

Good Shepherd Relief in Need
(Charity No. 1177783)

GOOD SHEPHERD RELIEF in NEED
(CHARITY NO. 1177783)

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

Good Shepherd Relief in Need
(Charity No. 1177783)

Principal Office of the CIO:

48A Church Street
Bilston
Wolverhampton
West Midlands
WV14 OAH

Charity Trustees:

Rev. Mark Hathorne
Peter Hughes
Teresa Hodson.

Advisor and Voluntary Project Manager:

Dr Ann Reaney

Governing Document:

Constitution.

The charity is a Charitable incorporated Organisation, whose only voting members are its charity Trustees.

Partnerships:

The charity works in partnership with a network of referring agencies who identify beneficiaries.

These include Wolverhampton City Council, through Social Services and Strengthening Family Hubs; Wolverhampton Homes and Housing Associations; Churches and other local charities involved in the relief of poverty.

Objectives:

The relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage in Wolverhampton and the surrounding areas, but not exclusively, through the provision of household items such as furniture and other items such as clothing.

Activities:

The charity actively supports individuals and families living in hostels unable to accept accommodation owing to a lack of everyday household furnishings. We provide support to enable them to live in their accommodation by supplying quality furniture and household

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necessities without cost. Beneficiaries are referred by one of our partner agencies, having been assessed as being in financial need and hardship. We protect vulnerable tenants from loan sharks or exceedingly high credit costs by enabling them to create a home, without cost. Trustees have regard to the guidance of the Charity Commission and ensure that all activities undertaken are compliant with and carried out for the public benefit. In addition, our charity shop provides the opportunity for low-income families and individuals to access clothing, bedding, cosmetics, books, toys and general household items at extremely low prices. The charity relies on several means of obtaining goods through donations from the public, with regular collections from churches, mosques and other religious congregations. Most of the furniture received is generated by our house clearance services. The re-use of pre-loved items has a significant impact in terms of recycling and the prevention of landfill.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge the role our team of volunteers perform, to enable the charity to function. Our volunteers contribute to every aspect and activity of the charity which could not function without their enthusiasm and dedication.

Achievements, Performance and Immediate Future

Grants and Donations received were in line with the previous year and generated income was again 83% of overall income. This represented 81% of overall expenditure. A further improvement in performance.

However, Trustees regret to report that during this year, despite the charity improving its services to beneficiaries and despite the ongoing retail recovery from Covid, having assisted more families and individuals than previously, they were faced with substantial cost increases to rent, water rates, energy and operational costs at the beginning of 2023. There were also issues and difficulties in retaining volunteers. It was clear to Trustees that the Charity needed to restructure, seek different premises to occupy and attract investment to secure its sustainability in partnership with organisations with similar objectives. Due to the continuing uncertainty our retail shop and warehouse closed on 20th February 2023. Our House Clearance Service, which had been in decline during the Winter months of 22/23 also ceased operations. The initial plan was to keep the Charity in existence while negotiations began with our partners, who did not wish to see the service cease.

The Charity continues to exist, without the extensive trading functions, and is still in serious negotiations regarding its future.

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Policy on reserves

Trustees endeavour to achieve a minimum reserve of 3 months direct costs.

Declaration

The trustees declare they have approved this report.

Date:

16/09/2024

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Signature	Peter Hughes	
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

INCOMING RESOURCES	31.3.23	31.3.22	31.3.21
Donations	705	3,479	7,096
Grants	£12,305	10,000	32,431
Subtotal	£13,010	£13,479	£39,527
Charitable Trading Activities			
Retail Sales (Shops and Warehouse)	31,949	66,300	47,782
House Clearances and Sundry Sales	24,960		
Total Incoming Resources	£69,919	£79,779	£66,173
OUTGOING RESOURCES			
Premises Costs	36,713	36,967	48,739
Operating Costs	27,467	41,950	27,799
Overheads	4,571	8,221	6,560
Total Outgoing Resources	£68,751	£87,138	£64,549
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)	£1,848	(£7,359)	£1,624

STATEMENT OF ASSETS and LIABILITIES

Cash Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Bank (31/03/23)	2,489		2,489
Cash in hand	80		80
Total Cash Funds	E2,569		E2,569


Trustees report that the charity has no other monetary assets, investment assets or assets retained for the charity's own use.

The charity had no outstanding short-term liabilities at the end of the period that were not covered by available funds.

Signed by trustee on behalf of trustees

Signature

Name



MARK S WATBORNE

Date of approval

