

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

England & Wales · Charity number 1184243

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-07-03

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

Contact

Address New Community Church
24 Station Road
Sidcup
DA15 7DU

Phone 02083000333

Email admin@bexleywintershelter.org.uk

Website www.bexleywintershelter.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF POVERTY BY THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY AND OTHER ACCOMMODATION, ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS IN NEED WHO ARE DEEMED TO BE HOMELESS AND REQUIRE SUCH ACCOMMODATION, ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE, AS AN EXPRESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH.

Activities: The relief of poverty by the provision of emergency and other accommodation, advice and assistance for persons in need who are deemed to be homeless and require such accommodation, advice or assistance as an expression of Christian faith.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Bexley

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£88,735	£92,924	-	-
2024-05-31	£96,613	£80,843	-	-
2023-05-31	£118,390	£63,048	-	-
2022-05-31	£72,491	£60,175	-	-
2021-05-31	£82,331	£35,684	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Bird		2022-10-31
Gafar Olawale Sarumi		2025-11-08
Hannah Louise Vandervennin		2024-12-19
Melvyn Alfred French		2022-10-24
Rev Edward Rhys Barlow		2020-06-04

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1184243

Accounts



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

On accounts for the year
ended

31/05/2025

Charity no
(if any)

1184243

Set out on pages

8-9

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/05/2025.

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed:

Date:

5/03/2026

Name:

KATHLEEN KENNEDY

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

CIPFA

Address:

7 OAKLANDS CLOSE

BEXLEYHEATH

DA6 7AP

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



BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 01 June 2024 - 31st MAY 2025

Charity Details

Bexley Winter Shelter
c/o New Community Church S E London
24 Station Road
Sidcup, Kent
DA15 7DU

Charity number: 1184243

Trustees

Charles Edward January (Chair) (resigned 29/05/2025)
Alexa Moody
Andrew Altman (appointed 19/12/2024, resigned 19/05/2025)
Catherine Bird
Hannah Louise Vandervennin (appointed 19/12/2024)
Melvyn Alfred French
Michael Fredrick Pethick
Rev Edward Rhys Barlow
Rev Eucharia Ifeoma Asiegbu (resigned 18/12/2024)
Rev Melanie Jemmett (resigned 18/12/2024)
Sean Anthony Knights (Treasurer) (resigned 29/05/2025)
Ursula Jean Ayliffe (appointed 22/04/25)

Activities and objectives

The Bexley Winter Shelter (BWS) is a project run by Bexley churches to help those experiencing homelessness with a connection to the London Borough of Bexley (and sometimes beyond). Set up to provide support during the coldest and most difficult time, the shelter normally runs from January to March each year. Although BWS, at times, works closely with its Rough Sleeping Co-ordinator we are not affiliated with nor funded by the London Borough of Bexley

In an almost repeat of previous seasons, our guests were accommodated in self-contained rooms at two establishments in Bexleyheath, Kent. This was funded by *Year 3* of the *Night Shelter Transformation Fund, Revenue Grant* from the *Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)* as well as donations from individuals and other charities. We again continued our provision of an evening meal set in a communal eating context. At a different venue each night, we were able to provide a meal in an environment where the guest could socialise, be welcomed by our volunteers and meet with our Guest Case Worker.

BWS is not an open shelter; people cannot simply turn up and expect to be provided with accommodation and help. With the continued help of the DLUHC grant, we were still able to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker (GCW) who provided the assessment, support, move-on and after care support that previous guests had experienced.

As usual, the view going into the season was to provide a holistic, loving approach to our guests to enable them to be empowered and experience God's presence and love. God's presence was strong and visible through His work this season. While there were many challenges this time, BWS saw growth and has laid strong foundations for continued development going forward.

Community Code

All guests at the shelter are required to sign-up to our Community Code, which outlines a joint standard of behaviour. Alcohol, drugs and weapons are not permitted on any of the premises and guests may be refused accommodation/entry if they are drunk and unable to sober up or if they are under the influence of drugs. No guests violated the Community Code and it was not necessary, therefore, to withdraw of the invitation to guests.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2025 shelter season

How many people used the night shelter?

The move to providing our guests with self-contained hotel accommodation, together with capacity issues, restricted the maximum number of guests we could help at any one time to ten.

- During the 2025 shelter season 33 guests (2024, 22) used the shelter.
- 25 (2024, 13) guests were male and 8 (2024, 9) were female.
- We had an average of 3 (2024, 5) guests per week.
- 18 (2024, 16) held UK citizenship, 10 were from the European Economic Area (2024, 2) and 5 (2024, 4) were from the rest of the world.
- 18 (2024, 10) were under 35 and 15 (2024, 12) were over 35 years old.
- 7 guests stayed with us for more than 29 nights (2024, 10) and we are no longer supporting any guests with accommodation (2024, 0).
- All guests had a connection with the London Borough of Bexley.
- 5 (2024, 5) appear to have become homeless as a result of family or friends no longer being able to provide accommodation. 1 (2024, 0) came to us because of domestic violence and the rest due to various other reasons.
- 2 (2024,0) had known drug dependency, 3 (2024, 1) known alcohol dependency, 0 (2024 3) had identifiable learning disabilities and 9 (2024, 3) had mental health issue.
- The referral route was 1 (2024,7) guest self-referred, 4 (2024, 5) were from Thames Reach, 7 (2024, 2) were from the police, 20 (2024, 2) were from LB of Bexley and 1 from other services.
- Only 1 guest was in employment (2024. 6).
- 7 (2024, 20) guests had a history of rough sleeping with 26 (2024, 2) having none.

This information was supplied voluntarily by our guests to our GCW or obtained from CHAIN. Unfortunately, BWS is unable to help everyone who comes to us. We can provide help to those who are experiencing homelessness and who have low-medium needs. We may be unable to help for various reasons: for example, poor mental health, drug dependence, or even, unfortunately, just having a pet!

What services did the shelter offer the guests during their stay?

The shelter was open from 3rd January 2025 to 30th March 2025. We did, however, provide accommodation for 8 (2024, 4) guests prior to 3rd January but no (2024, 2) guests were accommodated past the end of the declared season, 30th March 2025. Any stay beyond the end of March (our official closing date) is agreed on an individual basis, with the primary factors being engagement and how close the guest was to finding permanent accommodation. Each guest was accommodated during their stay with us in a self-contained room in B&Bs in Bexleyheath.

New socks and underwear were provided as well as a range of new or second-hand clothes, along with toiletries. Access to the Citizens Advice was arranged as well as medical professionals.

BWS was also able to help guests who obtained accommodation with the supply of certain 'move-on' items like bedding, kitchen & cooking items as well as fridge-freezers.

How the shelter helped people move into more permanent accommodation

Guests were signposted by our GCW, The Rough Sleeper Co-ordinator from Bexley and Thames Reach and supported to complete applications for more permanent accommodation. As a result of these interactions:

- 19 (2024, 12) guests are now in positive and stable accommodation,
- 3 (2024, 8) guest is in a positive but unstable accommodation,
- 5 (2024, 2) are in unstable accommodation and,
- Unfortunately, we do not know the outcome of 6 of our guests (2024, 22).
- Our 'success' rate was 84% (2024, 91%).

On occasion, when a guest moves into accommodation, they need certain provision – bedding, utensils, a TV – which BWS is able to provide from a restricted fund. On other occasions, the GCW was able to fund the move-on items from other charities.

What preparations took place for the new shelter season which began in January 2025?

MHCLG recognising the benefits of moving away from the rotating dormitory style operation to permanent single roomed accommodation, offered a three-year grant in a programme called *Night Shelter Transformation Fund*. 2025 saw BWS move into the third and final year of its Revenue Grant which enable us to conclude that three-year plan. However, without Capital and/or a benefactor to supply premises at a peppercorn rent, BWS continued to work on the basis of B&B accommodation. We looked (and are still looking) into Hope into Action, pods, utilising an empty local property and hotel/B&B accommodation. As previously, all options slowly ground to a halt apart from the use of hotel/B&B accommodation. The MHCLG grant provided BWS with sufficient funding to provide hotel/B&B accommodation for up to ten guests at a time, to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker for another year and assist in finding long-term accommodation for homeless men and women.

Regular meetings were scheduled for the season between BWS and London Borough of Bexley (LBB) to discuss referrals, guests, and process. Thames Reach, Housing Justice (HJ) and MHCLG were also involved. These allowed us to address concerns and flag situations early.

The week leading up to the 3rd January was used to secure self-contained rooms for guests at B&Bs in Bexleyheath, refining the referral process with Thames Reach and LBB, and producing and finalising the Referral Pack and New Guest Assessment Packs for BWS. Everything was finished and confirmed by the end of December 2024.

