outputs



Shelter move on accommodation



Shelter advice sessions



Wednesday Club

The Wednesday Club continues to run weekly in Crossway at the Elephant. It has been good to return to a stable base for TWC (The Wednesday Club); a location where guests old and new know they will find us and be able to access advice work, showers, warm space, charging facilities, internet, Wi-Fi and hot food.

We have seen the return of several former guests, some sadly now returned to street homelessness, who need the shower and hot food along with help, advice, and signposting. We continue to welcome guests from last season and others who came with us from Clapham on a Tuesday.

We are grateful to corporate teams who have cooked and engaged with guests this year. We are incredibly grateful too for our amazing team of volunteers who have given over 800 hours' time to cook, play games, chat and support guests.

Guests have taken approximately 83 showers, received 1,250 meals to eat in or take away, have tucked into 1,200 croissants and have drunk 312 litres of fruit juice and countless cups of tea and coffee.



Wednesday Club

Claire's Story

Claire came to The Wednesday Club as she was having some trouble with her utility bills.

As a result of the energy crisis, Claire's utility bills had been increasing, however, she received a letter stating her bill to be double the usual price. Claire was confused, she did not know what to do, and she was anxious about calling the company herself as English is not her first language.

Robes called the company with her and spoke to the representative about the situation. Claire felt more confident and was able to speak to the representative directly. The company confirmed that this had been a miscalculation on their side, and that the usual payment amount was all that was due.

The financial pressure was alleviated, and Claire shared that she felt more able to have those conversations in the future.



Wednesday Club

Our Volunteers

A special thank you to Crossway URC who have hosted our Wednesday Club. It has given us an opportunity to feed our guests with the assistance of our dedicated volunteers and provide Advice and Guidance support. Louise and Joseph are part of our current cohort of Wednesday Club Volunteers.

Louise

Louise has been volunteering with Robes since 2017 in the shelters, and since semi-retiring a year ago, she is a regular at Wednesday Club. Louise initially started volunteering in her own church, St. John the Evangelist, in the first year they hosted the Night Shelter. Since then, she has volunteered at six different shelters with Robes. She is always keen to do cooking for breakfast alongside her husband and food prep for the evening meals as she really enjoys cooking (her chicken pies are always very popular)!

Louise's favourite thing about volunteering is the continuity with the guests, particularly those attending Wednesday Club. Along with current shelter guests, former guests attend – some who may still need some support with welfare advice or those who have progressed to longer term accommodation.

She feels that the Wednesday Club has had a very positive impact on the community because the welfare advice is fantastic – it's about supporting people to be able to lead their own lives to the best of their ability. She always gets lots of positive feelings when being in the shelters and Wednesday Club.

Louise said that part of Robes' ethos is getting people into housing by the end of the season rather than "see you next year", so people won't always be returning guests because they will be housed.



Louise and Joseph volunteering in the kitchen.

Joseph

Joseph has been volunteering with Robes for 10 years. He started out supporting at the shelter venue at St. Peter's Church in Vauxhall, where he helped make up the beds, kept the shelter clean and stocked, and helped guests settle in and feel welcome. After two years at St. Peter's, Joseph became Team Leader. He also volunteered at Trinity Church in Clapham before later moving on to Wednesday Club, where he is often seen cooking up a storm. Joseph always ensures that both volunteers and guests are treated equally and with respect everywhere he goes.

His favourite thing about Wednesday Club is meeting all the guests and volunteers and playing scrabble (which he is very good at). Wednesday Club is very important to Joseph because for many it is the only decent meal they have all week, and they can take extra food home with them if needed. He feels it is a safe space and often the only social outlet for current and previous guests to confide in a friendly face and address any problems they are facing in life.

Wednesday Club

Statistics

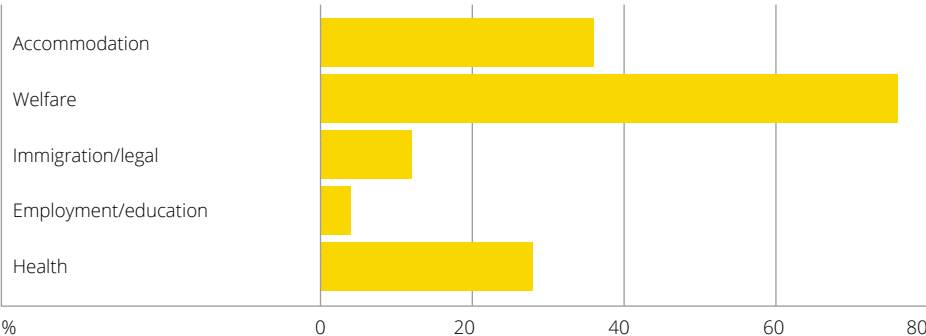
Key outputs

 **65**
Different guests

 **58/42**
Male/Female (%)

 **1,250**
Hot meals served

Wednesday Club advice sessions



Wednesday Club

Corporate Partnerships

A helping hand

Our corporate teams have supported us to run our Wednesday Club – providing ingredient's and cooking as a team to feed our hungry guests.

The fun of fundraising

Companies have organised pub quizzes and even a baked potato sale, bringing their staff together over a good cause.

A hot meal

Eden Catering a catering company in North Lambeth donated a meal to guests on their first night at Friendship House.

Corporate supporters

Higgins Partnership
Mount Anvil
Circle Health Group
Pivotal London
Currys
Inigo Insurance



Myself and a few other members of the team here at Pivotal London were looking for somewhere we could make a difference and be a part of an initiative that we were all passionate about.

The Robes Project was a great experience for us all and was more than we expected. From the first day we were given a great overview of what to expect and given autonomy to cook our own food and interact with people at the shelter.

We all had an amazing day and was so great to hear others stories, play games, and generally bring fulfilment to those less fortunate. The team had a really good day and the Robes Project is something we will definitely be participating on again in the near future."

Quote from Pivotal London

Wednesday Club

Tribute to Aubyn Lue

Lue was a longstanding guest and friend of the Robes Project Team. He regularly attended the Wednesday Club, embracing the other guests, staff, and volunteers with his kind-hearted and friendly nature.

Lue was known in the Wednesday Club primarily for his deep appreciation for Reggae music, which he would play loudly and proudly on the bluetooth speakers.

A Jamaican national who cooked a hearty meal of curry goat and rice and peas for us all.

We will miss Lue dearly and will always remember him for the jokes he cracked, the laughs we shared, the dominoes we played, and the time we spent together. Forever in our hearts and memories, rest in eternal peace Mr Aubyn Lue.



Aubyn Lue.

Advice Work

At Robes Project, our Advice Workers are dedicated to supporting our service users in finding their way out of homelessness, and into stable accommodation.

We do this by supporting the guests in the other aspects of their lives which have an impact on their housing situation, and by signposting them to relevant organisations who may specialise in fields like immigration and employment. It is important to us that we have a strong network of partner organisations who can assist us in supporting our guests.

The journey starts with a referral from our partner agencies – local charities and day centres. We review the referrals and invite potential guests for interviews with our Advice Workers. We stay connected with the referral agencies so that we can all work collaboratively in supporting the guest, with them at the centre of their housing journey. If accepted into the shelter, guests will be provided with a warm, safe space to sleep at night, a hot and nutritious breakfast and dinner, and travel allowances to access appointments and other commitments.

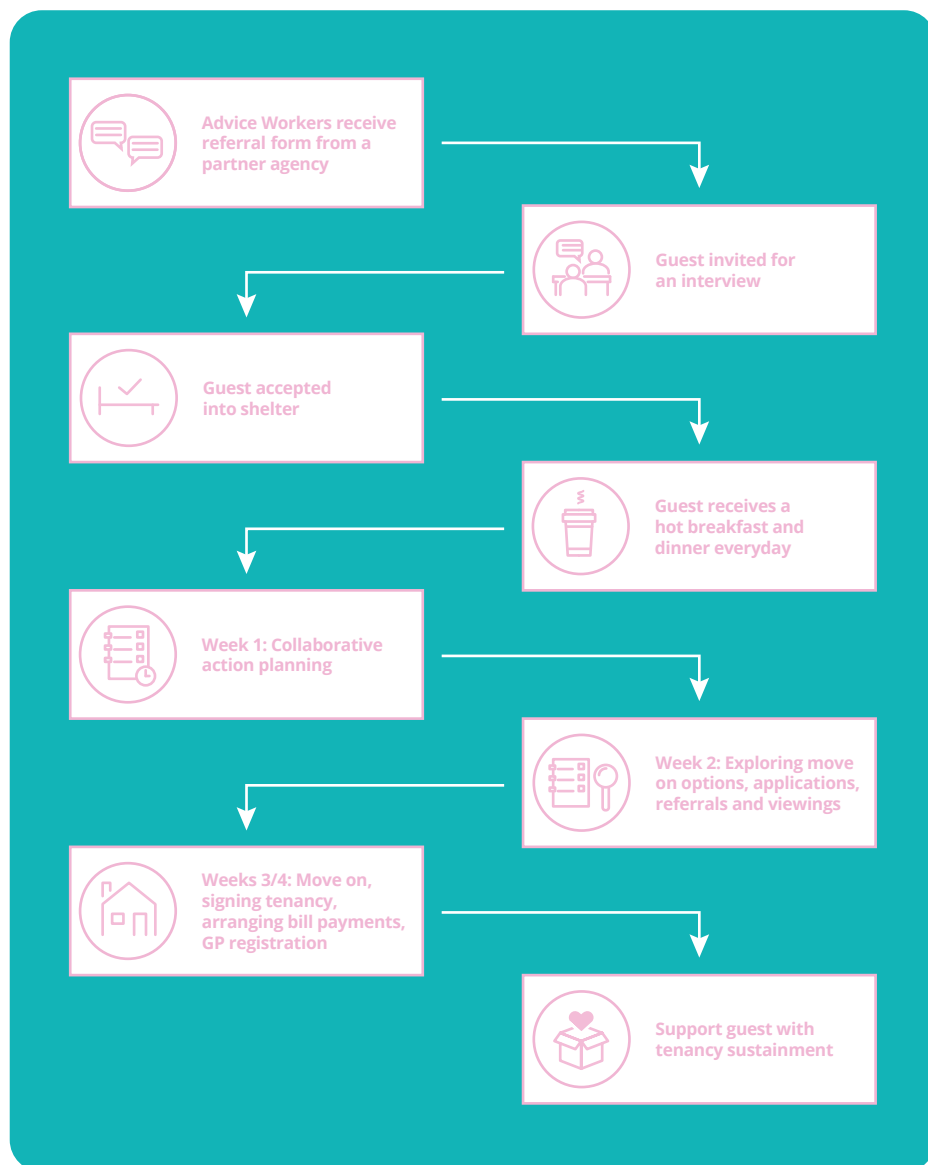
We work closely with the guest and the referral agency in finding stable accommodation, and we are always available to support former guests as they navigate the new chapter of their lives and focus on tenancy sustainment.



Shelter Guest.
Photo by Eve Milner.

Advice Work

From Referral to Home



Advice Work

Jonathan's Journey

Jonathan was referred to Robes Project by Ace of Clubs after Christmas for the second circuit. Due to a brief period of homelessness in the past, Jonathan was living in supported accommodation when he started to work.

As his income had increased, his housing benefit entitlement decreased, and Jonathan found himself no longer able to afford the large portion of his service charge and rent that were not covered by housing benefit. He was evicted on the grounds of rent arrears, and Jonathan rough slept for two and a half months, moving from borough to borough before hearing of Robes Project.

After being referred to Robes Project by his caseworker at Ace of Clubs, Jonathan was invited to an interview with the Advice Workers. He told them about his situation and his hopes for the future in terms of housing and employment. The Advice Workers accepted Jonathan into the shelter, and he attended from that evening. On his first evening, he was welcomed by the volunteers and other guests. He enjoyed a hot meal that night and breakfast the next morning where he met the Advice Workers for his first session.

During his first week, he met with his Advice Worker daily to discuss his move on plan and next steps. They then worked together with Ace of Clubs to find property viewings, make applications and referrals to supported accommodation and private rental accommodation providers. After two weeks of applications and property viewings, Jonathan was accepted to a private rented property and signed his tenancy agreement. Moving into his new property was a moment of great relief for Jonathan after three months of homelessness – he received a move-in care package from Robes Project and got to work with registering himself for the local GP.

3. How to get involved

Events and Future Plans for 2023–2024

At Robes Project, we are always looking for new fundraising opportunities and partners to ensure we can continue to provide support to our guests.

2 September 2023

Volunteer Thank You event at Southwark Cathedral

28 September 2023

AGM event at Southwark Cathedral

8 November 2023

Start of Shelter Season

24 November 2023

SleepOut 2023
Registration open now
Further details at:
robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

24 March 2024

End of Shelter Season
(Early this time due to a very early Easter)

Shelter

We are still searching for a suitable building in which to have a static shelter for our guests to stay in, with day centre facilities, in addition to the rotating shelters currently operating. If you know of anything suitable, please contact: robes.admin@robes.org.uk.

Wednesday Club

Our Wednesday Club service continues at Crossway United Reform Church, and providing stability and security for our former and current guests. We have been fortunate to have a number of corporate partners supporting this year, and look forward to more.

Floating Support

We are introducing a pilot programme of formalised floating support to a small number of guests to assist our guests settle into their new accommodation, and prevent repeat rough sleeping. We are hoping to secure funding to make this a formal post, and have the floating support available to all guests on a permanent basis.

Volunteers

Robes would be nothing without the incredible support of our volunteers. If you would like to join them and make a difference to those experiencing homelessness, then please contact: project.officer@robes.org.uk

Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes

Following several interrupted years we were finally able to host a 'next to normal' SleepOut for Robes.