Community Involvement

We again adopted the model of accommodation in a B&B/Hotel with the provision of an evening meal in the premises of three local churches and one community building. The purpose being community, acceptance and friendship, as well as providing a designated venue for the GCW to work with our guests. We aimed to provide evening meals each night of the week and approached our volunteer base and the local churches. In the end we had four venues, all in Bexleyheath: Trinity Baptist Church, St John Vianney, The Salvation Army and the Boys Brigade Hall. This meant that we could provide meals on every evening of the week, although that didn't mean our guests availed themselves of this. There is no compulsion to attend the meals. The guests are, of course, free agents and as such are allowed to choose to *do their own thing*, which many did, so only a limited number of guests attended the meals at any one time.

The multi-church involvement in regards to many of (but not all) the volunteers, venues & Trustees witnessed to the truly ecumenical and community character of Bexley Winter Shelter.

Data on the number of churches involved was not, unfortunately, collected this year (2024, 14), although not every volunteer identifies their church or attends a church, but the number of volunteers was 91 (2024, 64), an increase of 42%. The total number of volunteering time was 2,730 (2024, 2,250) hours. Others also supported us in one way or another, e.g. fundraising, praying for BWS, the guests and associated bodies throughout the season. In addition, Bexley Foodbank provided items like baked beans and soup for our evening meals.

A Thank You event was held in June at St John Vianney church, Bexleyheath where some 25 (2024, 28) people enjoyed the Chair's Report, a short church service followed by afternoon tea. The attendees included BWS Trustees, volunteers and our GCW.

Governance Structure

Trustees

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of Bexley Winter Shelter, ensuring the activities are in line with the Objectives of the Charity outlined above. Decisions taken by the Trustees throughout the year have taken into account the Charity Commission's Public Benefit guidance.

It is the duty of each Trustee to exercise their powers and to perform their functions as a Trustee in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Charity.

Eligibility for Trusteeship

- A Trustee must be a natural person.
- A Trustee must be at least 16 years old.
- They must be properly appointed following the procedures and any restrictions in our governing document, with due regards to re-election.
- They must not act as a Trustee if they are disqualified, unless authorised to do so by a waiver from the Commission. The reasons for disqualification are shown in the disqualifying reasons table and include:
 - being bankrupt (undischarged) or having an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA)

- having an unspent conviction for certain offences (including any that involve dishonesty or deception)
- being on the sex offenders' register

Appointment of Trustees

There should be not less than three nor more than 12 elected Trustees.

Some of the Trustees named within this Report were appointed without an election, the founding members, with newer members being voted in by the serving Trustees. A number of them were sourced from previous volunteers or individuals connected with the Shelter during previous shelter seasons. New Trustees were individuals who expressed an interest in ensuring the work of the Shelter continued and were interviewed by the Chair of the Trustees &/or other Trustees prior to appointment. They were all supplied with the documents recommended by The Charities Commission.

Further details on the appointment of Trustees, their responsibilities and the structure of the Charity can be found in the Constitution of Bexley Winter Shelter.

Signed off by

Catherine Sid
Interim Chair
25/2/26

Bexley Winter Shelter

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 June 2024 to 31 May 2025

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
D01 - Personal Donations	£1,467.48	0.00	0.00	£1,467.48	£22,747.60
D02 - Corporate Donations	£2,158.30	0.00	0.00	£2,158.30	£570.89
D04 - Church Donations	£480.64	0.00	0.00	£480.64	£1,750.00
D05 - Donations From Other Charities	£370.00	0.00	0.00	£370.00	£2,455.03
D07 - Anonymous Donations	£2,620.10	0.00	0.00	£2,620.10	£811.47
D08 - Personal Donations - Gift Aided	£1,225.79	0.00	0.00	£1,225.79	£613.68
D10 - Church Donations - Gift Aided	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations and legacies Totals	£8,322.31	0.00	0.00	£8,322.31	£28,948.67
Income from charitable activities					
Income from charitable activities Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other trading activities					
Other trading activities Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investments					
D09 - Bank Interest	£2,234.31	0.00	0.00	£2,234.31	£1,761.34
Investments Totals	£2,234.31	0.00	0.00	£2,234.31	£1,761.34
Other income					
D03 - Grants	0.00	0.00	£78,178.00	£78,178.00	£63,784.00
D06 - HMRC Gift Aid Reclaim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£2,119.27
Other income Totals	0.00	0.00	£78,178.00	£78,178.00	£65,903.27
Income and endowments Grand totals	£10,556.62	0.00	£78,178.00	£88,734.62	£96,613.28

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

Raising funds Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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Expenditure on charitable activities

E01 - Food For Guests	0.00	0.00	£3,055.83	£3,055.83	£4,065.40
E02 - Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	£5,601.00	0.00	£48,434.20	£54,035.20	£53,991.90
E03 - Guest Case Worker	£1,620.89	0.00	£16,179.12	£17,800.01	£12,389.11
E04 - Move On Assistance	0.00	0.00	£2,187.05	£2,187.05	£1,546.04
E07 - Catering Equipment	0.00	0.00	£138.46	£138.46	£57.54
E09 - Bedding	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E14 - Administration	£365.00	0.00	0.00	£365.00	£217.50
E16 - Guest Referrals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
E17 - Guest Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£252.00
E18 - Toiletries	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E19 - Utilities Contribution	0.00	0.00	£12,363.86	£12,363.86	£4,817.26
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	£7,586.89	0.00	£82,358.52	£89,945.41	£77,336.75
Other expenditure					
E05 - Insurance	0.00	0.00	£720.42	£720.42	£680.73
E06 - Training	£166.75	0.00	£254.70	£421.45	£109.46
E08 - Other Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E10 - Fees & Subscriptions	£671.00	0.00	0.00	£671.00	£816.00
E11 - Cleaning	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E12 - Website, Email & Phone	£754.25	0.00	0.00	£754.25	£1,403.66
E13 - Gratuity	£320.49	0.00	0.00	£320.49	£371.99
E15 - Stationery & Printing	0.00	0.00	£91.21	£91.21	£123.97
Other expenditure Totals	£1,912.49	0.00	£1,066.33	£2,978.82	£3,505.81
Expenditure Grand totals	£9,499.38	0.00	£83,424.85	£92,924.23	£80,842.56

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1184243

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

On accounts for the
year ended

31/05/2024

Charity
no (if
any)

1184243

Set out on pages

8 - 9

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/05/2024

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's
statement**

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

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

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

Signed:

Date: 27/03/25

Name:

KATHLEEN KENNEDY

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

CIPFA

Address:

7 OAKLANDS CLOSE

BEXLEYHEATH

DA6 7AP

Section B

Disclosure

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



BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MAY 2024

Charity Details

Bexley Winter Shelter
c/o New Community Church S E London
24 Station Road
Sidcup, Kent
DA15 7DU

Charity number: 1184243

Trustees

Charles Edward January (Chair)
Alexa Moody
Rev Eucharia Ifeoma Asiegbu
Catherine Bird
Michael Fredrick Pethick
Melvyn Alfred French
Rev Melanie Jemmett
Rev Edward Rhys Barlow
Sean Anthony Knights (Treasurer)
Ursula Jean Ayliffe
Rev James Richard Charles – resigned 01/06/2023

Activities and objectives

The Bexley Winter Shelter (BWS) is a project run by Bexley churches to help those experiencing homelessness with a connection to the London Borough of Bexley (and sometimes beyond). Set up to provide support during the coldest and most difficult time, the shelter normally runs from January to March each year. Although BWS, at times, works closely with its Rough Sleeping Co-ordinator we are not affiliated with nor funded by the London Borough of Bexley

In an almost repeat of previous seasons, our guests were accommodated in self-contained rooms at two establishments in Bexleyheath, Kent. This was funded by *Year 2* of the *Night Shelter Transformation Fund, Revenue Grant* from the *Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)* as well as donations from individuals and other charities. We again continued our provision of an evening meal set in a communal eating context. At a different venue each night, we were able to provide a meal in an environment where the guest could socialise, be welcomed by our volunteers and meet with our Guest Case Worker.

BWS is not an open shelter; people cannot simply turn up and expect to be provided with accommodation and help. With the continued help of the DLUHC grant, we were still able to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker (GCW) who provided the assessment, support, move-on and after care support that previous guests had experienced. Following the departure of our GCW in January 2023 we were able to recruit a replacement. The new GCW started work on 1st June 2023 and proved very effective throughout the year.