This is one of the major fundraising events of the year and we invite brave souls to give up their beds for the night and come and sleep out in the Southwark Cathedral Churchyard at the end of November. They comprise of many from the Cathedral Community, from Church congregations across Lambeth & Southwark, Robes volunteers, corporate teams, school/youth groups, and interested members of the local community.

More people joined us than in the previous year which was encouraging. We were conscious that our numbers are slowly growing again and we expect this to be a trend year on year.

The SleepOut always begins with an evening of entertainment before we all bed down for the night. Most people will go and grab their favourite spot before the entertainment begins. Last year we had a silent disco for the young and the young at heart. This was followed by a quiz we called "Thou Shalt Not Lie" based on a familiar and popular BBC quiz. We pitted a team of celebrities against a team of clergy. Who knew what tales there were to tell!

Of course the main aim of the evening is to raise as much money as possible and last year the total raised was nearly £50,000.



Maggie Still
Chair of SleepOut Committee

**Be part of Robes
SleepOut 2023**

**Friday 24th November
7pm–7am**

Help us to help those experiencing homelessness by giving up your bed for the night. Register now:
robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

**There will be an evening
of live entertainment.**

Our Supporters

Partners

Deutsch Bank
Good Things Foundation
StreetSmart

Referral agencies

Ace of Clubs
Crisis
De Paul Charity
London City Mission
Manna Society
New Horizon Youth Centre
South London Refugee Association
Spires
Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers
Thamesreach

Churches who Assisted with Shelters, Volunteers and Gifts for Guests

Christ Church Blackfriars
Christ Church Clapham
Faith Chapel Peckham
Haddon Hall Baptist Church
Holy Spirit Clapham
Holy Trinity Clapham
Mostyn Road Methodist Church
Southwark Cathedral
St. John the Evangelist
St. John's Waterloo
St. Luke's West Norwood
St. Mark's Kennington (Montgomery Hall)
St. Mary Magdalene
St. Matthews at the Elephant
St. Michael's Church Stockwell
St. Paul's Clapham
St. Saviour's Herne Hill

4. Financial information

Operational Information

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The Robes Project was initially set up as an unincorporated charity by a Constitution adopted 1 October 2008, amended by Special Resolution on 20 July 2009. It was registered as a Charity on 10 November 2009 and is governed by a Committee of Trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting. The areas of benefit are the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

On 1 August 2017 the Charity set up a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) called 'Robes Project'. The Charity and the CIO were merged on 18 January 2020. An asset transfer order was signed on 18 January 2020. The assets have now been transferred to the CIO and the old un-incorporated charity closed.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than 5, and until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, no more than 9.

Operational Information

Objectives

The objects of the CIO are the relief of poverty among people who are homeless in the London boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter night shelters, food and advice, support and re-settlement services so as to help them re-build their lives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees consider that the work of the Robes Project is to provide relief to poor and disadvantaged people in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter shelter, food and support helping to make these boroughs a safer, more humane place for everyone. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and no Trustee receives any private benefit from the Charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Governance and management

The Charity is run by its Trustees who meet bi-monthly to determine the strategy of the Charity, to discuss operational matters and to formulate policy. The CEO attends all Trustee meetings. Sub-committees dealing with specific functions support the Board of Trustees and certain items of executive responsibility are delegated to individual Trustees to facilitate decision-making and to support staff efforts. All delegated matters are closely reported upon to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for delivering day to day services to our guests primarily to the CEO, staff and volunteer teams.

The CEO is responsible for individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Committee seek to recruit Trustees from among the churches participating in the Project who have relevant skills and experience to assist in running the Project. New Trustees are given an induction pack.

Risk Management

The Trustees recognise that there are risks to which the Charity is exposed. Systems have been established to mitigate known risks, including financial controls, employment procedures, agreements with participating churches and volunteer training. The Trustees keep proper accounting records and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Health and safety, equal opportunities and quality standards are prioritised. Records and archives are securely stored and electronic data carefully protected.

A significant risk the Charity faces is its over reliance on the SleepOut as a fundraising event, as reflected in the events of both the current and previous year. It looks to mitigate against this risk by diversifying its funding sources which has continued to prove a successful venture. Another significant risk would be if a serious safeguarding issue were to cause the Charity to lose the confidence of guests and referring partners. The Charity mitigates against this by thorough training for staff and volunteers.

Financial review

Total expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2023 was £230,552, down from £335,517 in the previous year. This reflects a significant decrease in costs due to the additional complexities involved with supporting our guests during the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year, income decreased by £90,953, a decrease of 32% on the previous year, due to a number of significant one-off grants in the prior period as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At 30 April 2023, the total reserves stood at £305,526. Of these reserves, £5,951 is restricted to our ongoing projects. Another £80,000 of unrestricted reserves is designated to support 'Inn from the Cold' moving forward, leaving £219,575 as general funds.

Operational Information

Reserves Policy

As part of the annual review of the reserves policy, the Trustees of the Robes Project assess the financial risks surrounding the Charity's ability to provide the services we offer to the homeless in Lambeth and Southwark. In so doing the Trustees aim to hold a minimum free reserves level of £80,000 – £150,000. The current free reserves of £219,575 are safely above this limit.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of expenditure over income for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 1 to 31 of this document as well as the legal and administrative information on page 45, meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 21 August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the Board of Trustees of Robes Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Robes Project (charity number 1174060) for the year ended 30 April 2023 set out on pages 34 to 44.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The CIO's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The CIO's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Charities Act; and,
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the CIO and the CIO's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

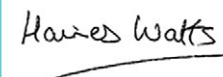
Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Bianca Permal FCA

For and on behalf of Haines Watts (Berkhamsted) Limited – Chartered Accountants

Dated: 19 September 2023

4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 30 April 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations	2	193,817	–	193,817	286,483
Investments	3	1,717	–	1,717	4
Total income		195,534	–	195,534	286,487
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	11,445	–	11,445	10,396
Charitable activities	4 & 5	219,107	–	219,107	325,121
Total expenditure		230,552	–	230,552	335,517
Net income/(expenditure)		(35,018)	–	(35,018)	(49,030)
Transfer between funds	10	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		(35,018)	–	(35,018)	(49,030)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	334,593	5,951	340,544	389,574
Total funds carried forward	10 & 11	299,575	5,951	305,526	340,544

The notes on pages 36 to 44 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 April 2023

	Notes	Total funds 30 April 2023 £	Total funds 30 April 2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	8	1,250	1,722
Cash at bank and in hand		313,814	349,962
		315,064	351,684
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(9,538)	(11,140)
Net current assets		305,526	340,544
Net assets		305,526	340,544
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	10 & 11	5,951	5,951
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	10 & 11	80,000	80,000
General funds	10 & 11	219,575	254,593
		299,575	334,593
		305,526	340,544

The notes on pages 36 to 44 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 21 August 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Luke Whiteman
Trustee



Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019); the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 April 2023, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 April 2023 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment and the ongoing economic environment has no impact on this assessment due to the high reserves held by the Charity.

Legal status

The Robes Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £1 per member of the Charity. The registered office is Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, SE1 9DA.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and income from fundraising events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 4 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised. There are no assets held over this level currently.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Robes Project operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2023 £
Donations	112,105	–	112,105
SleepOut	47,724	–	47,724
Other fundraising events	6,988	–	6,988
Trusts and foundations	27,000	–	27,000
	193,817	–	193,817

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Donations	83,798	2,103	85,901
SleepIn	34,345	–	34,345
Other fundraising events	431	–	431
Trusts and foundations	41,000	124,806	165,806
	159,574	126,909	286,483

3. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2023 £
Bank interest	1,717	–	1,717
	1,717	–	1,717

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Bank interest	4	–	4
	4	–	4

Notes to the Financial Statements

4. Total expenditure

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2023 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2023 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2023 £
Raising funds	–	9,446	1,999	11,445
Charitable activities	115,860	64,982	38,265	219,107
	115,860	74,428	40,264	230,552

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £
Raising funds	–	8,552	1,844	10,396
Charitable activities	128,633	138,813	57,675	325,121
	128,633	147,365	59,519	335,517

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities. The prior year figures have been reallocated to show the support costs attributed to each activity.

All expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted in nature in both the current and previous financial years.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 6.

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £
Indirect costs include the following costs:		
Office rent	14,036	16,550
IT and communications	7,037	8,614
Administrative costs	4,348	6,891
Finance support	9,871	10,338
Depreciation on leasehold improvements	–	1,598
Loss on disposal of leasehold improvements	–	5,681
Governance costs	4,972	9,847
	40,264	59,519

Notes to the Financial Statements

4. Total expenditure continued

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £
Governance costs include the following costs:		
Independent examination fees	1,680	1,340
Statutory accounts preparation	1,536	1,464
Trustee recruitment	–	4,800
Insurance	1,756	2,243
	4,972	9,847

5. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2023 £
Staff costs	115,860	–	115,860
Other direct costs	64,982	–	64,982
Indirect costs	38,265	–	38,265
	219,107	–	219,107

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Staff costs	98,640	29,993	128,633
Other direct costs	36,006	102,807	138,813
Indirect costs	57,675	–	57,675
	192,321	132,800	325,121

Notes to the Financial Statements

6. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £
Gross salaries	106,205	116,917
Employer's national insurance	6,082	7,047
Employer's pension	3,573	4,669
	115,860	128,633

The average headcount during the year was 4 persons (2022: 4 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2022: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £32,350 (2022: £41,409).

7. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £3,573 (2022: £4,669).

£270 of employer contributions were outstanding at year end (2022: £460).

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

8. Debtors and prepayments

	Total year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total year ended 30 April 2022 £
Prepayments	1,250	1,141
Cycle to work loan	–	581
	1,250	1,722

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total year ended 30 April 2022 £
Trade creditors	3,436	4,570
Accruals	3,582	3,170
HMRC control account	2,034	2,571
Pension control account	486	829
	9,538	11,140

Notes to the Financial Statements

10. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2023 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2023 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2023 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	254,593	195,534	(230,552)	-	219,575
	334,593	195,534	(230,552)	-	299,575
Restricted funds					
Inn from the Cold	5,951	-	-	-	5,951
	5,951	-	-	-	5,951
	340,544	195,534	(230,552)	-	305,526

The **Inn from the Cold** designated fund has been earmarked for growing this project over the next few years.

The **Inn from the Cold** restricted fund consists of donations and grants to support guests in accessing the private rented sector by providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation. During the year one of the main funders of this project agreed to release the funds for the Charity's ongoing work across all areas.

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2022 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2022 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2022 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	297,732	159,578	(202,717)	-	254,593
	377,732	159,578	(202,717)	-	334,593
Restricted funds					
Food vouchers	-	2,103	(2,103)	-	-
Homeless Link	-	92,420	(92,420)	-	-
Housing Justice	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
Guest support	5,891	-	(5,891)	-	-
Love Your Neighbour	-	2,386	(2,386)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	5,951	-	-	-	5,951
	11,842	126,909	(132,800)	-	5,951
	389,574	286,487	(335,517)	-	340,544

The **food vouchers** funds were received to support the purchase of food vouchers for guests.

The **Homeless Link** funds were received to support the running of accommodation for guests during the winter season.

The **Housing Justice** funds were received to support moving guests on to more permanent accommodation.

The **Love Your Neighbour** funds were received to support the running of the Tuesday Club drop-in centre

Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Analysis of net assets

	General funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2023 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2023 £
Current assets	229,113	80,000	5,951	315,064
Current liabilities	(9,538)	-	-	(9,538)
	219,575	80,000	5,951	305,526

	General funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Current assets	265,733	80,000	5,951	351,684
Current liabilities	(11,140)	-	-	(11,140)
	254,593	80,000	5,951	340,544

12. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2022: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses (2022: £NIL).

13. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions carried out with related parties (2022: £NIL).

14. Guarantees and secured charges

As at 30 April 2023 Charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured against assets of the Charity (2022: £NIL).

Legal & Admin

Legal and Administrative Information for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Trustees

Paul Venning – Chair
 Luke Whiteman – Treasurer
 Elinor Wakefield
 Matthew Hanney
 Myfanwy Lloyd
 Neil Tryner
 Sam Forsdike
 Sam Johnson-Hill
 Wendy Thompson

Secretary to the Trustees

Nick Hodgson

The
co-operative
 bank

Principal Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
 PO Box 250
 Skelmersdale
 WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Haines Watts (Berkhamsted) Limited
 4 Claridge Court
 Lower Kings Road
 Berkhamsted
 Hertfordshire
 HP4 2AF

Selection of photography including cover
 taken by Robes volunteer, Eve Milner
 (evemilner51@gmail.com).



Accountants

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy
 Units 24 & 25
 Goodsheds Container Village
 Hood Road
 Barry
 CF62 5QU



Charity Registration Number

1174060

Registered Address

Robes Project
 Southwark Cathedral
 London Bridge
 SE1 9DA

Contact us

robes.admin@robes.org.uk
 020 7407 5623
 robes.org.uk

@robesproject_

@robesproject

An Ode to Robes

A cozy place to go to bed,
Fluffy pillows to rest your head,
Secure and snug in your home,
A place that you can call your own.

For many this is not the case,
Abandoned by the human race
And left to sleep out on the street
Not knowing when they next will eat.

A group of people said “no more –
We have to help the homeless soar”
They said that something must be done
And were led by Reverend Anderson.

Volunteers came on board,
Churches opened up their doors.
Robes was born and started to meet
Those needing shelter from the street.

And in Winter those needing respite
Were welcomed in from the cold night,
Given a warm meal that they could eat,
Somewhere comfortable to rest their feet.

This vital support continues on,
The churches help is still strong,
And warmly welcoming the guests,
The amazing volunteers – they are the best!

And after the guests have had a rest,
Robes staff do their very best
To help them find a place of their own
Of safety, that the guests can call home.

They settle in and Robes is there
To help with any challenges they bear,
Advice is provided throughout the year,
Guests can always find a friendly ear.

Finally...

They have a cozy place to go to bed,
Fluffy pillows to rest their head,
Secure and snug in their home,
A place that they can call their own.





Southwark Cathedral's SleepOut 2024 for Robes

**Friday 29th November
7pm to Saturday morning 7am**

Further details can be found at robes.org.uk
or @RobesProject. Experience sleeping out for
a night and fundraise for local homeless people.

ROBES PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1174060

Accounts

Robes Annual Report and Accounts – Year ended 30 April 2022
Registered charity number – 1174060



Supporting local people out of homelessness



Contents

1. Introduction to our year	01
Welcome	02
About Robes	04
Chair's Statement	05
2. What we do	06
Where are our guests now?	07
Static Shelter	08
Our support models – Stay and Move-on	10
Our guests	11
Outcomes	12
Ben's story	13
Dan's story	14
Tuesday Club	15
Outcomes	16
Susan's story	17
Volunteer comment	18
Advice Work	19
Advice support	20
Fred's journey	21
3. How to get involved	22
Events and future plans for 2022–2023	23
Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes	24
Our Supporters	25
4. Financial Information	26
Operational Information	27
Independent Examiner's Report	32
Statement of Financial Activities	34
Balance Sheet	35
Notes to the Financial Statements	36
Legal & Admin	48
A Word from our Patron	49

1. Introduction To Our Year



Tuesday Club guest enjoying hot drink.
Photo by Eve Milner.

Welcome



Robes is a small local charity that works with over 750 volunteers and 29 Churches and Community Centres. It helps homeless people in the area to find their way to a better quality of life.



Robes is so blessed to have volunteers who have been with the programme for the past 15 years."

Robes is a small charity that punches above its weight. Throughout the Covid pandemic, which is ongoing, Robes has offered relevant and guest-centred services to vulnerable adults to support them out of homelessness.

2021–2022 has been a challenging year. We had to move our project out of the boroughs we have always worked in. The upside of moving to neighbouring Tower Hamlets was it was cheaper, so we were able to offer three additional places. We found that running a static shelter with 18 guests 24/7 without the daily presence and support of our 750 volunteers (due to the pandemic) stretched our small staff team of four more than ever. We still delivered great services and support to our guests, and achieved long-term sustainable solutions. Our future priorities are the need for good mental health and wellbeing strategies for staff, volunteers and guests, and a longer-term strategy of how we can sustainably, safely, and fairly continue this great work.

I dedicate this year's hard work and impact in memory of my mother, Marianne Ogren 1945–2021.

Nick Faraday
Charity Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick".

Impact this year

3,080

Bed spaces available

30

Guests supported in static shelter

27

Guests set for long-term accommodation

3

Guests moved into temporary accommodation

387

Food vouchers provided to 28 guests in static shelter

2,882

Meals provided in Tuesday Club

70

Guests supported with advice support in Tuesday Club

About Robes

For 15 years, Robes has been working in Southwark and Lambeth, and this year in Tower Hamlets, providing shelter for local homeless people.

Services we've provided in 2021–2022:

- Supporting the stay and move-on of 28 guests at Davies Court in Canary Wharf and 2 guests at Friendship House in Borough from October 2021–November 2022. Out of the 30 guests, 24 guests are set for long-term accommodation.
- Weekly support packages provided by winter night Shelter teams for 28 guests.
- Hot dinner service provided by 5 Shelter teams on allocated days for all 28 guests staying in Davies Court.
- Advice to access housing, welfare benefits, health support, legal advice, employment, and training.
- Wednesday Club service in partnership with Crossway URC – breakfast, hot lunch meal, shower and a advice service.
- Tuesday Club takeaway service in partnership with Holy Trinity Church – hot lunch meals, advice service and care packages (closed on 22 March 2022).
- Rotating Winter Night Shelter (on hold due to pandemic).

Chair's Statement

Despite the challenging Covid restrictions and ongoing changes, one thing has remained constant – the amazing ability of the Robes 'Family' to come together to help our homeless guests in Southwark and Lambeth, whose need for shelter, care, food and support was never greater.

Showing incredible adaptability, Robes placed 30 guests in Covid-safe individual en suite rooms. Volunteer Shelter teams provided guests with 270 care packages and near 600 hot dinners, each team taking specific days.

Our frontline Advice Workers provided practical support and encouragement to guests, successfully finding sustainable solutions out of homelessness, including 27 into long-term accommodation.



Our Chair: Paul Venning.

Our partnership with Holy Trinity, Clapham provided 4,547 lunch meals, 2,554 care packages and 376 advice sessions. We've now moved back to Crossway URC at Elephant & Castle where we are repeating these achievements.

Future plans focus on securing Robes' vital work in the long-term through a mixture of static shelters and volunteer-supported night shelters and care provision.

Thank you all! Our 2021 SleepOut raised £34,345! Everyone can make a difference – 2022 SleepOut – Friday 25th November.

Paul Venning

Chair of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Venning'.

2. What we do



Tuesday Club guest at Holy Trinity Clapham.
Photo by Eve Milner.

Where are our guests now?



Joseph (Season 2017–2018)

Joseph joined Robes shelter in 2018 when he was 60. He had moved to the UK from Jamaica when he was 16, and – despite being unable to legalise his situation – he managed to find enough cash-in-hand employment to survive day by day. But years of heavy lifting took a toll on his physical health, and when he was finally unable to keep working he became homeless.

Robes Project supported Joseph in accessing immigration support, and he was assigned a prestigious lawyer who is supporting him in legalising his situation. This is a very lengthy process, due to the complexity of the case and the difficulties of producing the required evidence. While the immigration case is being processed, he has no recourse to public funds, so to make sure he would be safe Robes referred him to other organisations offering support to people in this predicament, and he has been successfully accepted into supported accommodation provided by the council while he waits for his case to be resolved.

Joseph visits the Wednesday Club on a regular basis, where from time to time he volunteers as a cook.



Fernanda (Season 2017–2018)

Fernanda joined Robes shelter in 2018, and Robes supported her by helping with writing supporting documents, filling out forms, and accompanying her to important appointments.

After her stay with Robes, Fernanda found temporary accommodation in New Cross, and Robes stayed in continuous touch to make sure everything she needed was in place. Then in 2020, she settled into new accommodation, where she is still living. Robes supported her with move-in items such as a chest of drawers, bedding, and a vacuum cleaner.

Through the pandemic, Robes continued to support Fernanda with a care package of food items delivered every two weeks, and she also started speaking to our check-in and chat volunteer on a weekly basis. She is in regular touch with Robes staff, and we still support her with groceries from time to time.

Above left: Wednesday Club guest. Above right: Shelter guest. To protect the guests' identity, the photos and the stories are unrelated. Photos by Eve Milner.

Static Shelter

Due to COVID-19, we were unable to operate a church-based winter night shelter this year.

This winter season, we supported the stay of 28 guests at Davies Court and 2 guests in Friendship House from October 2021 till the end of March 2022. All guests were placed in Covid-safe individual rooms with en suite facilities, sharing a communal kitchen.



Robes supported the stay and move on of 2 guests at Friendship House in Borough. Photo by Eve Milner.

Our 10 Shelter teams donated and provided 271 care packages to our 28 guests in Davies Court. Our five Shelter teams also provided 590 hot dinner service meals to guests on allocated days. We also supported their stay by providing laundry vouchers, food vouchers, clothing items, phones and tablets and weekly check-in calls.

Our Advice Workers also worked with Robes guests to provide support and encouragement in making helpful changes and finding a sustainable solution out of homelessness. We set 24 guests into long-term accommodation (18 are already in permanent accommodation, and a further six in council accommodation). Additionally, we supported 3 guests in temporary accommodation, and 2 guests in emergency accommodation. 1 guest has moved back to rough sleeping.



Robes supported the stay and move on of 28 guests at Davies Court, Canary Wharf from November 2021 - March 2022. Photo by Eve Milner.



Thank you for all the hot dinners. I liked all the hot dinners and especially talking to you. I won't forget your kindness ever. I don't know all of your names, but I am thankful to each one of you."

Robes Guest, 2021-2022



Robes volunteers in the Copleston Community Kitchen preparing hot takeaway dinner meals for guests staying at Davies Court, Canary Wharf.



The shelter, support packages, food vouchers, and transport support were very helpful for me."

Robes Guest, 2021-2022



Team Leaders from Chatsworth Baptist Church providing support packages to guests staying at Davies Court, Canary Wharf.

Static Shelter

Our support models – Stay and Move-on

Step 1



Step 2

Stay support



Move-on support



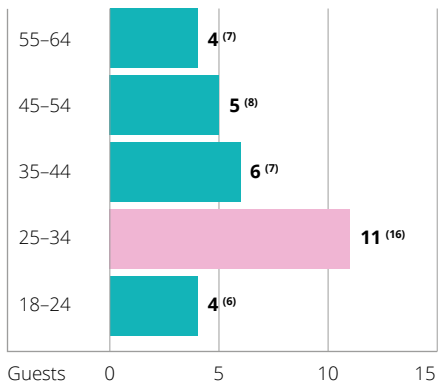
Static Shelter

Our guests

Total guests between 2021–2022*

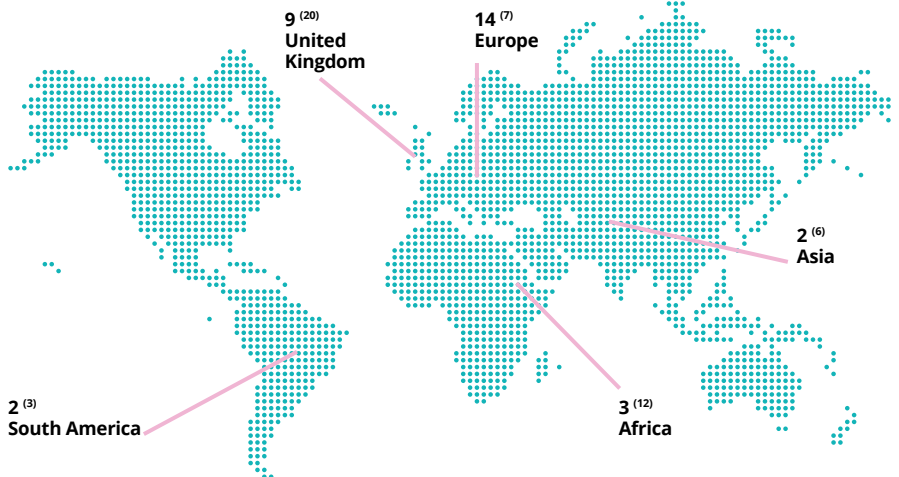


Age*



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to run our usual shelter pattern alternating between a number of different communal venues. This winter season, we provided static accommodation at Davies Court for 28 guests and static accommodation at Friendship House for 2 guests.

Nationality of shelter guests*



*The number in brackets show last winter season's statistics, which have been included for comparison.

Static Shelter Outcomes

Key outputs

271

Care packages provided to 28 guests

13

Deposits and rents paid

590

Hot meals provided

6

Move in packages provided

387

Food vouchers provided to 28 guests

9

Phones provided

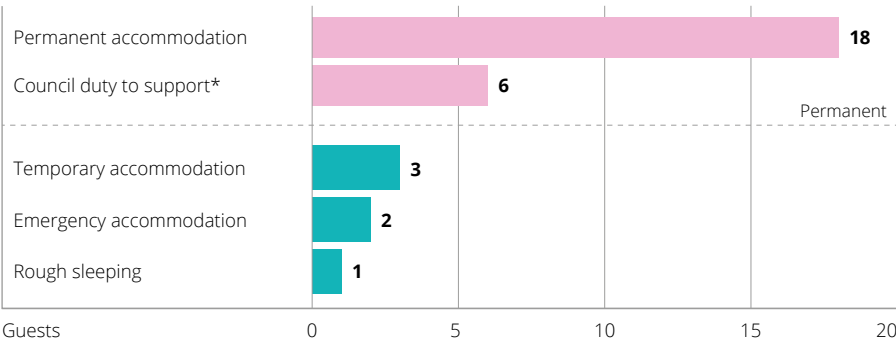
67

Monthly laundry vouchers provided to 28 guests

11

Tablets provided

End of static shelter outcomes



*Please note, 'council duty to support' means that, as a result of successful advocacy by Robes staff on behalf of our guests, the council has accepted their duty to provide suitable accommodation.

Static Shelter Ben's story

Ben is an EU citizen in his late fifties. He became street homeless after suffering domestic violence and the subsequent relationship breakdown. This recent trauma has resulted in poor mental health, and he requires regular hospital visits.

Ben joined the Robes Shelter in early February, having spent some time sofa-surfing and sleeping on park benches. He has a beloved daughter, and the chaotic lifestyle which damaged his health made it almost impossible for him to see her and maintain contact.

Ben needed to stay within Tower Hamlets to be near her, and the Robes Shelter was the first regular accommodation he had had for months, providing respite and stability. He was soon able to see his daughter and take her to school. His mood lifted greatly and slowly he regained some confidence.

Thanks to contacts with the Robes Network, Ben was able to secure a long-term place in a local housing project who will continue to support him as he rebuilds his shattered life.



Shelter Guest. To protect the guest's identity the photo and story are unrelated. Photo by Eve Milner.

Static Shelter

Dan's story

Dan joined the shelter in early February having been referred by the Manna Society. He is 26 and working. Originally from Nigeria, Dan had lived happily in London with his mother from a very young age.

Dan was open about his sexuality, but this was not accepted by his mother's new partner and he was asked to leave his family home. The partner was staying for good and Dan was no longer welcome.