As usual, the view going into the season was to provide a holistic, loving approach to our guests to enable them to be empowered and experience God's presence and love. God's presence was strong and visible through His work this season. While there were many challenges this time, BWS saw growth and has laid strong foundations for continued development going forward.

Community Code

All guests at the shelter are required to sign-up to our Community Code, which outlines a joint standard of behaviour. Alcohol, drugs and weapons are not permitted on any of the premises and guests may be refused accommodation/entry if they are drunk and unable to sober up or if they are under the influence of drugs. Repeated violations of the Community Code and these conditions resulted in the removal of the invitation to zero (2023, 3) guests.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2024 shelter season

How many people used the night shelter?

The move to providing our guests with self-contained hotel accommodation, together with capacity issues, restricted the maximum number of guests we could help at any one time to ten.

- During the 2024 shelter season 22 guests (2023, 20) used the shelter.
- 13 (2023, 12) guests were male, 9 (2023, 7) female and zero non-binary (2023, 1).
- We had an average of 5 (2023, 9) guests per week.
- 16 (2023, 17) held UK citizenship, 2 were from the European Economic Area (2023, 2) and 4 (2023, 1) were from the rest of the world.
- 10 (2023, 10) were under 35 and 12 (2023, 10) were over 35 years old.
- 10 guests stayed with us for more than 29 nights (2023, 10) and we are no longer supporting any guests with accommodation (2023, 1).
- All guests had a connection with the London Borough of Bexley.
- 5 (2023, 7) appear to have become homeless as a result of family or friends no longer being able to provide accommodation. Zero (2023, 7) came to us because of domestic violence and the rest due to various other reasons.
- Zero (2023,4) had known drug dependency, 1 (2023, 3) known alcohol dependency, 3 (2023 n/a) had identifiable learning disabilities and 3 (2023, n/a) had mental health issue.
- The referral route was 7 guests self-referred, 5 were from Thames Reach, 2 were from the police, 2 were from LB of Bexley and the rest from other services.
- 6 guests were in employment with 16 not in employment.
- 20 guests had a history of rough sleeping with 2 having none.

This information was supplied voluntarily by our guests to our GCW or obtained from CHAIN. Unfortunately, BWS is unable to help everyone who comes to us. We can provide help to those who are experiencing homelessness and who have low-medium needs. We may be unable to help for various reasons: for example, poor mental health, drug dependence, or even, unfortunately, just having a pet!

What services did the shelter offer the guests during their stay?

The shelter was open from 1st January 2024 to 10th April 2024. We did, however, provide accommodation for 4 guests prior to 1st January and 2 guests were accommodated into May. Any stay beyond the end of March (our official closing date) was agreed on an individual basis, with the primary

factors being engagement and how close the guest was to finding permanent accommodation. Each guest was accommodated during their stay with us in a self-contained room in B&Bs in Bexleyheath.

New socks and underwear were provided as well as a range of new or second-hand clothes, along with toiletries. Access to the Citizens Advice was arranged as well as medical professionals.

How the shelter helped people move into more permanent accommodation

Guests were signposted by our GCW, The Rough Sleeper Co-ordinator from Bexley and Thames Reach and supported to complete applications for more permanent accommodation. As a result of these interactions:

- 12 (2023, 9) guests are now in positive and stable accommodation,
- 8 (2023, 2) guest are in a positive but unstable accommodation,
- 2 (2023, 5) are in unstable accommodation and,
- Unlike last year (2023, 4) we knew the outcome for all our guests.
- Our 'success' rate was 91% (2023, 55%).

On occasion, when a guest moves into accommodation, they need certain provision – bedding, utensils, a TV – which BWS is able to provide from a restricted fund. On other occasions, the GCW was able to fund the move-on items from other charities.

What preparations took place for the new shelter season which began in January 2024?

DLUHC (now MHCLG), recognising the benefits of moving away from the rotating dormitory style operation to permanent single roomed accommodation, offered a three-year grant in a programme called *Night Shelter Transformation Fund*. 2024 saw BWS move into the second year of its Revenue Grant which continued to enable us to make some plans for three years. However, without Capital and/or a benefactor to supply premises at a peppercorn rent, BWS continues to work on the basis of B&B accommodation. We looked (and are still looking) into Hope into Action, pods, utilising an empty local property and hotel/B&B accommodation. As previously, all options slowly ground to a halt apart from the use of hotel/B&B accommodation. The DLUHC grant provided BWS with sufficient funding to provide hotel/B&B accommodation for up to ten guests at a time, to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker for another year, provide move-on help and assist in finding long-term accommodation for homeless men and women.

Following the departure of our Guest Case Worker in January 2023 we were able to appoint a replacement on 1st June 2023. Regular meetings were scheduled for the season between BWS and London Borough of Bexley (LBB) to discuss referrals, guests, and process. Thames Reach, Housing Justice (HJ) and DLUHC were also involved. These allowed us to address concerns and flag situations early.

The week leading up to the 1st January was used to secure self-contained rooms for guests at B&Bs in Bexleyheath, refining the referral process with Thames Reach and LBB, and producing and finalising the Referral Pack and New Guest Assessment Packs for BWS. Everything was finished and confirmed by the end of December 2023.

Community Involvement

We again adopted the model of accommodation in a B&B/Hotel with the provision of an evening meal in three local church premises. The purpose being community and friendship. We aimed to provide evening meals each night of the week and approached our volunteer base and the local churches. In the end we had three venues, all in Bexleyheath: Trinity Baptist Church, St John Vianney and The

Salvation Army. This meant that we could provide meals on every evening of the week, although that didn't mean our guests availed themselves of this. There is no compulsion to attend the meals. The guests are, of course, free agents and as such are allowed to choose to *do their own thing*, which many did, so only a limited number of guests attended the meals at any one time.

The multi-church involvement in regards to many of (but not all) the volunteers, venues & Trustees witnessed to the truly ecumenical and community character of Bexley Winter Shelter.

The number of churches involved was around 14 (2023, 30), although not every volunteer identifies their church or attends a church, whilst the number of volunteers was 64 (2023, 60). The total number of volunteering time was 2,250 hours. Others also supported us in one way or another, e.g. fundraising, praying for BWS, the guests and associated bodies throughout the season. In addition, the Al Ihsaan Community again provided 'goody bags' of personal items for our guests and Bexley Foodbank provided items like baked beans and soup for our evening meals.

A Thank You event was held in June at Trinity Baptist Church Bexleyheath where some 30 (2023, 28) people enjoyed the Chair's Report, a short church service followed by afternoon tea. The attendees included BWS Trustees, volunteers, our GCW and a representative from Housing Justice.

Governance Structure

Trustees

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of Bexley Winter Shelter, ensuring the activities are in line with the Objectives of the Charity outlined above. Decisions taken by the Trustees throughout the year have taken into account the Charity Commission's Public Benefit guidance.

It is the duty of each Trustee to exercise their powers and to perform their functions as a Trustee in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Charity.

Eligibility for Trusteeship

- A Trustee must be a natural person.
- A Trustee must be at least 16 years old.
- They must be properly appointed following the procedures and any restrictions in our governing document, with due regards to re-election.
- They must not act as a Trustee if they are disqualified, unless authorised to do so by a waiver from the Commission. The reasons for disqualification are shown in the disqualifying reasons table and include:
 - being bankrupt (undischarged) or having an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA)
 - having an unspent conviction for certain offences (including any that involve dishonesty or deception)
 - being on the sex offenders' register

Appointment of Trustees

There should be not less than three nor more than 12 elected Trustees.

Some of the Trustees named within this Report were appointed without an election, the founding members, with newer members being voted in by the serving Trustees. A number of them were sourced from previous volunteers or individuals connected with the Shelter during previous shelter seasons. New Trustees were individuals who expressed an interest in ensuring the work of the Shelter continued and were interviewed by the Chair of the Trustees &/or other Trustees prior to appointment. They were all supplied with the documents recommended by The Charities Commission.

Further details on the appointment of Trustees, their responsibilities and the structure of the Charity can be found in the Constitution of Bexley Winter Shelter.