Dan received help and support from LGBTQ+ charities but he had no recourse to public funds (NRPF) and the charities were unable to support him into long-term housing. These charities referred Dan to Robes.

While at the Robes Shelter, Dan continued to work and to engage with the LGBTQ+ services. He was able to appeal against his NRPF status and overturn that decision. This meant that he could apply for Universal Credit to help top up his wages and support his rent.

Dan left Robes at the end March and moved into private rented accommodation found for him by Robes Advice Workers.



Shelter Guest. To protect the guest's identity the photo and story are unrelated. Photo by Eve Milner.

Tuesday Club

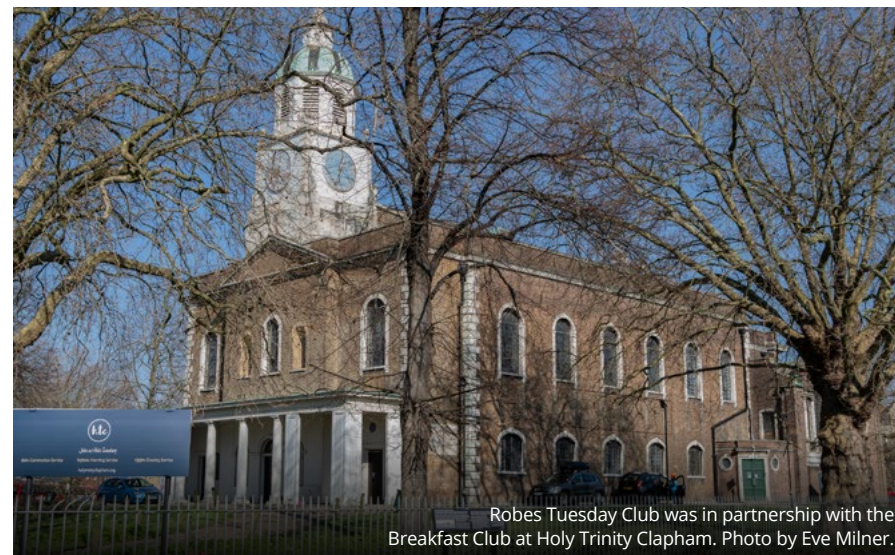
The Tuesday Club represents a space for vulnerable individuals to access support.

Our partnership with Holy Trinity, Clapham began in 2020. In October 2021, we partnered with the breakfast club they provide, and moved into the church building. This meant that Robes guests were able to access breakfast provided by the team at Holy Trinity, Clapham and it provided a space for guests and volunteers to bond with one another. There our team continued to support the guests with takeaway lunch meals and advice support.

During this partnership, we were able to reach many more vulnerable individuals within the community than we did before. We supported 50-60 guests every Tuesday with takeaway lunch and supported 8/9 guests weekly with advice. We provided 2,882 hot lunch meals, 1,174 care packages, and 234 advice sessions. We also supported 3 guests in long-term accommodation.

Our eight volunteers supported the day to day running of the Tuesday Club by cooking, helping with the packing, serving lunch and cleaning.

We closed our Tuesday Club on 22 March 2022 and resumed our Wednesday Club service at Elephant and Castle.



Robes Tuesday Club was in partnership with the Breakfast Club at Holy Trinity Clapham. Photo by Eve Milner.

Tuesday Club

Outcomes

2,882

Hot lunch meals provided

1,174

Care packages provided

234

Advice sessions provided

70

Guests supported with advice

3

Guests supported into
long-term accommodation

Please note the stats above are from 1st of May 2021 till 22nd of March 2022. Our Tuesday Club closed on the 22 March 2022.



Tuesday Club volunteers at Holy Trinity Clapham.

Tuesday Club

Susan's story

Susan approached our Tuesday drop-in centre, worried about an imminent eviction.

She was in a subletting arrangement and the property owner asked her to leave the accommodation with only a few weeks' notice. She also suffered from severe migraines, and doctors were concerned that it might be brain cancer.

Although she had access to benefits, she had no savings to cover a deposit and a first month's rent, she had limited English, and there seemed to be no way she could find affordable accommodation which would accept benefits.

Robes supported her in finding an affordable studio flat with a landlord who was happy to accept DSS payments, and funded her deposit and first month's rent. Susan is now in a safe place and can focus on her recovery.



Tuesday Club Guest. To protect the guest's identity the photo and story are unrelated. Photo by Eve Milner.

Tuesday Club

Volunteer comment



My name is Spencer Isaacs and I volunteer as a cook (and kitchen generalist!) for Robes Tuesday Club.

I first volunteered for Robes Tuesday Club in April 2021. It was at the end of the third lockdown and I was feeling I could do something more productive with my time when I was directed to the Robes ad. It was an 'all hands on deck' kind of induction and I loved it from the get-go.

I am an enthusiastic cook, not a professional one, so catering to the guest numbers was daunting at first. As a lead cook you are responsible for the menu planning and providing the shopping list to the project officer.

'Spinachgate' remains a catering highlight – the cooks had to work out what to do with about 25 bags of spinach that turned up with that week's order.

The thing I enjoy most about volunteering for Robes is the interaction with guests and fellow volunteers. It is a really supportive and friendly environment to be part of, and I really look forward to my shifts."

Spencer Isaacs
Tuesday Club Cook



Spencer (volunteer cook) preparing meals for guests.

Advice Work

As Advice Workers, our main goal is to support our guests in finding their way out from homelessness.

Collectively, we have experience of the Welfare System, Accommodation Options and Case Management, and constantly work to maintain and extend a network of partners that assist our guests with employment and legal aid.

We start by interviewing potential guests referred from local day centres and other charities. These partnerships are not just a source of referrals; they are also a main actor in the outcome of the guests, as they tend to know them better, including their strengths and risks.

For those interviewed and accepted as guests, we provide temporary accommodation, a food and travel allowance and ensure they can get to appointments and access services.

If successful, our guests will move into safe accommodation. It's the beginning of a new life for them, but also the start of a range of new challenges (flatmates, neighbours, landlords, utility bills, loneliness). For this reason, we are always happy to support guests after the shelter season, and we encourage them to contact us again in case we can be of any help.

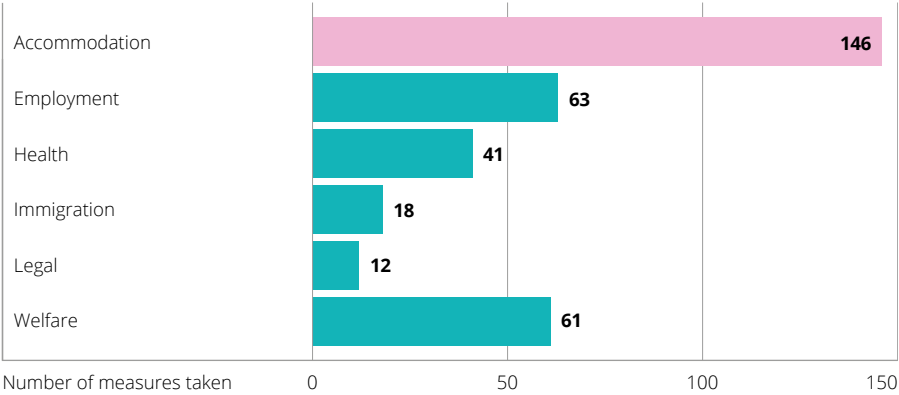


Marc (Advice Worker) with Tuesday Club guest. Photo by Eve Milner.

Advice Work

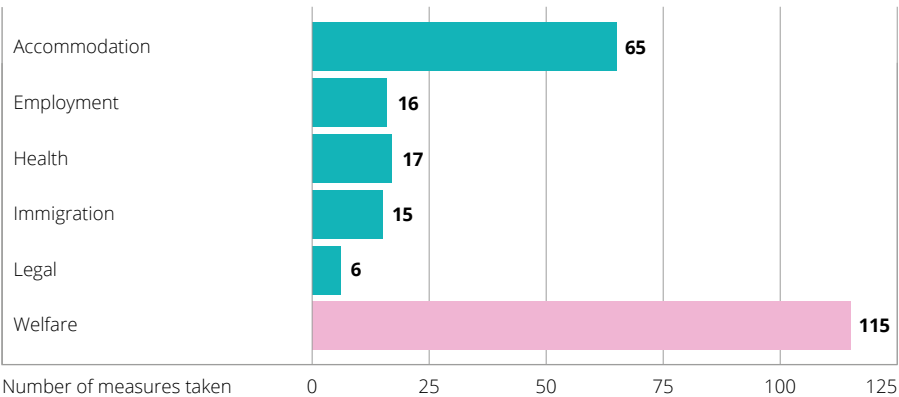
Advice support

Static Shelter



Please note that the figures above record the total advice support offered to our guests staying in our static accommodation.

Tuesday Club



Please note that the figures above record the total advice support offered to Tuesday Club guests. Please note that the stats above are from 1 May 2021–22 March 2022. Our Tuesday Club closed on the 22 March 2022.

Advice Work

Fred’s journey

Fred found himself homeless after an accident at work that left him with severe mobility issues.

- 1. Interview client**
We interview Fred and move him immediately into our shelter due to his physical health needs. We also put in place a move-on plan.
- 2. Provide him with a phone and food vouchers**
We provide him with a phone so that he can contact us and other relevant organisations if he needs any support. We also provide him with food vouchers so he can start making nutritious meals in the kitchen for himself.
- 3. Follow up with his move-on plan**
During our first advice session with Fred, we follow up on his move-on plans and readjust it to his current needs.
- 4. Immigration advice**
We give Fred the immigration advice support he needs to complete a late Settlement Status application. We work alongside Fred to provide relevant information to the organisation supporting him with his immigration case.
- 5. Provide support with transport**
We provide him with an Oyster card with a weekly bus pass top up so he can travel to see his doctor and attend his immigration appointments.
- 6. Referral to council accommodation for people with NRPF**
Due to his vulnerabilities and having no resource to public funds we refer him to the council for them to provide him with temporary accommodation while his immigration case is being processed.
- 7. Client moves into accommodation**
After presenting all the evidence and demonstrating that he is too vulnerable to go to the streets, the council accepts their duty towards him and provides Fred with accommodation and a card with £60 per week for his expenses.
- 8. Ongoing support after shelter season**
We invite Fred to attend our Wednesday Club to keep supporting him with any new challenges that may present while he is in his new accommodation, and to also help gather any relevant information and evidence to the immigration advice agency. Once Fred has access to benefits, we will help him move from council accommodation into permanent accommodation.

3. How to get involved



SleepOut attendees at Southwark Cathedral
SleepOut 2021 for Robes. Photo by Eve Milner.

Events and future plans for 2022–2023

At Robes Project, we are always looking for new fundraising opportunities and partners to ensure we can continue to provide support to our guests.

29 September 2022

AGM and Volunteer Thank You event at Southwark Cathedral

1 November 2022

Start of Shelter Season

25 November 2022

SleepOut 2022
Online Registration NOW OPEN
(see details on page 24)

31 March 2023

End of Shelter Season

24 November 2023

Robes SleepOut @ Southwark Cathedral

If you are interested and would like to participate, please contact:
robes.admin@robes.org.uk

Shelter

This winter we are looking into having a static shelter in Southwark, for which we are seeking a suitable building where we would be based for 3 years or more. We are exploring the possibility of a smaller, Covid-safe rotating shelter too.

Wednesday Club

We resumed our Wednesday Club service at Crossway United Reform Church in Elephant and Castle on 30 March 2022. The Wednesday Club represents a space of stability and security for ex and current Robes guests. Guests can socialise with one another, and enjoy a good breakfast and nutritious lunch, games, and advice support.

Volunteers

Volunteers are a really vital part of Robes. If you would like to know more about how you can help the Robes Project and make a difference to those who are homeless, then please contact:
robes.admin@robes.org.uk

Southwark Cathedral SleepOut for Robes

Southwark Cathedral is always proud to support Robes by hosting a SleepOut each November. It is the main domestic charity that the Cathedral helps financially.

Following the Sleep 'In' last year, it was good to return to something approaching normality. So we planned for the usual entertainment in the Cathedral before bedding down for the night, followed by breakfast in the morning. As is quite normal, it rained during the night but most people braved it through to the morning.

We had a wonderful entertainment with musical contributions from the Gospel choir Shalom Chorale and Samuel Johnson, a very talented young drummer. Our special guest was the actor Toby Jones, who talked about his acting career. This resonated especially with some of the younger people in the audience who realised that he was the voice of Golum in Harry Potter.

The numbers sleeping out were fewer than usual, but we were expecting this. However, there were groups who joined us for the entertainment and then went back to their own churches to sleep out. So overall the amount we raised, though down, was not as badly affected as we had predicted. We are looking forward to SleepOut 2022 and plans are already afoot.

Maggie Still

Chair of SleepOut Committee



**Be part of Robes
SleepOut 2022**

**Friday November 25th
6.30pm–6am**

Help us to help local homeless people by giving up your bed for a night. Register now:

www.robles.org.uk/sleepout-robles

**There will be an evening
of live entertainment.**

Our Supporters

Partners

Homeless Link
Housing Justice
Holy Trinity, Clapham
LHA London

Referral agencies

Crisis
Manna Day Centre
New Horizons Youth Centre
Providence Row
Shelter
South London Refugee Association
Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers
Spires Day Centre
St. Mungo's SPOT Team
Thames Reach
The Passage

Winter night shelters

Ace of Clubs
All Saints, Clapham Park
Bermondsey Central Methodist Church
Chatsworth Baptist
Christ Church, Clapham
Christ Church, Southwark
Copleston Church
Finnish Church
Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity, Clapham
Montgomery Hall
Mostyn Road Methodist Church
New Park Road Baptist
Norwegian Church
Salvation Army, Elephant and Castle
St. Anne and All Saints
St. George the Martyr
St. John the Divine
St. John's, East Dulwich
St. John's, Waterloo
St. Luke's, Peckham
St. Luke's, West Norwood
St. Mary Magdalen
St. Matthew's at the Elephant
St. Michael's, Stockwell
St. Paul's, Clapham
St Paul's and St. Saviour's, Herne Hill
St. Peter's, Vauxhall
St. Peter's, Walworth

4. Financial information



Ben (Tuesday Volunteer) packing meals for Tuesday Club guests. Photo by Eve Milner.

Operational Information

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2022.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The Robes Project was initially set up as an unincorporated charity by a Constitution adopted 1 October 2008, amended by Special Resolution on 20 July 2009. It was registered as a Charity on 10 November 2009 and is governed by a Committee of Trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting. The areas of benefit are the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

On 1 August 2017 the Charity set up a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) called 'Robes Project'. The Charity and the CIO were merged on 18 January 2020. An asset transfer order was signed on 18 January 2020. The assets have now been transferred to the CIO and the old un-incorporated charity closed.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than 5, and until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, no more than 9.

Operational Information

Objectives

The objects of the CIO are the relief of poverty among people who are homeless in the London boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter night shelters, food and advice, support and re-settlement services so as to help them re-build their lives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees consider that the work of the Robes Project is to provide relief to poor and disadvantaged people in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter shelter, food and support helping to make these boroughs a safer, more humane place for everyone. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and no Trustee receives any private benefit from the Charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Governance and management

The Charity is run by its Trustees who meet bi-monthly to determine the strategy of the Charity, to discuss operational matters and to formulate policy. The Charity Manager attends all Trustee meetings. Sub-committees dealing with specific functions support the Board of Trustees and certain items of executive responsibility are delegated to individual Trustees to facilitate decision-making and to support staff efforts. All delegated matters are closely reported upon to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for delivering day to day services to our guests primarily to the Charity Manager, staff and volunteer teams.

The Charity Manager is responsible for individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Committee seek to recruit Trustees from among the churches participating in the Project who have relevant skills and experience to assist in running the Project. New Trustees are given an induction pack.

Risk Management

The Trustees recognise that there are risks to which the Charity is exposed. Systems have been established to mitigate known risks, including financial controls, employment procedures, agreements with participating churches and volunteer training. The Trustees keep proper accounting records and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Health and safety, equal opportunities and quality standards are prioritised. Records and archives are securely stored and electronic data carefully protected.

A significant risk the Charity faces is its over-reliance on the SleepOut as a fundraising event, as reflected in the events of both the current and previous year. It looks to mitigate against this risk by diversifying its funding sources which has continued to prove a successful venture. Another significant risk would be if a serious safeguarding issue were to cause the Charity to lose the confidence of guests and referring partners. The Charity mitigates against this by thorough training for staff and volunteers.

Financial review

Total expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2022 was £335,517, up from £293,382 in the previous year. This reflects a significant increase in the costs incurred supporting our guests during the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year, income decreased by £31,724, an decrease of 10% on the previous year, due to a number of significant one-off grants in the prior period as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At 30 April 2022, the total reserves stand at £340,544. Of these reserves, £5,951 is restricted to our ongoing projects. Another £80,000 of unrestricted reserves is designated to support 'Inn from the Cold' moving forward, leaving £254,593 as general funds.

Operational Information

Reserves Policy

As part of the annual review of the reserves policy, the Trustees of the Robes Project assess the financial risks surrounding the Charity's ability to provide the services we offer to the homeless in Lambeth and Southwark. In so doing the Trustees aim to hold a minimum free reserves level of £80,000–£150,000. The current free reserves of £254,593 are safely above this limit.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 1 to 31 of this document as well as the legal and administrative information on page 48, meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 11 August 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the Board of Trustees of Robes Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Robes Project (charity number 1174060) for the year ended 30 April 2022 set out on pages 34 to 47.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The CIO's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The CIO's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the CIO and the CIO's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement [below](#).

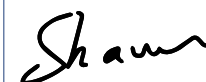
Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Shaun Brownsmith FCA

For and on behalf of Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

Dated: 7 September 2022

4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 30 April 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations	2	159,574	126,909	286,483	299,528
Charitable activities	3	-	-	-	18,092
Investments	4	4	-	4	591
Total income		159,578	126,909	286,487	318,211
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	10,396	-	10,396	12,403
Charitable activities	5 & 6	192,321	132,800	325,121	280,979
Total expenditure		202,717	132,800	335,517	293,382
Net income/(expenditure)		(43,139)	(5,891)	(49,030)	24,829
Transfer between funds	12	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(43,139)	(5,891)	(49,030)	24,829
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	12 & 13	377,732	11,842	389,574	364,745
Total funds carried forward	12 & 13	334,593	5,951	340,544	389,574

The notes on pages 36 to 47 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 April 2022

	Notes	£	Total funds 30 April 2022 £	£	Total funds 30 April 2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	-	-	7,279
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	10	1,722		7,216	
Cash at bank and in hand		349,962		382,305	
		351,684		389,521	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(11,140)		(7,226)	
Net current assets			340,544		382,295
Net assets			340,544		389,574
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	12 & 13		5,951		11,842
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	12 & 13	80,000		80,000	
General funds	12 & 13	254,593		297,732	
			334,593		377,732
			340,544		389,574

The notes on pages 36 to 47 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 11 August 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Luke Whiteman
Trustee



Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 April 2022, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 April 2022 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has no impact on this assessment due to the high reserves held by the Charity.

Legal status

The Robes Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £1 per member of the Charity. The registered office is 11B Park Street, London, SE1 9AB.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and income from fundraising events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift Aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on a straight-line basis. The useful life used is:

Leasehold improvements – 5 years (life of the lease).

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Robes Project operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Donations	83,798	2,103	85,901
SleepOut	34,345	-	34,345
Other fundraising events	431	-	431
Trusts and foundations	41,000	124,806	165,806
	159,574	126,909	286,483

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Donations	71,534	730	72,264
SleepIn	53,411	-	53,411
Other fundraising events	3,010	-	3,010
Trusts and foundations	2,500	168,343	170,843
	130,455	169,073	299,528

Notes to the Financial Statements

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Contracts with statutory authorities	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Contracts with statutory authorities	18,092	-	18,092
	18,092	-	18,092

4. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Bank interest	4	-	4
	4	-	4

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Bank interest	591	-	591
	591	-	591

Notes to the Financial Statements

5. Total expenditure

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £
Raising funds	-	8,552	1,844	10,396
Charitable activities	128,633	138,813	57,675	325,121
	128,633	147,365	59,519	335,517

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £
Raising funds	-	10,466	1,937	12,403
Charitable activities	125,639	111,453	43,887	280,979
	125,639	121,919	45,824	293,382

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities. The prior year figures have been reallocated to show the support costs attributed to each activity.

All expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted in nature in both the current and previous financial years.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £
Indirect costs include the following costs:		
Office rent	16,550	10,150
IT and communications	8,614	7,383
Administrative costs	6,891	3,245
Finance support	10,338	11,044
Depreciation on leasehold improvements	1,598	2,130
Loss on disposal of leasehold improvements	5,681	-
Governance costs	9,847	11,872
	59,519	45,824

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £
Governance costs include the following costs:		
Independent examination fees	1,340	1,340
Statutory accounts preparation	1,464	1,464
Trustee recruitment	4,800	4,687
Governance review	-	1,800
Legal and other consultancy	-	1,074
Insurance	2,243	1,507
	9,847	11,872

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Staff costs	98,640	29,993	128,633
Other direct costs	36,006	102,807	138,813
Indirect costs	57,675	-	57,675
	192,321	132,800	325,121

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Staff costs	73,046	52,593	125,639
Other direct costs	25,755	85,698	111,453
Indirect costs	13,792	30,095	43,887
	112,593	168,386	280,979

Notes to the Financial Statements

7. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £
Gross salaries	116,917	116,130
Employer's national insurance	7,047	6,845
Employer's pension	4,669	2,664
	128,633	125,639

The average headcount during the year was 4 persons (2021: 5 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2021: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £41,409 (2021: £39,480).

8. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £4,669 (2021: £2,664).

£460 of employer contributions were outstanding at year end (2021: £222).

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

Notes to the Financial Statements

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total assets year ended 30 April 2022 £
Cost		
As at 1 May 2021	10,652	10,652
Disposals in year	(10,652)	(10,652)
As at 30 April 2022	-	-
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 May 2021	3,373	3,373
Charge in year	1,598	1,598
Disposals in year	(4,971)	(4,971)
As at 30 April 2022	-	-
Net book value		
As at 1 May 2021	7,279	7,279
As at 30 April 2022	-	-

10. Debtors and prepayments

	Total year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total year ended 30 April 2021 £
Prepayments	1,141	3,591
Rent deposit	-	3,625
Cycle to work loan	581	-
	1,722	7,216

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total year ended 30 April 2021 £
Trade creditors	4,570	2,095
Accruals	3,170	2,804
HMRC control account	2,571	1,809
Pension control account	829	518
	11,140	7,226

Notes to the Financial Statements

12. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2022 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2022 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2022 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	297,732	159,578	(202,717)	-	254,593
General funds	377,732	159,578	(202,717)	-	334,593
Restricted funds					
Food vouchers	-	2,103	(2,103)	-	-
Homeless Link	-	92,420	(92,420)	-	-
Housing Justice	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
Guest support	5,891	-	(5,891)	-	-
Love Your Neighbour	-	2,386	(2,386)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	5,951	-	-	-	5,951
	11,842	126,909	(132,800)	-	5,951
	389,574	286,487	(335,517)	-	340,544

The **Inn from the Cold** designated fund has been earmarked for growing this project over the next few years.

The **food vouchers** funds were received to support the purchase of food vouchers for guests.

The **Homeless Link** funds were received to support the running of accommodation for guests during the winter season.

The **Housing Justice** funds were received to support moving guests on to more permanent accommodation.

The **Love Your Neighbour** funds were received to support the running of the Tuesday Club drop-in centre.

The **Inn from the Cold** restricted fund consists of donations and grants to support guests in accessing the private rented sector by providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation. During the year one of the main funders of this project agreed to release the funds for the Charity's ongoing work across all areas.

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2021 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2021 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2021 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	253,590	149,138	(124,996)	20,000	297,732
	333,590	149,138	(124,996)	20,000	377,732
Restricted funds					
COVID-19 funding	4,628	22,730	(27,358)	-	-
Winter Transformation Fund	-	65,000	(65,000)	-	-
Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Guest support	-	20,000	(14,109)	-	5,891
Love Your Neighbour	-	11,343	(11,343)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	25,951	-	-	(20,000)	5,951
ACTS 4:35	159	-	(159)	-	-
Glasspool	417	-	(417)	-	-
	31,155	169,073	(168,386)	(20,000)	11,842
	364,745	318,211	(293,382)	-	389,574

The **COVID-19** funds were funds received to support the organisation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic on beneficiaries from March 2020 to October 2020.

The **Winter Transformation Fund** funds were received to support moving beneficiaries from temporary accommodation to more permanent accommodation in early 2021.

The **Coronavirus Community Support Fund** funds were received from the National Lottery Community Fund to support beneficiaries with temporary accommodation in early 2021.

The **ACTS 4:35** funds consists of funds given to directly support guests with specific needs/requirements.

The **Glasspool** funds consists of funds given to directly support guests with specific needs/requirements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

13. Analysis of net assets

	General funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2022 £
Current assets	265,733	80,000	5,951	351,684
Current liabilities	(11,140)	–	–	(11,140)
	254,593	80,000	5,951	340,544

	General funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Fixed assets	7,279	–	–	7,279
Current assets	297,679	80,000	11,842	389,521
Current liabilities	(7,226)	–	–	(7,226)
	297,732	80,000	11,842	389,574

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no Trustee received any remuneration (2021: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses (2021: £NIL).

Notes to the Financial Statements

15. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions carried out with related parties (2021: £NIL).

16. Other financial commitments

At 30 April 2022, the Charity had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases (all relating to land and buildings) as set out below:

	Total year ended 30 April 2022 £	Total year ended 30 April 2021 £
Operating leases due:		
Within one year	–	14,500
Within two to five years	–	35,042
	–	49,542

17. Guarantees and secured charges

As at 30 April 2022 Charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured against assets of the Charity (2021: £NIL).

Legal & Admin

Legal and Administrative Information
for the year ended 30 April 2022.

Trustees

Paul Venning
Wendy Thompson
Luke Whiteman
Neil Tryner
Elinor Wakefield
Myfanwy Lloyd
Sam Forsdike
Matthew Hanney
Sam Johnson-Hill

Treasurer

Luke Whiteman

The
co-operative
bank

Principal Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Haines Watts
4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Selection of photography including cover
taken by Robes volunteer, Eve Milner
(evemilner51@gmail.com).



Accountants

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU



Charity Registration Number

1174060

Registered Address

Robes Project
Southwark Cathedral
London Bridge
SE1 9DA

Contact us

Robes.admin@robes.org.uk
[@RobesProject](https://twitter.com/RobesProject)
020 7407 5623
[Robes.org.uk](https://www.robes.org.uk)

A Word from our Patron

It is impressive and important that the Robes Project did not stop work during Covid, even though we could not carry on as usual with our well-established annual winter accommodation in a number of south London churches. Safe overnight accommodation, meals, laundry, clothing, advice and phones provided throughout the winter was followed by the great achievement that nearly all our winter guests moved on into secure accommodation.

For as long as any of our brothers and sisters are on the street sleeping rough, Robes is needed. To all who give and help, a huge thank you. We are taking action to respond to the calls of Jesus – and of our streets. I ask every church in all inner south London boroughs to consider if you can support Robes and take direct responsibility for housing the homeless in the year ahead. Please bring this to your church meetings now – and work and pray for the people and means to help. Thank you.