Signed off by

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Charles Edward January, Chair of Trustees, 23/03/2025

Bexley Winter Shelter

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 June 2023 to 31 May 2024

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
D01 - Personal Donations	£2,747.60	0.00	£20,000.00	£22,747.60	£42,310.00
D02 - Corporate Donations	£570.89	0.00	0.00	£570.89	£508.92
D04 - Church Donations	£1,750.00	0.00	0.00	£1,750.00	£100.00
D05 - Donations From Other Charities	£2,455.03	0.00	0.00	£2,455.03	£350.00
D07 - Anonymous Donations	£811.47	0.00	0.00	£811.47	£1,298.66
D08 - Personal Donations - Gift Aided	£613.68	0.00	0.00	£613.68	£540.00
D10 - Church Donations - Gift Aided	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations and legacies Totals	£8,948.67	0.00	£20,000.00	£28,948.67	£45,107.58
Income from charitable activities					
Income from charitable activities Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other trading activities					
Other trading activities Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investments					
D09 - Bank Interest	£1,761.34	0.00	0.00	£1,761.34	£182.00
Investments Totals	£1,761.34	0.00	0.00	£1,761.34	£182.00
Other income					
D03 - Grants	0.00	0.00	£63,784.00	£63,784.00	£73,100.00
D06 - HMRC Gift Aid Reclaim	£2,119.27	0.00	0.00	£2,119.27	0.00
Other income Totals	£2,119.27	0.00	£63,784.00	£65,903.27	£73,100.00
Income and endowments Grand totals	£12,829.28	0.00	£83,784.00	£96,613.28	£118,389.58

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

Raising funds Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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Expenditure on charitable activities

E01 - Food For Guests	0.00	0.00	£4,065.40	£4,065.40	£2,530.73
E02 - Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	0.00	0.00	£53,991.90	£53,991.90	£42,836.70
E03 - Guest Case Worker	0.00	0.00	£12,389.11	£12,389.11	£7,731.42
E04 - Move On Assistance	0.00	0.00	£1,546.04	£1,546.04	£1,783.84
E07 - Catering Equipment	£44.89	0.00	£12.65	£57.54	£309.99
E09 - Bedding	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E14 - Administration	£217.50	0.00	0.00	£217.50	£221.15
E16 - Guest Referrals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
E17 - Guest Travel	0.00	0.00	£252.00	£252.00	£129.00
E18 - Toiletries	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E19 - Utilities Contribution	0.00	0.00	£4,817.26	£4,817.26	£2,729.97
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	£262.39	0.00	£77,074.36	£77,336.75	£58,272.80
Other expenditure					
E05 - Insurance	0.00	0.00	£680.73	£680.73	£636.55
E06 - Training	0.00	0.00	£109.46	£109.46	£288.00
E08 - Other Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E10 - Fees & Subscriptions	£813.00	0.00	£3.00	£816.00	£810.00
E11 - Cleaning	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E12 - Website, Email & Phone	£716.16	0.00	£687.50	£1,403.66	£2,639.11
E13 - Gratuity	£216.99	0.00	£155.00	£371.99	£168.66
E15 - Stationery & Printing	£78.01	0.00	£45.96	£123.97	£233.01
Other expenditure Totals	£1,824.16	0.00	£1,681.65	£3,505.81	£4,775.33
Expenditure Grand totals	£2,086.55	0.00	£78,756.01	£80,842.56	£63,048.13

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1184243

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/05/2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1184243

Set out on pages

6 - 7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/05/2023

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

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

Signed:

Kathleen Kennedy

Date:

25/03/2024

Name:

KATHLEEN KENNEDY

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

CIPFA

Address: 7 OAKLANDS CLOSE

BEXLEYHEATH

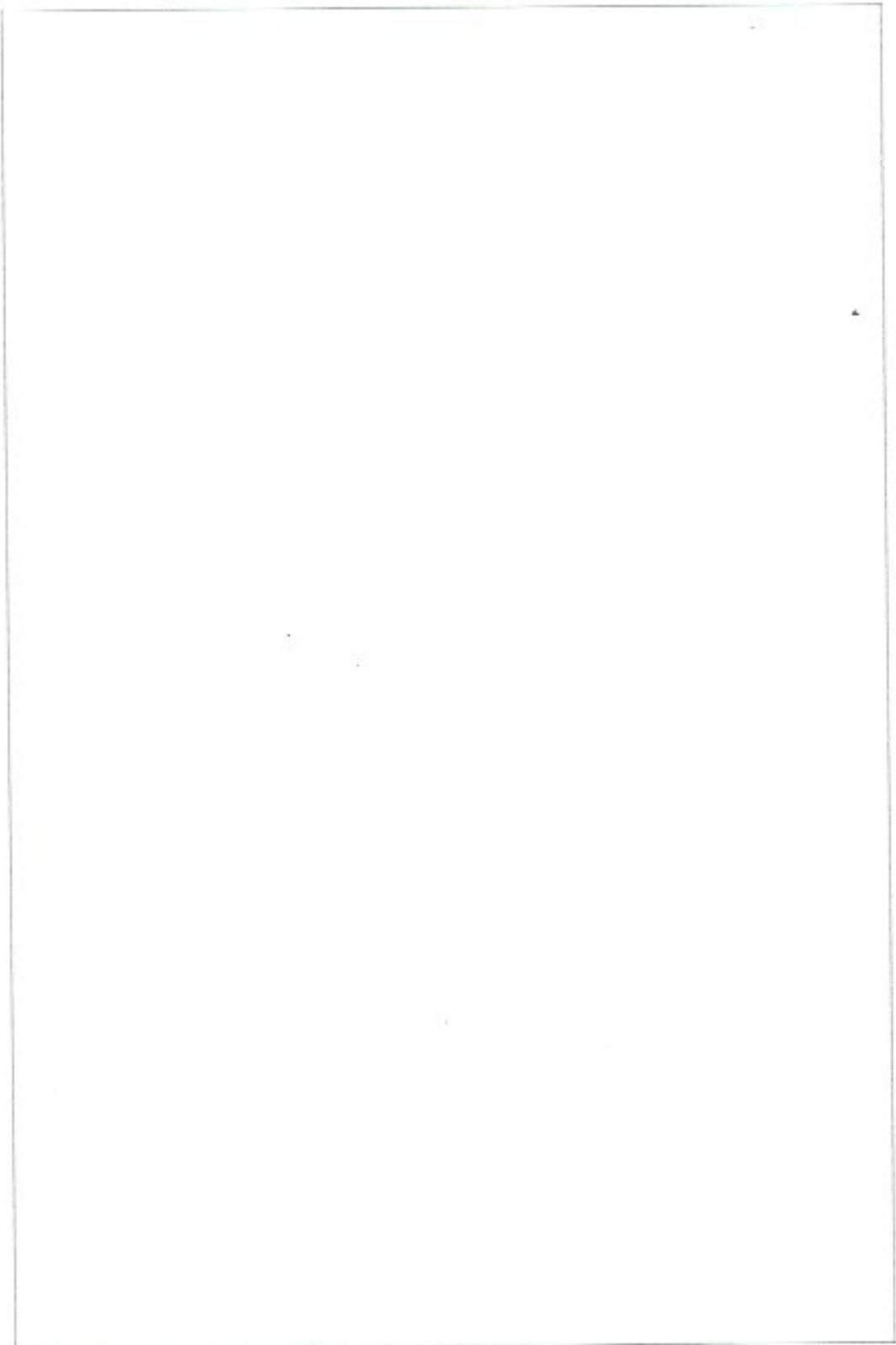
DA6 7AP

Section B

Disclosure

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

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





BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MAY 2023

Charity Details

Bexley Winter Shelter
c/o New Community Church S E London
24 Station Road
Sidcup, Kent
DA15 7DU

Charity number: 1184243

Trustees

Charles Edward January (Chair)
Alexa Moody – appointed 08/11/2022
Rev Eucharika Ifeoma Asiegbu – appointed 01/11/2022
Catherine Bird – appointed 31/10/2022
Michael Fredrick Pethick – appointed 29/10/2022
Melvyn Alfred French – appointed 24/10/2022
Rev Melanie Jemmett
Rev Edward Rhys Barlow
Sean Anthony Knights (Treasurer)
Ursula Jean Ayliffe
Rev James Richard Charles – resigned 01/06/2023

Activities and objectives

The Bexley Winter Shelter (BWS) is a project run by Bexley churches to help those experiencing homelessness with a connection to the London Borough of Bexley (and sometimes beyond). Set up to provide support during the coldest and most difficult time, the shelter normally runs from January to March each year. Although BWS, at times, works closely with its Rough Sleeping Co-ordinator we are not affiliated with nor funded by the London Borough of Bexley

In an almost repeat of previous seasons, our guests were accommodated in self-contained rooms at two establishments in Bexleyheath, Kent. This was funded by *Year 1* of the *Night Shelter Transformation Fund, Revenue Grant* from the *Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)* as well as donations from individuals and other charities. We again continued our provision of an evening meal set in a communal eating context. At a different venue each night, we were able to provide a meal in an environment where the guest could socialise, be welcomed by our volunteers and meet with our Guest Case Worker.

BWS is not an open shelter; people cannot simply turn up and expect to be provided with accommodation and help. With the help of the new grant, we were still able to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker (GCW) who provided the assessment, support, move-on and after care support that our guests had experienced previously. However, our GCW left us in January 2023 and we were unable to recruit a replacement. This placed a strain upon our resources, especially some of our Trustees who stepped-up to fill the void that was left.

As usual, the view going into the season was to provide a holistic, loving approach to our guests to enable them to be empowered and experience God's presence and love. God's presence was strong and visible through His work this season. While there were many challenges this time, BWS saw growth and has laid strong foundations for continued development going forward.

Community Code

All guests at the shelter are required to sign-up to our Community Code, which outlines a joint standard of behaviour. Alcohol, drugs and weapons are not permitted on any of the premises and guests may be refused entry if they arrive drunk and unable to sober up or if they are under the influence of drugs. Repeated violations of the Community Code and these conditions resulted in the removal of the invitation to three guests.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2023 shelter season

How many people used the night shelter?

The move to providing our guests with self-contained accommodation, together with capacity issues, restricted the number of guests we could help at any one time to ten.

- During the 2023 shelter season 20 guests (2022, 17) used the shelter.
- 12 (2022, 13) guests were male and 7 (2022, 4) female and 1 non-binary (2022, zero).
- We had an average of 9 (2022, 8) guests per week.
- 17 (2022, 15) held UK citizenship, 2 were from the European Economic Area (2022, zero) and 1 (2022, 2) was from the rest of the world.
- 10 (2022, 9) were under 35 and 10 (2022, 8) were over 35 years old.
- Half the guests stayed with us for more than 29 nights and 1 we are still supporting.
- All guests had a connection with the Borough.
- 7 appear to have become homeless as a result of family or friends no longer being able to provide accommodation. 7 came to us because of domestic violence and the rest due to various other reasons.
- 4 had known drug dependency and 3 known alcohol dependency.

This information was supplied voluntarily by our guests to our GCW (and those who stepped-up when the position became vacant). Unfortunately, BWS is unable to help everyone who comes to us. We can provide help to those who are experiencing homelessness and who have low-medium needs. We may be unable to help for various reasons: for example, poor mental health, drug dependence, or even, unfortunately, just having a pet!

What services did the shelter offer the guests during their stay?

The shelter was open from 3rd January 2023 to 30th April 2023, with some guests accommodated into May. Any stay beyond the end of March (our official closing date) was agreed on an individual basis, with the primary factors being engagement and how close the guest was to finding permanent accommodation. Each guest was accommodated during their stay with us in a self-contained room in a B&Bs in Bexleyheath.

New socks and underwear were provided as well as a range of new or second-hand clothes, along with toiletries. Access to the Citizens Advice was arranged as well as medical professionals. No cases of COVID-19 were reported amongst the guests.

How the shelter helped people move into more permanent accommodation

Guests were signposted by our GCW (and others) and supported to complete applications for more permanent accommodation. Thames Reach, who were working with the local Council, the London Borough of Bexley, were invited and regularly attended the shelter or were in contact with us. As a result of these interactions:

- 9 (2022, 8) guests are now in positive and stable accommodation,
- 2 (2022, 1) guest is in a positive but unstable accommodation,
- 5 (2022, 1) is in unstable accommodation and,
- Unfortunately, for various reasons, we do not know where 4 (2022, 7) currently are.
- Our 'success' rate was 55% (2022, 59%).

What preparations took place for the new shelter season which began in January 2023?

Although the Covid regulations were now eased, it was still considered unwise to return to the rotating dormitory style operation (where guests slept in a different church hall each evening). DLUHC, recognising the benefits of moving away from the rotating dormitory style operation to permanent single roomed accommodation, offered a three-year grant in a programme called *Night Shelter Transformation Fund*. BWS was successful in obtaining a Revenue Grant (but not any Capital money) which has enabled us to make some plans for three years. However, without Capital and/or a benefactor to supply premises at a peppercorn rent, BWS continues to work on the basis of B&B accommodation. We looked (and are still looking) into Hope into Action, pods, utilising an empty local property and hotel/B&B accommodation. As previously, all options slowly ground to a halt apart from the use of hotel/B&B accommodation. The DLUHC grant provided BWS with sufficient funding to provide hotel/B&B accommodation for up to ten guests at a time, to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker for another year, operate in a COVID-19 secure way, provide move-on help and assist in finding long-term accommodation for homeless men and women.

Unfortunately, our Guest Case Worker left in January 2023 and we were unable to recruit for the rest of the 2023 season -eventually appointing a replacement on 1st June 2023. Regular meetings were scheduled for the season between BWS and London Borough of Bexley (LBB) to discuss referrals, guests, and process. Thames Reach, Housing Justice (HJ) and DLUHC were also involved. These allowed us to address concerns and flag situations early. These meetings continued until the end of April 2023.

The week leading up to the 3rd January was used to secure self-contained rooms for guests at B&Bs in Bexleyheath, refining the referral process with Thames Reach and LBB, and producing and finalising the Referral Pack and New Guest Assessment Packs for BWS. Everything was finished and confirmed the evening of 2nd January for the 3rd January launch.

Community Involvement

During the period of Covid regulations, community involvement was very limited. With the removal of such regulations BWS considered again the provision of an evening meal. The purpose being community and friendship. We aimed to provide evening meals each night of the week and approached our volunteer base and the local churches. In the end we had three venues, all in Bexleyheath: for Tuesday night, Trinity Baptist Church offered their premises and on Friday St John Vianney allowed our guests to eat Fish & Chips in their hall. For the rest of the week, we were blessed by The Salvation Army. This meant that we could provide meals on every evening of the week,

although that didn't mean our guests availed themselves of this. There is no compulsion to attend the meals. The guests are, of course, free agents and as such are allowed to choose to *do their own thing*, which many did, especially at the weekends. It became obvious that the *weekend* meals did not fit with their lifestyle so these were stopped at the beginning of February. This lack of engagement was a real disappointment to us all – perhaps due in part to the absence of a Guest Case Worker for most of the run -but it does vary and, at times, is something we have to accept and learn to live with.

The multi-church involvement in regards to many of (but not all) the volunteers, venues & Trustees witnessed to the truly ecumenical and community character of Bexley Winter Shelter.

The number of churches involved was around 30 (2022, 33) whilst the number of volunteers was 60 (2022, 81) with others supporting us in one way or other, e.g. fundraising, praying for BWS, the guests and associated bodies throughout the season. In addition, the Al Ihsaan Community again provided 'goody bags' of personal items for our guests, Bexley Grammar School provided reconditioned laptops and Bexley Foodbank provided items like baked beans and soup for our evening meals.

A Thank You event was held in June at The Salvation Army, Bexleyheath where some 28 (2022, 20) people enjoyed a short church service followed by afternoon tea. The attendees included BWS Trustees, volunteers, the GCW as well as representatives from the B&B.

Governance Structure

Trustees

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of Bexley Winter Shelter, ensuring the activities are in line with the Objectives of the Charity outlined above. Decisions taken by the Trustees throughout the year have taken into account the Charity Commission's Public Benefit guidance.

It is the duty of each Trustee to exercise their powers and to perform their functions as a Trustee in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Charity.

Eligibility for Trusteeship

- A Trustee must be a natural person.
- A Trustee must be at least 16 years old.
- They must be properly appointed following the procedures and any restrictions in our governing document, with due regards to re-election.
- They must not act as a Trustee if they are disqualified, unless authorised to do so by a waiver from the Commission. The reasons for disqualification are shown in the disqualifying reasons table and include:
 - being bankrupt (undischarged) or having an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA)
 - having an unspent conviction for certain offences (including any that involve dishonesty or deception)
 - being on the sex offenders' register

Appointment of Trustees

There should be not less than three nor more than 12 elected Trustees.

The Trustees named within this Report were appointed without an election but with the support of all the then serving Trustees. A number of them were sourced from previous volunteers or individuals connected with the Shelter during previous shelter seasons. Further Trustees were sourced from individuals who expressed an interest in ensuring the work of the Shelter continued and were interviewed by the Chair of the Trustees prior to appointment. They were all supplied with the documents recommended by The Charities Commission.

Further details on the appointment of Trustees, their responsibilities and the structure of the Charity can be found in the Constitution of Bexley Winter Shelter.