Rt Hon Sir Simon Hughes

Chancellor, London South Bank University





robes

Southwark Cathedral's SleepOut 2023 for Robes

**Friday 24th November
6.30pm to Saturday morning 6am**

Further details can be found at robes.org.uk
or @RobesProject. Experience sleeping out for
a night and fundraise for local homeless people.

ROBES PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1174060

Accounts



Supporting local people out of homelessness



Contents

1. Introduction to our Year	1
Welcome	2
About Robes	4
Chair's Statement	5
2. What we do	6
Where are our guests now?	7
Static Shelter	8
How we supported stay and move on	10
Our guests	11
Outcomes	12
Simon's story	13
Tuesday Club	14
Outcomes	15
Mary's story	16
Volunteer comment	17
Advice Work	18
Day in a life of an advice worker	19
Julia's story	20
3. How to get involved	21
Events and Future plans for 2021–2022	22
SleepIn and Out	23
Our Supporters	24
4. Financial Information	26
Operational Information	27
Independent Examiner's Report	32
Statement of Financial Activities	34
Balance Sheet	35
Notes to the Financial Statements	36
Legal & Admin	48
A Word from our Patron	49

1. Introduction To Our Year



Tuesday Club guest enjoying hot drink.
Photo by Eve Milner.

Welcome



Robes is a small local charity that works with over 750 volunteers and 29 Churches and Community Centres. It helps homeless people in the area to find their way to a better quality of life.



Robes is so blessed to have volunteers who have been with the programme for the past 14 years."

Helping local homeless people out of homelessness is at the heart of the Robes Project. As a small charity operating in two south London boroughs, we achieve this aim through our close partnerships with 29 churches and community centres, 750 volunteers and other charities and day centres in the area. Robes primarily focuses on providing local homeless adults with shelter, food, laundry, and advice. Despite the pandemic, we were able to come together and continue to deliver our invaluable services safely to the people most in need. Robes has done exceptionally well this past year in diversifying its fundraising and has been able to secure over £260,000 in grant funding.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nick'.

Nick Faraday
Charity Manager

Impact this year

48

Guests supported in static shelter
(Covid-safe accommodation)

145

Guests supported with advice support

30

Guests set for long-term
accommodation

13

Guests moved into temporary
accommodation

289

Food vouchers provided to 28 guests

2,223

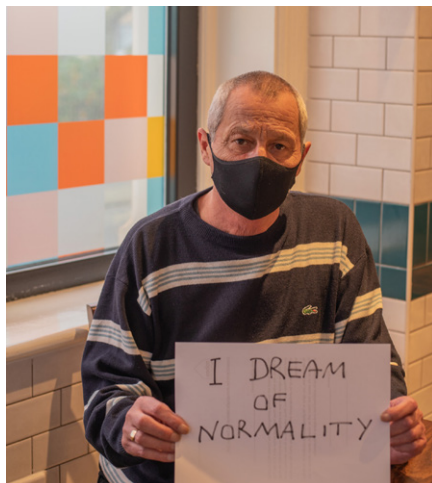
Meals provided in Tuesday Club

About Robes

Robes has been working across Southwark and Lambeth for the past 14 years, providing shelter to local homeless people.

Services we've provided in 2020–2021:

- Supporting the stay and move on of 37 guests at the Best Western Hotel in Peckham from Nov 2020 – March 2021, in partnership with Southwark Council.
- Covid-safe static shelter for 11 guests in Friendship House for April.
- Weekly support packages provided by winter night shelter teams for 48 guests; of these 48, 30 guests are set for long-term accommodation.
- Advice to access housing, welfare benefits, health support, legal advice, employment, and training.
- Tuesday Club takeaway service in partnership with Holy Trinity Church – hot lunch meals, advice service and care packages.
- Winter Night Shelter (On hold due to pandemic).
- Wednesday Club (On hold due to pandemic).



Robes guest staying in Best Western, Peckham.
Photo by Eve Milner.

Chair's Statement

It is my great privilege to take over the role of Robes Chair from George Martin, one of Robes' founding fathers, and I would like to offer him my personal thanks for his help in bringing me on board.

Following in George's footsteps would be a significant challenge in itself; little did I know the impact that the pandemic would have on Robes' work. Facing up to and adapting to the evolving challenges of Covid and its variants has been at the forefront of our work every day of this past year. But amidst all the uncertainty, one thing did remain constant: the continuing need to provide shelter, care, comfort and, where possible, a nourishing meal to the homeless in Southwark and Lambeth.

In spite of lockdown, the 2020 'SleepIn' raised over £51,000! This last winter, Robes has looked after 48 guests, of whom 30 guests are set for long-term accommodation (20 guests already in permanent accommodation and council duty to support achieved for 10 guests), as well as providing hot meals, practical advice, phones, 471 personal care packages – donated and provided by our 16 Shelter teams on a weekly basis – and much more. All this was achieved while prevented by the



Our Chair: Paul Venning.

pandemic from providing our traditional winter night shelters through our fantastic network of partner churches and magnificent volunteers.

Robes is also running a Tuesday Club in partnership with Holy Trinity Clapham, where we have provided 2,223 hot meals and 1,500 care packages and 168 advice sessions since we opened in November 2020.

None of this would have been possible without you, our dedicated Robes staff, trustees, volunteers and partners, and the generosity of our funders, and I want to say a very heartfelt "Thank You" to you all. Our 2022 'SleepOut' on Friday November 26th will be a great opportunity for us all to come together again in a common cause!

Paul Venning

Chair of Trustees

2. What we do



Spencer (Tuesday Club Volunteer) preparing lunch for Tuesday Club guests.

Where are our guests now?



Tuesday Club guest. Photo by Eve Milner. To protect guest identity, the photo and the story are unrelated.

Adam (Season 2018/19)

Unable to rely on friends any longer for a place to stay, Adam became homeless and came to the Robes' shelter. For all his determination, getting back into work was proving impossible without secure housing.

After his stay with Robes, he secured private rented accommodation in Lewisham, a borough in which he feels happily integrated, enjoying its cultural diversity and sense of community.

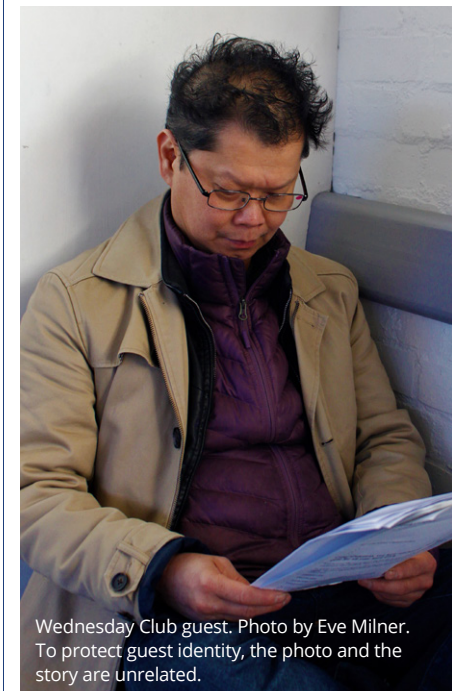
Two years have passed since Adam came to Robes. He is thriving, and actively involved in local community projects, co-curating an exhibition in the People's Heritage Museum which explored the transatlantic Slave Trade, struggles for freedom and the implications for the local area today. He is also a Trustee for a local charity in Deptford for historical conservation.

Callum (Season 2019/20)

When Callum stayed in Robes' shelter, he had been sleeping rough in London. He was unable to engage with any services as he had no proof of ID.

Robes paid for a new passport and referred him to Hope 2 Steps, who in turn put him in touch with a local charity which helps people at risk of social exclusion find accommodation.

He is currently still in accommodation, and he now works for a catering company.



Wednesday Club guest. Photo by Eve Milner. To protect guest identity, the photo and the story are unrelated.

Static Shelter

Due to COVID-19, we were unable to operate a church-based winter night shelter this year. Instead, we partnered with Southwark Council to support the stay of 37 guests at Best Western Peckham, and to plan their moving on. We also provided accommodation in Friendship House for 11 guests received from various referral agencies for the month of April. All these guests had Covid-safe individual rooms with en suite facilities.

Our main focus during their stay was to ensure guests' physical survival needs were being met. Our 16 Shelter teams donated and provided care packages to our guests in both Best Western and Friendship House on a weekly basis. In total, we provided 471 care packages to 48 guests. We also supported their stay by providing laundry vouchers, food vouchers, clothing items, phones and tablets and weekly check-in calls.



Robes supported the stay and move on of 37 guests at Best Western in Peckham from November 2020 till March 2021. Photo by Eve Milner.

Our advice workers also worked with Robes guests to provide support and encouragement in making helpful changes and finding a sustainable solution out of homelessness. During the Winter of 2020/2021, we provided for 48 guests. We set up 30 guests into long-term accommodation (20 are already in permanent accommodation, and for a further 10 the local council has accepted their duty to provide suitable housing, following Robes' advocacy). Additionally, we supported 13 guests into temporary accommodation.



Robes acquired 11 self-contained rooms at Friendship House in Borough for the month of April 2021. Photo by Eve Milner.



Camilla (Shelter Volunteer at St. John the Divine Kennington) with support packages for Robes guests staying in Best Western.



Volunteers from St. Paul's Herne Hill providing support packages for Robes guests staying in Best Western.



Thank you very much for the care packages. It's nice to know that somebody cares, and people still practise generosity."

Robes Guest, 2021



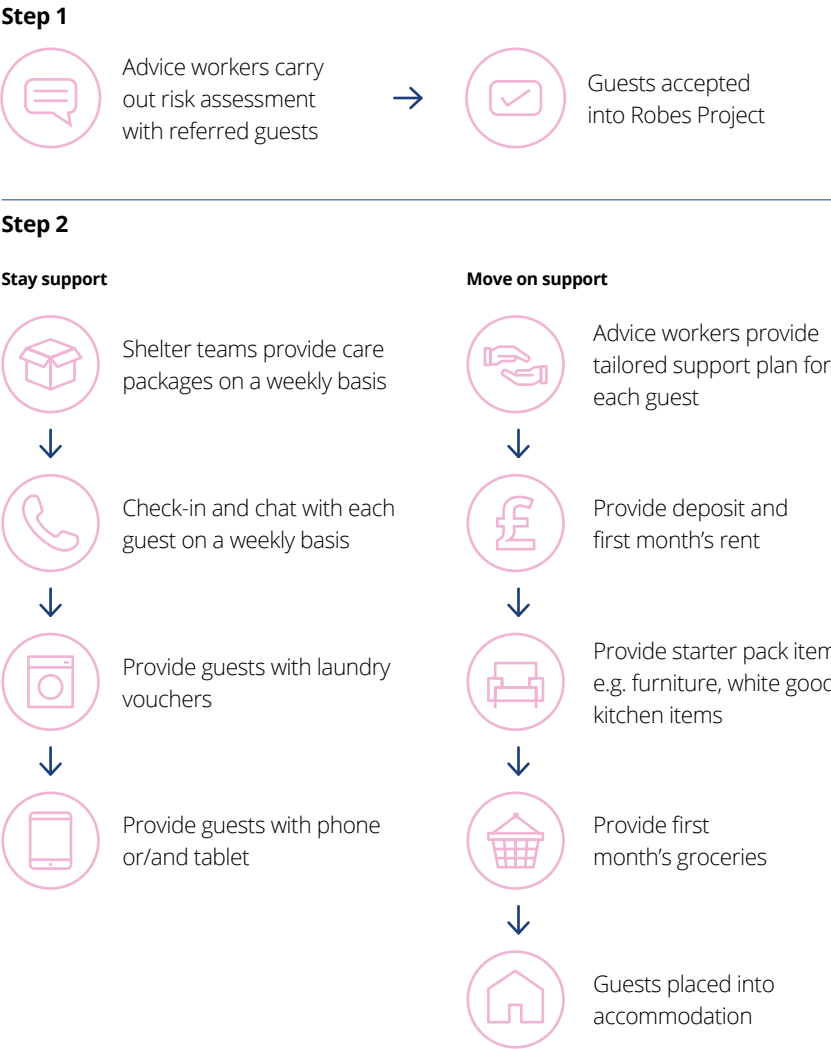
This partnership successfully included two dedicated Robes workers providing assistance to 37 residents who were placed in temporary accommodation within a hotel procured by the council. Robes provided essential key assistance for these residents including welfare checks, health referrals, employment assistance, move on support and provision of essential items such as mobile phones and/or tablets."

Ricky Bellot

Interim Head of Housing Supply
(Southwark Council)

Static Shelter

How we supported stay and move on

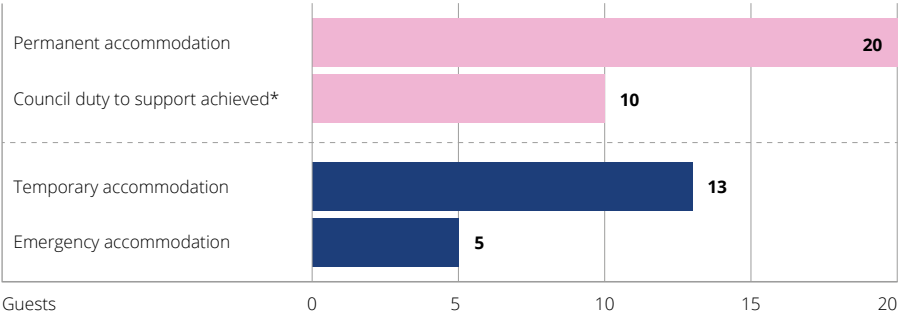


Static Shelter

Outcomes

Key outputs	
471	10
Care packages provided to 48 guests	Deposits and rents paid
289	21
Food vouchers provided to 28 guests	Phones provided
122	28
Laundry vouchers provided to 48 guests	Tablets provided
29	3
Move in packages provided to 29 guests	Laptops provided

End of static shelter outcomes



*Please note, 'council duty to support achieved' means that, as a result of successful advocacy by Robes staff on behalf of our guests, the council has accepted their duty to provide suitable accommodation.