Signed off by

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Charles Edward January, Chair of Trustees, 23/03/2024

Bexley Winter Shelter

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 June 2022 to 31 May 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
D01 - Personal Donations	£2,310.00	-	£40,000.00	£42,310.00	£500.00
D02 - Corporate Donations	£508.92	-	-	£508.92	£309.70
D04 - Church Donations	£100.00	-	-	£100.00	£883.83
D05 - Donations From Other Charities	£350.00	-	-	£350.00	£5,668.40
D07 - Anonymous Donations	£1,298.66	-	-	£1,298.66	£2,376.58
D08 - Personal Donations - Gift Aided	£540.00	-	-	£540.00	£550.00
D10 - Church Donations - Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-
Donations and legacies Totals	£5,107.58	-	£40,000.00	£45,107.58	£10,288.51
Income from charitable activities					
Income from charitable activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities					
Other trading activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-
Investments					
D09 - Bank Interest	£182.00	-	-	£182.00	£2.40
Investments Totals	£182.00	-	-	£182.00	£2.40
Other income					
D03 - Grants	-	-	£73,100.00	£73,100.00	£62,200.00
D06 - HMRC Gift Aid Reclaim	-	-	-	-	-
Other income Totals	-	-	£73,100.00	£73,100.00	£62,200.00
Income and endowments Grand totals	£5,289.58	-	£113,100.00	£118,389.58	£72,490.91

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

Raising funds Totals

Expenditure on charitable activities

E01 - Food For Guests	-	-	£2,530.73	£2,530.73	£2,586.47
E02 - Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	-	-	£42,836.70	£42,836.70	£37,039.00
E03 - Guest Case Worker	£13.70	-	£7,717.72	£7,731.42	£12,055.81
E04 - Move On Assistance	-	-	£1,783.84	£1,783.84	£3,648.29
E07 - Catering Equipment	£279.00	-	£30.99	£309.99	£13.98
E09 - Bedding	-	-	-	-	-
E14 - Administration	£221.15	-	-	£221.15	£215.00
E16 - Guest Referrals	-	-	-	-	-

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
E17 - Guest Travel	-	-	£129.00	£129.00	£105.50
E18 - Toiletries	-	-	-	-	-
E19 - Utilities Contribution	-	-	£2,729.97	£2,729.97	£2,422.28
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	£513.85	-	£57,758.95	£58,272.80	£58,086.33
Other expenditure					
E05 - Insurance	-	-	£636.55	£636.55	£580.12
E06 - Training	-	-	£288.00	£288.00	-
E08 - Other Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
E10 - Fees & Subscriptions	£665.00	-	£145.00	£810.00	£867.00
E11 - Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-
E12 - Website, Email & Phone	£402.41	-	£2,236.70	£2,639.11	£360.12
E13 - Gratuity	£168.66	-	-	£168.66	£184.40
E15 - Stationery & Printing	£4.00	-	£229.01	£233.01	£96.99
Other expenditure Totals	£1,240.07	-	£3,535.26	£4,775.33	£2,088.63
Expenditure Grand totals	£1,753.92	-	£61,294.21	£63,048.13	£60,174.96

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1184243

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of** BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

On accounts for the year ended	31ST MAY 2022	Charity no (if any)	1184243
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Set out on pages 5 - 6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/5/2022

**Responsibilities and
basis of report** As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

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

Signed:  **Date:** 27/3/2023

Name: KATHLEEN KENNEDY

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

Address: 7 OAKLANDS CLOSE

BEXLEYHEATH

KENT DA6 7AP

Section B

Disclosure

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

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BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MAY 2022

Charity Details

Bexley Winter Shelter
c/o New Community Church S E London
24 Station Road
Sidcup, Kent
DA15 7DU

Charity number: 1184243

Trustees

Charles Edward January (Chair)
Sean Anthony Knights (Treasurer)
Ursula Jean Ayliffe
Rev James Richard Charles
Rev Edward Rhys Barlow
Rev Melanie Jemmett

Activities and objectives

The Bexley Winter Shelter (BWS) is a project run by Bexley churches to help those experiencing homelessness with a connection to the London Borough of Bexley (and sometimes beyond). Set up to provide support during the coldest and most difficult time of the year, the shelter normally runs from January to March each year.

In an almost repeat of the 2021 season, with a further grant from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), the Homeless Winter Transformation Fund 2021-2022, our guests were accommodated in self-contained rooms at two establishments in Bexleyheath, Kent. The easing of Covid-19 regulations, however, meant that we could return back to providing communal eating. At a different venue each night, we were able to provide an evening meal where the guest could socialise, be welcomed by our volunteers and meet with our Guest Case Worker.

BWS is not an open shelter, people cannot simply turn-up and expect to be provided with accommodation and help. With the help of the new grant, we were still able to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker (GCW). They provided the assessment, support, move-on and after care support that our guests had experienced previously.

As usual, the view going into the season was to provide a holistic, loving approach to our guests to enable them to be empowered and experience God's presence and love. God's presence was strong and visible through His work this season. While there were many challenges this time, BWS saw growth and has laid strong foundations for continued development going forward.

Community Code

All guests at the shelter are required to sign-up to our Community Code, which outlines a joint standard of behaviour. Alcohol, drugs and weapons are not permitted on any of the premises and guests may be refused entry if they arrive drunk and unable to sober up or if they are under the

influence of drugs. Repeated violations of the Community Code and these conditions resulted in the removal of the invitation to three guests.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2022 shelter season

How many people used the night shelter?

The move to providing our guests with self-contained accommodation, together with capacity issues, restricted the number of guests we could help at any one time to ten.

During the 2022 shelter season 17 guests used the shelter, of which 13 guests were male and four female. We had an average of eight guests per week. 13 of the guests were white and four BAME, with 15 holding UK citizenship and two from the rest of the world. Nine were under 35 and eight were over 35 years old. All guests had a connection with the Borough. The overwhelming majority appear to have become homeless as a result of the ending of the Government's 'Everybody In' initiative. Four had known drug dependency and three know alcohol dependency

This information was supplied voluntarily by our guests to our GCW, who was outstanding in ensuring potential guests fitted our criteria: two people had to be declined access to the shelter or were asked to leave due to not meeting certain criteria (which could be as simple as allowing no pets).

What services did the shelter offer the guests during their stay?

The shelter was open from 6th January 2022 to 30th April 2022. Each guest was accommodated in a self-contained room in B & Bs in Bexleyheath.

New socks and underwear were provided as well as a range of new or second-hand clothes, along with toiletries. Access to the Citizens Advice was arranged as well as medical professionals. No cases of COVID-19 were reported amongst the guests.

We were also, with the help of two grants – one from London Borough of Bexley and the other from NHS South East London CCG, administered by Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice - we were able to provide move-on assistance to guests. This took the form of white goods, etc to help guest establish themselves in new accommodation.

How the shelter helped people move into more permanent accommodation

Guests were signposted by our GCW and supported to complete applications for more permanent accommodation. Thames Reach, who were working with the local Council, London Borough of Bexley, were invited and regularly attended the shelter or were in contact with us. As a result of these interactions, eight guests are now in positive and stable accommodation, one guest is in a positive but unstable accommodation, one is in unstable accommodation and, unfortunately, for various reasons, we do not currently know where seven are now. Our success rate was 59%. On average, a guest stayed with us for 29+ nights before moving-on.

What preparations took place for the new shelter season which began in January 2023?

Although the Covid regulations were now eased, it was still considered unwise to return to the rotating dormitory style operation (where guests slept in a different church hall each evening). Further funding from MHCLG was applied for and obtained. We looked (and are still looking) into Hope into Action, pods, utilising an empty local authority property and hotel/B & B accommodation. As previously, all options slowly ground to a halt apart from the use of hotel/B & B accommodation. The MHCLG Homeless Winter Transformation Fund 2021-2022 grant provided BWS with sufficient funding to provide hotel/B & B accommodation for up to ten guests at a time, to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker for another year, operate in a COVID-19 secure way, provide move-on help and assist in finding long-term accommodation for homeless men and women.

Unfortunately, our Guest Case Worker from 2020/21 left but we were able to recruit a replacement. The new Guest Case Worker started on 1st December 2021 and the launch of 2022 Season started on 6th January 2022. Weekly Wednesday meetings were scheduled for the season between BWS and London Borough of Bexley (LBB) to discuss referrals, guests, and process. Thames Reach, Housing Justice (HJ) and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) were also involved. These allowed us to address concerns and flag situations early. These meetings continued until the end of April 2022.

The week leading up to the 6th January was used to secure Self-Contained rooms for guests at B & Bs in Bexleyheath, refining the referral process with Thames Reach and LBB, and producing and finalising the Referral Pack and New Guest Assessment Packs for BWS. Everything was finished and confirmed the evening of 5th January for the 6th January launch.

Community Involvement

During the Covid regulations, community involvement was very limited. With the removal of such regulations BWS considered again the provision of an evening meal. The purpose being community, friendship, ownership and relationship. We aimed to provide evening meals each night of the week. We approached our volunteer base and the local churches. In the end we had four venues, all in Bexleyheath, covering Monday to Friday with one on standby for Saturday. Our thanks go to Bexley Christian Life Centre, Trinity Baptist, The Boys Brigade Hall, St John Vianney and the URC Geddes Place. The provision of the evening meal was staffed purely by volunteers from churches in Bexley as well as others from the local community. This witnessed to the truly ecumenical and community character of Bexley Winter Shelter.

The number of churches involved was around 33 churches whilst the number of volunteers was 81 with a further 148 supporting us in one way or other, e.g. praying for BWS, the guests and associated bodies throughout the season. In addition, the Al Ihsaan Community again provided 'goody bags' of personal items for our guests and Bexley Foodbank provided items like baked beans and soup.

A Thank You event was held in May where some 20 people enjoyed a short church service followed by afternoon tea. The attendees included BWS Trustees, volunteers, the GCW as well as representatives from the B & B and Housing Justice.

Governance Structure

Trustees

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of Bexley Winter Shelter, ensuring the activities are in line with the Objectives of the Charity outlined above. Decisions taken by the Trustees throughout the year have taken into account the Charity Commission's Public Benefit guidance.

It is the duty of each Trustee to exercise their powers and to perform their functions as a Trustee in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Charity.

Eligibility for Trusteeship

- A Trustee must be a natural person.
- A Trustee must be at least 16 years old.
- They must be properly appointed following the procedures and any restrictions in our governing document, with due regards to re-election.
- They must not act as a Trustee if they are disqualified, unless authorised to do so by a waiver from the Commission. The reasons for disqualification are shown in the disqualifying reasons table and include:
 - being bankrupt (undischarged) or having an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA)
 - having an unspent conviction for certain offences (including any that involve dishonesty or deception)
 - being on the sex offenders' register

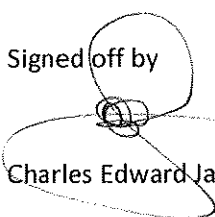
Appointment of Trustees

There should be not less than three nor more than 10 elected Trustees.

The Trustees named within this Report were appointed without an election. A number of them were sourced from previous volunteers or individuals connected with the Shelter during previous shelter seasons. Further Trustees were sourced from individuals who expressed an interest in ensuring the work of the Shelter continued and were interviewed by the Chair of the Trustees prior to appointment.

Further details on the appointment of Trustees, their responsibilities and the structure of the Charity can be found in the Constitution of Bexley Winter Shelter.

Signed off by



Charles Edward January, Chair of Trustees, 27/03/2023

Bexley Winter Shelter

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 June 2021 to 31 May 2022

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
D01 - Personal Donations	£500.00	-	-	-	£500.00	£400.00
D02 - Corporate Donations	£309.70	-	-	-	£309.70	£2,005.00
D04 - Church Donations	£883.83	-	-	-	£883.83	£846.72
D05 - Donations From Other Charities	£5,668.40	-	-	-	£5,668.40	£500.00
D07 - Anonymous Donations	£2,376.58	-	-	-	£2,376.58	£881.99
D08 - Personal Donations - Gift Aided	£550.00	-	-	-	£550.00	£100.00
D10 - Church Donations - Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donations and legacies Totals	£10,288.51	-	-	-	£10,288.51	£4,733.71
Income from charitable activities						
Income from charitable activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities						
Other trading activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments						
D09 - Bank Interest	£2.40	-	-	-	£2.40	£2.87
Investments Totals	£2.40	-	-	-	£2.40	£2.87
Other income						
D03 - Grants	-	-	£62,200.00	-	£62,200.00	£76,525.00
D06 - HMRC Gift Aid Reclaim	-	-	-	-	-	£1,069.40
Other income Totals	-	-	£62,200.00	-	£62,200.00	£77,594.40
Income and endowments Grand totals	£10,290.91	-	£62,200.00	-	£72,490.91	£82,330.98

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

Raising funds Totals

Expenditure on charitable activities

E01 - Food For Guests	-	-	£2,586.47	-	£2,586.47	£2,682.79
E02 - Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	-	-	£37,039.00	-	£37,039.00	£20,270.00
E03 - Guest Case Worker	-	-	£12,055.81	-	£12,055.81	£6,151.50
E04 - Move On Assistance	£300.00	-	£3,348.29	-	£3,648.29	£4,464.25
E07 - Catering Equipment	£13.98	-	-	-	£13.98	£324.79
E09 - Bedding	-	-	-	-	-	-
E14 - Administration	£215.00	-	-	-	£215.00	£52.25
E16 - Guest Referrals	-	-	-	-	-	-

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
E17 - Guest Travel	-	-	£105.50	-	£105.50	£10.00
E18 - Toiletries	-	-	-	-	-	-
E19 - Utilities Contribution	-	-	£2,422.28	-	£2,422.28	-
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	£528.98	-	£57,557.35	-	£58,086.33	£33,955.58
Other expenditure						
E05 - Insurance	£580.12	-	-	-	£580.12	£545.83
E06 - Training	-	-	-	-	-	£129.00
E08 - Other Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	£73.72
E10 - Fees & Subscriptions	£867.00	-	-	-	£867.00	£520.00
E11 - Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-
E12 - Website, Email & Phone	£360.12	-	-	-	£360.12	£359.51
E13 - Gratuity	£184.40	-	-	-	£184.40	£100.00
E15 - Stationery & Printing	£96.99	-	-	-	£96.99	-
Other expenditure Totals	£2,088.63	-	-	-	£2,088.63	£1,728.06
Expenditure Grand totals	£2,617.61	-	£57,557.35	-	£60,174.96	£35,683.64

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1184243

Accounts

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th MAY 2021

Charity Details

Bexley Winter Shelter
c/o New Community Church S E London
24 Station Road
Sidcup, Kent
DA15 7DU

Charity number: 1184243

Trustees

Charles Edward January (Chair)
Sean Anthony Knights (Treasurer)
Ursula Jean Ayliffe
Rev James Richard Charles (appointed 2 July 2020)
Rev Edward Rhys Barlow (appointed 2 July 2020)
Rev Melanie Jemmett (appointed 10 September 2020)

Activities and objectives

The Bexley Winter Shelter ('BWS') is a project run by Bexley churches to help homeless men with a connection to the London Borough of Bexley (and sometimes beyond). Set up to provide support during the coldest and most difficult time of the year, the shelter normally runs from January to March each year.

With the introduction of COVID-19 Health & Safety Regulations, the 2021 BWS season was always going to look different from previous years. In the past, BWS's model was based on providing safe night shelter for homeless men utilising the rotating dormitory model. At a different venue each night, an evening meal and breakfast would be provided, guests would sleep in a church hall and support was provided by a large volunteer base. COVID-19 pushed us into uncharted territory for the 2021 Season. Government guidance in the form of 'operating principles' for Winter Shelters was published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in mid-October 2020 confirming that communal sleeping spaces would be very hard to make COVID-safe and were to be strongly discouraged in favour of self-contained or single room options. To assist shelters in making this move, the MHCLG provided grants. As a result, for 2021, with the help of such a grant, our guests were accommodated in self-contained rooms at two Bed & Breakfast establishments in Bexleyheath, Kent. Evening meals were provided, either 'home' cooked (at one of three participating churches) or take-aways, which the guests had to eat in their room. A breakfast and midday provisions were also provided.

BWS is not an 'open' shelter, people cannot simply turn-up and expect to be allowed in. Unfortunately, the support base that facilitated guest assessment, support and move-on in the past was no longer available. However, with the help of the grant we were still able to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker (GCW). They provided the assessment, support, move-on and after care support that our guests had experienced previously.

Some things, however, were not touched by COVID-19. As usual, the view going into the season was to provide a holistic, loving approach to our guests to enable them to be empowered and experience God's presence and love. God's presence has been strong and visible through His work during the 2021 season. While there were many challenges, BWS saw growth and laid strong foundations for continued development going forward.

Community Code

All guests at the shelter are required to sign-up to our Community Code, which outlines a joint standard of behaviour. Alcohol, drugs and weapons are not permitted on any of the premises and guests may be refused entry if they arrive drunk and unable to sober up or if they are under the influence of drugs. Repeated violations of the Community Code and these conditions resulted in the removal of the invitation to three guests.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2021 shelter season

How many people used the night shelter?