Static Shelter

Simon's story

Once we had met Simon at Southwark's hotel, we knew he needed more support; assessments by phone just hadn't revealed the vulnerabilities which led him to become homeless.

He had a long history of homelessness and was anxious, afraid, and overwhelmed. After our concerns were raised, a specialist Housing First council worker came to meet with Simon and Robes, and we began working together. Simon's confidence grew the more he felt supported. He was encouraged to open a bank account, transfer his old-style benefits to Universal Credit, and was happy for Robes to upgrade his phone.



Robes guest at Tuesday club. Photo by Eve Milner. To protect guest identity, the photo and the story are unrelated.

Simon contacted Robes after securing his flat and was ecstatic:



I cannot believe I got my own flat today! It has a secure entrance, and I have my own balcony. It is around the corner from the shops and next to the bus stop so I can look for jobs and get my life sorted. It is so, so wonderful! I can sleep at night now. Without Robes' help I would be homeless and sleeping on the bus again. I am over the moon."

Tuesday Club

The Tuesday Club represents a space for vulnerable individuals to access support.

In November 2020, we opened our Tuesday Club in partnership with Holy Trinity Clapham. Here guests can access hot lunch meals, hot drinks, care packages, clothing items and advice support. We opted for an open-door policy where anyone seeking the services we had on offer was welcomed, as distinct from our Wednesday Club which was provided for Robes' current and ex-guests only. This enabled us to reach a wider group of vulnerable individuals within the community and allowed us to tackle issues that put people at risk of homelessness.

Since the opening of Tuesday Club, the number of attendees has increased from 45 to 80-90 guests every Tuesday. We have provided 2,223 hot meals and 1,500 care packages and given supporting advice to 97 guests. 10 Tuesday Club guests have been supported into long term accommodation.

Currently we have 11 volunteers who dedicate their time by helping with registration of guests, cooking, serving lunch, providing care packages and cleaning.

In the future

We are hoping to incorporate more guest enrichment activities and engage with corporate partners to support the day-to-day running of the Tuesday Club.



After the Wednesday Club closed, I didn't have anything to do. I was mostly sick at home. I missed the whole Robes staff. After the Tuesday Club opened, I started visiting it because it is a home away from home. The advice workers at the Tuesday Club are doing very well to continue supporting me. She is like my sister helping a brother."

Robes Guest, 2018

Tuesday Club Outcomes

2,223

Hot lunch meals provided

1,500

Care packages provided

168

Advice sessions provided

10

Guests supported into long term accommodation

13

Phones provided

8

Tablets provided



Ian (Volunteer chef) and Margot (Tuesday Club Volunteer) preparing meals for Tuesday Club Guests. Photo by Eve Milner.

Tuesday Club

Mary's story

Mary came to Tuesday Club on her local church's advice. She explained how, after working in a good job, she suddenly lost her right to work and found herself with no recourse to public funds.

Mary was living precariously, paying rent to a friend also living in poverty. She had no money for food or clothes. Her immigration lawyer was also asking for payment, and all her savings had been used.

Robes advisors provided Mary with a voucher for food, clothing, phone credit and a tablet. They also referred her to a local refugee and asylum seeker organisation with access to free immigration advice. Mary immediately followed this up and was quickly assigned an immigration advisor and free weekly counselling sessions.

Mary attends Tuesday Club regularly, reporting on progress and talking through her current situation. Some weeks she needs to focus on her difficulties, and at other times she's able to share her hope, talking joyfully about her culture and faith.



Robes guest with Isabel (advice worker). Photo by Eve Milner.
To protect guest identity, the photo and the story are unrelated.

Tuesday Club

Volunteer comment



My name is Ian; I volunteer as a chef at the Tuesday Club. The pandemic has impacted the catering and hospitality sector a great deal. It has not been possible for me to work since March 2020.

I am responsible for all the cooking which includes choosing how much to cook and what to cook. I also keep the kitchen clean and sanitised for safety during this time. Currently, we are catering for 80-90 guests every Tuesday.

I applied for this role when I saw an ad on Facebook asking for volunteer chefs. I wanted to use my skills in the only way I can. To be honest, it was as much a benefit for me - I was able to go out, meet and talk to people and give back to the community at the same time. I look forward to Tuesdays as we all get along with each other and at the same time know we are helping those less fortunate than us.

When I told my work that I was volunteering, they decided to promote the idea to all my colleagues. Because of this, a couple of my colleagues are now helping at their local food bank."

Ian Waltisbuhl
Tuesday Club Chef



Ian (Volunteer chef) at Tuesday club preparing meals for Tuesday Club guests.

Advice Work

The Advice Team’s main goal is to support our guests in finding their way out from homelessness.

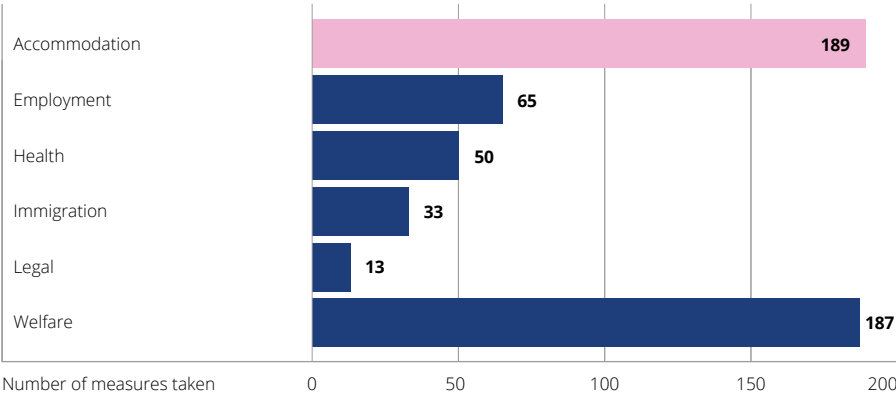
Our advice workers have experience in the Welfare System, Accommodation Options and Case Management, and constantly work to maintain and improve a network of associations that assist our guests with employment support and legal aid.

They start by interviewing people referred from local day centre and other charities. These associations are not just a source of referrals; they are also a main actor in the outcome of the guests, as they tend to know them better, including their strengths and risks. Those interviewed are provided

with temporary accommodation and food, and receive financial support to make sure that they can get to appointments and access services.

If successful, our guests will move into safe accommodation. It’s the beginning of a new life for them, but also the start of a range of new challenges (flatmates, neighbours, landlords, utility bills, loneliness). For this reason, the Advice Team is always happy to support guests after the shelter season, and we encourage them to contact us again in case we can be of any help.

Advice support provided



*Please note that the figures above record the total advice support offered to guests staying in static accommodation and those attending the Tuesday Club.

Advice Work

Day in a life of an advice worker

During the shelter season, the life of an advice worker is mostly on the go. We tend to avoid being based in an office, but instead travel to interview guests and support them getting to the shelters. We also accompany guests to various appointments for support or encouragement.

Our day starts early in the morning, allowing us to meet guests at the shelter and share breakfast with them. This enables us to engage in a conversation, to create a simple plan for them for the day and to complete referrals to local services.

We never forget the importance of personalised support, and we try to meet our guests in person whenever possible. This year, we’ve had to adjust to the reality of the pandemic by following COVID-19 regulations and guidelines so guests weren’t put at risk, and be creative when supporting guests. But social interaction, especially in times where guests’ mental health could deteriorate due to loneliness or isolation, is vital, and face-to-face meetings are helpful for people who have limited English or who lack confidence with modern technology.



Isabel (advice worker) with guest at Friendship House. Photo by Eve Milner.

Advice Work

Julia's story

Julia once worked as a medical secretary, but after developing a health condition and suffering poor mental health her life drastically changed. She lost independence and became isolated from loved ones.

After treatment, Julia lived next to a neighbour who harassed her so terribly she fled the property.

Becoming homeless, she endured sleepless nights riding buses. Thankfully, she was referred to Robes shelter, where she gradually developed trusting relationships with staff and volunteers.

As the pandemic hit in Spring 2020, she was moved into an emergency hotel across London. Lockdown alone in a hotel room was a huge challenge; she constantly feared losing the accommodation and reliving her traumatic experiences of homelessness. Through regular in-person contact, Robes worked hard to ease Julia's fears and support her in managing her finances and submitting a homeless application to the council.

After so much uncertainty and 2 years of Robes' intermittent support, Julia finally secured a spacious flat! It's a two-year tenancy within sheltered council housing. Finally, she has independence, security, and a loyal support network close by for whenever she needs it.



Robes guest staying in Best Western, Peckham. Photo by Eve Milner. To protect guest identity, the photo and the story are unrelated.

3. How to get involved



Wootton (Tuesday Club Volunteer and Bedding Team Lead) preparing hot drink for Tuesday Club guests. Photo by Eve Milner.

Events and Future plans for 2021–2022

At Robes Project, we are always looking for new fundraising opportunities and partners to ensure we can continue to provide support to our guests.

September 2021

AGM and Shelter Launch Event
Online, September 23rd 2021

1 November 2021

Start of Shelter Season

26 November 2021

SleepOut 2021
Online Registration NOW OPEN
(see details on page 23)

31 March 2022

End of Shelter Season

25 November 2022

Robes SleepOut @ Southwark Cathedral

If you are interested and would like to participate, please contact:
robes.admin@robes.org

Static Shelter

This past winter shelter season, we have had to adapt our services according to government guidelines and offer Covid-safe accommodation (self-contained rooms with en suite) for guests. Homeless forums and shelter networks we are part of have advised us that this coming winter, we will only be able to operate Covid-safe accommodation as in 2020–2021. We have secured Davies Court in Canary Wharf for 18 guests which will start on November 1st to March 31st. We are in the process of securing funding for this project.

Circuit 1

There is a small chance we could have Circuit 1 up and running in a Covid-safe manner. We are currently in talks with all our Shelter Team Leaders to see if this can be a possibility for Winter 2021–2022.

Tuesday Club

In partnership with Holy Trinity Church, we are currently operating a Tuesday Club in takeaway format. We provide advice sessions, hot take away lunch meal and essential items to 90 guests every week.

Thursday Club

In the autumn, we are planning to open in Elephant and Castle a similar service to our Tuesday Club, for ex- and current guests. We had to close our Wednesday Club for current and ex-guests as the venue closed and the whole country went into several lockdowns.

SleepIn and Out

11 years ago, the first Robes SleepOut was held. It's our major fundraising event, hosted annually by Southwark Cathedral and generating the bulk of our income. By giving up their cosy beds and sleeping out in the open air, those taking part help alleviate local homelessness, show solidarity and make a difference.

In this year of the pandemic, we hosted a SleepIn. Instead of the Churchyard, our supporters slept in their garden, balcony or anywhere that was safe. Our entertainment was streamed online, and we had an amazing turnout, with 100 people collectively joining in on the night. Thanks to our supporters and donors, we were able to raise £51,000.

This season, we have planned a SleepOut at Southwark Cathedral for November 26th 2021. We are very much hoping that we can go ahead with the usual format of us all being together in the Cathedral for some entertainment followed by sleeping in the Churchyard. Keeping in mind that circumstances might change, one possibility is to enable teams to host their own satellite SleepOut event, running alongside the main SleepOut – or come up with an alternative idea. This could be families, groups of friends, teams from the workplace, schools and colleges or church-based groups. Please sign up on www.robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes if you are interested.



The Very Rev'd Andrew Nunn hosting Southwark Cathedral sponsored Robes SleepIn 2020.

Be part of Robes SleepOut 2021

Friday November 26th 6.30pm–6am

Help us to help local homeless people by giving up your bed for a night. Register now:

www.robes.org.uk/sleepout-robes

There will be an evening of live entertainment

Our Supporters

Partners and Donors:

1. Holy Trinity Clapham
2. Bridgepoint
3. Homeless Link and Housing Justice
4. National Lottery Community Fund

Referral agencies:

1. Ace of Clubs
2. Crisis
3. Crisis at Croydon
4. Glassdoor
5. Manna Day Centre
6. Shelter
7. Spires
8. St. Mungo's
9. The Big Issue
10. The Southwark Day Centre
for Asylum Seekers
11. Webber Street

Winter Night Shelters:

1. Ace of Clubs
2. All Saints Clapham Park
3. Bermondsey Central Methodist Church
4. Chatsworth Baptist
5. Christ Church Clapham
6. Christ Church Southwark
7. Copleston Church
8. Finnish Church
9. Holy Spirit
10. Holy Trinity Clapham
11. Montgomery Hall
12. Mostyn Road Methodist Church
13. New Park Road Baptist
14. Norwegian Church
15. Salvation Army, Elephant and Castle
16. St. Anne and All Saints
17. St. George the Martyr
18. St. John the Divine
19. St. John's East Dulwich
20. St. John's Waterloo
21. St. Luke's Peckham
22. St. Luke's West Norwood
23. St. Mary Magdalen
24. St. Matthew's at the Elephant
25. St. Michael's Stockwell
26. St. Paul's Clapham
27. St. Paul's and St. Saviour's Herne Hill
28. St. Peter's Vauxhall
29. St. Peter's Walworth



4. Financial information



Tuesday Club guest. Photo by Eve Milner.

Operational Information

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2021.

Structure, Governance And Management

Governing document

The Robes Project was initially set up as an un-incorporated charity by a Constitution adopted 1 October 2008, amended by Special Resolution on 20 July 2009. It was registered as a charity on 10 November 2009 and is governed by a Committee of Trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting. The areas of benefit are the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

On 1 August 2017 the charity set up a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) called 'Robes Project'. The charity and the CIO were merged on 18 January 2020. An asset transfer order was signed on 18 January 2020. The assets have now been transferred to the CIO and the old un-incorporated charity closed.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than 5, and until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, no more than 9.

Operational Information

Objectives

The objects of the CIO are the relief of poverty among people who are homeless in the London boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter night shelters, food and advice, support and re-settlement services so as to help them re-build their lives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees consider that the work of the Robes Project is to provide relief to poor and disadvantaged people in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter shelter, food and support helping to make these boroughs a safer, more humane place for everyone. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and no Trustee receives any private benefit from the charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

Governance and management

The charity is run by its Trustees who meet bi-monthly to determine the strategy of the charity, to discuss operational matters and to formulate policy. The Charity Manager attends all Trustee meetings. Sub-committees dealing with specific

functions support the Board of Trustees and certain items of executive responsibility are delegated to individual Trustees to facilitate decision-making and to support staff efforts. All delegated matters are closely reported upon to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for delivering day to day services to our guests primarily to the Charity Manager, staff and volunteer teams.

The Charity Manager is responsible for individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Committee actively seek to recruit Trustees from across a range of diverse individuals, including from among the churches participating in the Project, who have relevant skills and experience to assist in running the Project. New Trustees are given a full induction programme and information pack.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Paul Venning: paul.venning@robes.org.uk

Risk Management

The Trustees recognise that there are risks to which the charity is exposed. Systems have been established to mitigate known risks, including financial controls, employment procedures, agreements with participating churches and volunteer training. The Trustees keep proper accounting records and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Health and safety, equal opportunities and quality standards are prioritised. Records and archives are securely stored and electronic data carefully protected.

A significant risk the charity faces is its over reliance on the SleepOut as a fundraising event, as reflected in the events of both the current and previous year. However, despite the event being replaced with the SleepIn this year, over £50,000 was still raised for the charity. It looks to mitigate against this risk by diversifying its funding sources which has continued to prove a successful venture. Another significant risk would be if a serious safeguarding issue were to cause the charity to lose the confidence of guests and referring partners. The charity mitigates against this by thorough training for staff and volunteers.

Financial review

Total expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2021 was £293,382, up from £215,306 in the previous year. This reflects a significant increase in the costs incurred supporting our guests during the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year, income increased by £37,776, an increase of 13% on the previous year, due to a number of significant successes on grant applications; however there was a significant decrease in non-grant income within the year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The annual SleepOut in the grounds of Southwark Cathedral was cancelled this year, for the second year in succession due to, this time, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic – the previous year had been cancelled due to the terrorist incident in the lead up to it. A replacement SleepIn held by supporters in their own gardens and homes still managed to raise £53,411.

At 30 April 2021, the total reserves stand at £389,574. Of these reserves, £11,842 is restricted to our continual support for our guests as part of our ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other projects. Another £80,000 of unrestricted reserves is designated to support 'Inn from the Cold' moving forward, leaving £297,732 as general funds.

Operational Information

Reserves Policy

As part of the annual review of the reserves policy, the Trustees of the Robes Project assess the financial risks surrounding the charity's ability to provide the services we offer to the homeless in Lambeth and Southwark. In so doing the Trustees aim to hold a minimum free reserves level of £80,000 – £150,000. The current free reserves of £297,732 are safely above this limit.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 2 to 31 of this document as well as the legal and administrative information on page 48, meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 19 August 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Venning
Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the Board of Trustees of Robes Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Robes Project (charity number 1174060) for the year ended 30 April 2021 set out on pages 34 to 47.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The CIO's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The CIO's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the CIO and the CIO's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Shaun Brownsmith FCA

For and on behalf of Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

Dated: 19 August 2021

4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 30 April 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations	2	130,455	169,073	299,528	279,107
Charitable activities	3	18,092	–	18,092	–
Investments	4	591	–	591	1,328
Total income		149,138	169,073	318,211	280,435
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	12,403	–	12,403	12,905
Charitable activities	5 & 6	112,593	168,386	280,979	202,401
Total expenditure		124,996	168,386	293,382	215,306
Net income/(expenditure)		24,142	687	24,829	65,129
Transfer between funds	12	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Net movement in funds		44,142	(19,313)	24,829	65,129
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	12 & 13	333,590	31,155	364,745	299,616
Total funds carried forward	12 & 13	377,732	11,842	389,574	364,745

The notes on pages 36 to 47 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 April 2021

	Notes	Total funds 30 April 2021 £	Total funds 30 April 2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	7,279	9,409
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	10	7,216	4,973
Cash at bank and in hand		382,305	359,257
		389,521	364,230
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(7,226)	(8,894)
Net current assets		382,295	355,336
Net assets		389,574	364,745
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	12 & 13	11,842	31,155
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	12 & 13	80,000	80,000
General funds	12 & 13	297,732	253,590
		377,732	333,590
		389,574	364,745

The notes on pages 36 to 47 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 19 August 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Luke Whiteman
Trustee



Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 April 2021, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 April 2021 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has no impact on this assessment due to the high reserves held by the charity.

Legal status

The Robes Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office is 11B Park Street, London, SE1 9AB.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and income from fundraising events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on a straight-line basis. The useful life used is:

Leasehold improvements – 5 years (life of the lease).

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Robes Project operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Donations	71,534	730	72,264
SleepIn	53,411	-	53,411
Other fundraising events	3,010	-	3,010
Trusts and foundations	2,500	168,343	170,843
	130,455	169,073	299,528

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Donations	100,068	6,250	106,318
SleepOut	85,997	-	85,997
Other fundraising events	2,699	-	2,699
Trusts and foundations	65,000	19,093	84,093
	253,764	25,343	279,107

Notes to the Financial Statements

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Contracts with statutory authorities	18,092	-	18,092
	18,092	-	18,092

4. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Bank interest	591	-	591
	591	-	591

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Bank interest	1,328	-	1,328
	1,328	-	1,328

Notes to the Financial Statements

5. Total expenditure

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £
Raising funds	-	10,466	1,937	12,403
Charitable activities	125,639	111,453	43,887	280,979
	125,639	121,919	45,824	293,382

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £
Raising funds	-	11,094	1,811	12,905
Charitable activities	131,567	42,432	28,402	202,401
	131,567	53,526	30,213	215,306

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities. The prior year figures have been reallocated to show the support costs attributed to each activity.

All expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted in nature in both the current and previous financial years.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £
Indirect costs include the following costs:		
Office rent	10,150	7,302
IT and communications	7,383	7,517
Administrative costs	3,245	6,075
Finance support	11,044	4,744
Depreciation on leasehold improvements	2,130	1,243
Governance costs	11,872	3,332
	45,824	30,213

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £
Governance costs include the following costs:		
Independent examination fees	1,340	1,340
Statutory accounts preparation	1,464	1,080
Trustee recruitment	4,687	-
Governance review	1,800	-
Legal and other consultancy	1,074	540
Insurance	1,507	372
	11,872	3,332

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Staff costs	73,046	52,593	125,639
Other direct costs	25,755	85,698	111,453
Indirect costs	13,792	30,095	43,887
	112,593	168,386	280,979

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Staff costs	115,769	15,798	131,567
Other direct costs	36,050	6,382	42,432
Indirect costs	27,469	933	28,402
	179,288	23,113	202,401

Notes to the Financial Statements

7. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £
Gross salaries	116,130	121,395
Employer's national insurance	6,845	7,956
Employer's pension	2,664	2,216
	125,639	131,567

The average headcount during the year was 5 persons (2020: 5 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2020: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was [£39,480] (2020: £35,999).

8. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £2,664 (2020: £2,216).

£222 of employer contributions were outstanding at year end (2019: £200).

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

Notes to the Financial Statements

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total assets year ended 30 April 2021 £
Cost		
As at 1 May 2020	10,652	10,652
As at 30 April 2021	10,652	10,652
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 May 2020	1,243	1,243
Charge in year	2,130	2,130
As at 30 April 2021	3,373	3,373
Net book value		
As at 1 May 2020	9,409	9,409
As at 30 April 2021	7,279	7,279

10. Debtors and prepayments

	Total year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total year ended 30 April 2020 £
Prepayments	3,591	1,348
Rent deposit	3,625	3,625
	7,216	4,973

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total year ended 30 April 2020 £
Trade creditors	2,095	1,919
Accruals	2,804	2,420
HMRC control account	1,809	4,088
Pension control account	518	467
	7,226	8,894

Notes to the Financial Statements

12. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2021 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2021 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2021 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	253,590	149,138	(124,996)	20,000	297,732
	333,590	149,138	(124,996)	20,000	377,732
Restricted funds					
COVID-19 funding	4,628	22,730	(27,358)	-	-
Winter Transformation Fund	-	65,000	(65,000)	-	-
Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Guest support	-	20,000	(14,109)	-	5,891
Love Your Neighbour	-	11,343	(11,343)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	25,951	-	-	(20,000)	5,951
ACTS 4:35	159	-	(159)	-	-
Glasspool	417	-	(417)	-	-
	31,155	169,073	(168,386)	(20,000)	11,842
	364,745	318,211	(293,382)	-	389,574

The **Inn from the Cold** designated fund has been earmarked for growing this project over the next few years.

The **COVID-19** funds were funds received to support the organisation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic on beneficiaries from March 2020 to October 2020.

The **Winter Transformation Fund** funds were received to support moving beneficiaries from temporary accommodation to more permanent accommodation in early 2021.

The **Coronavirus Community Support Fund** funds were received from the National Lottery Community Fund to support beneficiaries with temporary accommodation in early 2021.

The **Love Your Neighbour** funds were received to support the running of the Tuesday Club drop-in centre.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The **Inn from the Cold** restricted fund consists of donations and grants to support guests in accessing the private rented sector by providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation. During the year one of the main funders of this project agreed to release the funds for the charity's ongoing work across all areas.

The **ACTS 4:35** funds consists of funds given to directly support guests with specific needs/requirements.

The **Glasspool** funds consists of funds given to directly support guests with specific needs/requirements.

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2020 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2020 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2020 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
General funds	190,691	255,092	(192,193)	-	253,590
	270,691	255,092	(192,193)	-	333,590
Restricted funds					
COVID-19 funding	-	10,000	(5,372)	-	4,628
Shelter support	-	14,093	(14,093)	-	-
Inn from the Cold	28,381	-	(2,430)	-	25,951
ACTS 4:35	204	400	(445)	-	159
Glasspool	340	850	(773)	-	417
	28,925	25,343	(23,113)	-	31,155
	299,616	280,435	(215,306)	-	364,745

The **Shelter support** funds were two grants received from Housing Justice to support specific costs related to the shelters in the 2019-2020 season.

Notes to the Financial Statements

13. Analysis of net assets

	General funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2021 £
Fixed assets	7,279	–	–	7,279
Current assets	297,679	80,000	11,842	389,521
Current liabilities	(7,226)	–	–	(7,226)
	297,732	80,000	11,842	389,574

	General funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Fixed assets	9,409	–	–	9,409
Current assets	253,075	80,000	31,155	364,230
Current liabilities	(8,894)	–	–	(8,894)
	253,590	80,000	31,155	364,745

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2020: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses (2020: £NIL).

Notes to the Financial Statements

15. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions carried out with related parties (2020: £NIL).

16. Other financial commitments

At 30 April 2021 the charity had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases (all relating to land and buildings) as set out below:

	Total year ended 30 April 2021 £	Total year ended 30 April 2020 £
Operating leases due:		
Within one year	14,500	8,458
Within two to five years	35,042	49,542
	49,542	58,000

17. Guarantees and secured charges

As at 30 April 2021, the charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured against assets of the charity (2020: £NIL).

Legal & Admin

Legal and Administrative Information
for the year ended 30 April 2021.

Trustees

Paul Venning
Wendy Thompson
Luke Whiteman
Jeremy Metson
Timothy Howse
Neil Tryner

Treasurer

Luke Whiteman

The
co-operative
bank

Principal Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Haines Watts
4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
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Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Selection of photography including cover taken by
Robes volunteer, Eve Milner (evemilner51@gmail.com).



Accountants

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU



Charity Registration Number

1174060

Registered Address

11B Park Street
London
SE1 9AB

Contact us

robes.admin@robes.org.uk
@RobesProject
020 7407 5623
robes.org.uk

Recruiting Trustees

If you are interested in finding out
more please contact Paul Venning:
paul.venning@robes.org.uk

A Word from our Patron

The pandemic has challenged everyone in the charitable sector to respond in new and imaginative ways, often by developing partnerships with renewed focus or by forging new ones. The Robes Project has been no exception, working with Southwark Council to continue caring for some of the most vulnerable in our City even though Covid restrictions meant that traditional night shelters were not possible. There have been remarkable results, however, and thirty of the project's guests are set for long-term accommodation.

As we emerge from the pandemic, we will need to take its lessons to heart and continue to work for a just future for all. We have been reminded of our interdependence in many powerful ways and valued publicly those who are often forgotten or ignored. We are still in the early phase of the economic 'fall out' from the pandemic and I am thankful that there are professionals of the calibre found at the Robes Project to respond to those whose dignity is threatened.

I am proud to be a Patron of the Robes Project and deeply grateful for its work.

The Right Revered Christopher Chessun
Bishop of Southwark





Robes SleepOut 2022 @ Southwark Cathedral

**Friday November 25th 6.30pm
to Saturday morning 6am**

Further details can be found at www.robes.org.uk
or @RobesProject. Experience sleeping out for
a night and fundraise for local homeless people.