Due to the 'operating principles' for Winter Shelters, written in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we considered it necessary to provide our guests with self-contained accommodation. This, together with capacity issues, restricted the number of guests we could help at any one time to ten.

During the 2021 shelter season 11 guests were assessed and eight guests used the shelter. Seven guests were male and one female (self-contained accommodation allowing us to be open to women for the first time). Five of the guests were white and three BAME, with all eight being British. Two were under 24, two under 35 and four over 54 years old – the average age was 42. Seven were referred to us by Thames Reach and one by CRISIS. All guests had a connection with the Borough. Two guests were working; one had been homeless for less than one week whilst one had been for more than six years. Four guests were homeless due to a breakdown in relationships with three because of eviction due to job loss.

This information was supplied voluntarily by our guests to our GCW, who was outstanding in ensuring potential guests fitted our criteria: three people had to be declined access to the shelter due to not meeting one or more criterion (which could be as simple as allowing no pets).

What services did the shelter offer the guests during their stay?

The shelter was open from 18th January 2021 to 30th April 2021. Each guest was accommodated in a self-contained room in B & Bs in Bexleyheath.

COVID-19 restrictions meant that we could not provide the usual evening meal and breakfast in a communal setting. However, three churches opened up their kitchens to allow seven teams of cooks to prepare and provide a 'take-away' evening meal for the guests. These were delivered to the B & Bs by five voluntary drivers along with a snack-box for breakfast and mid-day meal. New socks and underwear were provided as well as a range of new or second-hand clothes, along with toiletries. Access to the Citizens Advice was arranged as well as medical professionals and four guests accepted COVID-19 vaccinations. No cases of COVID-19 were reported amongst the guests.

How the shelter helped people move into more permanent accommodation

Guests were signposted by our GCW and supported to complete applications for more permanent accommodation. Thames Reach, who were working with the local Council, were invited and regularly attended the shelter or were in contact with us. During these interactions seven guests were found accommodation - a success rate of 88% (the one remaining guest refused offers of two places and is regarded as an entrenched rough sleeper). On average, a guest stayed with us for 52 nights before moving-on.

What preparations took place for the new shelter season which began in January 2021?

When COVID-19 struck, BWS was winding up its 2020 season. The few remaining guests were passed over to the *Everyone-In* initiative and found accommodation by the local authority. As the year went on and it was obvious that the Coronavirus pandemic would not disappear anytime soon, thoughts around the country turned to how to build upon the Everyone-In initiative. BWS still wanted to help the homeless in the Borough but the rotating dormitory model was clearly not COVID-19 secure and so we began to investigate alternatives. We looked (and are still looking) into Hope into Action, pods, utilising an empty local authority property and hotel/B & B accommodation. Despite a promising start in all these areas, all options slowly ground to a halt apart from the use of hotel/B & B accommodation.

In late 2020, in recognition that the night shelter sector needed financial support to help homeless in a COVID-19 secure way, the Government launched the Winter Transformation Fund, administered by Homeless Link. With the assistance of Housing Justice, BWS's bid was successful. This provided BWS with sufficient funding to provide hotel/B & B accommodation for up to ten guests at a time, to engage the services of a Guest Case Worker, operate in a COVID-19 secure way, provide move-on help and assist in finding long-term accommodation for homeless men and women.

The Guest Case Worker started on 11th January and the launch of 2021 Season started on 18th January 2021. Weekly Wednesday meetings were scheduled for the season between BWS and London Borough of Bexley (LBB) to discuss referrals, guests, and process. Thames Reach, Housing Justice (HJ) and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) were also involved. These allowed us to address concerns and flag situations early. These meetings continued until the end of April 2021.

The week leading up to 18th January was used to secure self-contained rooms for guests at B & Bs in Bexleyheath, finalising the referral process with Thames Reach and LBB, and producing and finalising the Referral Pack and New Guest Assessment Packs for BWS. Everything was finished and confirmed the evening of 17th January for the 18th January launch.

Community Involvement

Due to the radical change in our modus operandi, volunteer numbers were restricted to needs-based support rather than interaction.

Although the number of churches involved never fell (some 33 churches participated in one form or other in 2020) the number of active-on-the-ground volunteers was limited to less than 20. In addition, there were numerous people praying for BWS, the guests and associated bodies throughout the season. In addition, the Al Ihsaan Community again provided 'goody bags' of personal items for our guests and Bexley Foodbank provided items like baked beans and soup.

A Thank You event was held in July where some 22 people enjoyed a short church service followed by afternoon tea. The attendees included BWS Trustees, volunteers, the GCW as well as representatives from the B & B and Housing Justice.

Governance Structure

Trustees

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of Bexley Winter Shelter, ensuring the activities are in line with the Objectives of the Charity outlined above. Decisions taken by the Trustees throughout the year have taken into account the Charity Commission's Public Benefit guidance.

It is the duty of each Trustee to exercise their powers and to perform their functions as a Trustee in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Charity.

Eligibility for Trusteeship

- A Trustee must be a natural person.
- A Trustee must be at least 16 years old.
- They must be properly appointed following the procedures and any restrictions in our governing document, with due regards to re-election.
- They must not act as a Trustee if they are disqualified, unless authorised to do so by a waiver from the Commission. The reasons for disqualification are shown in the disqualifying reasons table and include:
 - being bankrupt (undischarged) or having an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA)
 - having an unspent conviction for certain offences (including any that involve dishonesty or deception)
 - being on the sex offenders' register

Appointment of Trustees

There should be not fewer than three nor more than 10 elected Trustees.

The Trustees named within this Report were appointed without an election. A number of them were sourced from previous volunteers or individuals connected with the Shelter during previous shelter seasons. Further Trustees were sourced from individuals who expressed an interest in ensuring the work of the Shelter continued and were interviewed by the Chair of the Trustees prior to appointment.

Further details on the appointment of Trustees, their responsibilities and the structure of the Charity can be found in the Constitution of Bexley Winter Shelter.

Signed off by

Charles Edward January, Chair of Trustees, 17/03/2022

Bexley Winter Shelter

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 June 2020 to 31 May 2021

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
D01 - Personal Donations	£400.00	-	-	-	£400.00	£540.00
D02 - Corporate Donations	£2,005.00	-	-	-	£2,005.00	£4,223.33
D04 - Church Donations	£846.72	-	-	-	£846.72	£6,090.23
D05 - Donations From Other Charities	£500.00	-	-	-	£500.00	£607.84
D07 - Anonymous Donations	£881.99	-	-	-	£881.99	£916.11
D08 - Personal Donations - Gift Aided	£100.00	-	-	-	£100.00	£545.00
D10 - Church Donations - Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-	£3,732.10
Donations and legacies Totals	£4,733.71	-	-	-	£4,733.71	£16,654.61
Income from charitable activities						
Income from charitable activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities						
Other trading activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments						
D09 - Bank Interest	£2.87	-	-	-	£2.87	£5.59
Investments Totals	£2.87	-	-	-	£2.87	£5.59
Other income						
D03 - Grants	-	-	£76,525.00	-	£76,525.00	£19,060.43
D06 - HMRC Gift Aid Reclaim	£1,069.40	-	-	-	£1,069.40	-
Other income Totals	£1,069.40	-	£76,525.00	-	£77,594.40	£19,060.43
Income and endowments Grand totals	£5,805.98	-	£76,525.00	-	£82,330.98	£35,720.63

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

Raising funds Totals

Expenditure on charitable activities

E01 - Food For Guests	-	-	£2,682.79	-	£2,682.79	£3,804.16
E02 - Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	-	-	£20,270.00	-	£20,270.00	-
E03 - Guest Case Worker	-	-	£6,151.50	-	£6,151.50	£5,040.00
E04 - Move On Assistance	-	-	£4,464.25	-	£4,464.25	-
E07 - Catering Equipment	-	-	£324.79	-	£324.79	-
E09 - Bedding	-	-	-	-	-	£251.06
E14 - Administration	£52.25	-	-	-	£52.25	£3,000.00
E16 - Guest Referrals	-	-	-	-	-	£3,000.00

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
E17 - Guest Travel	-	-	£10.00	-	£10.00	£175.00
E18 - Toiletries	-	-	-	-	-	£3.75
E19 - Utilities Contribution	-	-	-	-	-	£1,043.87
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	£52.25	-	£33,903.33	-	£33,955.58	£16,317.84
Other expenditure						
E05 - Insurance	£545.83	-	-	-	£545.83	£676.24
E06 - Training	£129.00	-	-	-	£129.00	£34.00
E08 - Other Equipment	-	-	£73.72	-	£73.72	£225.14
E10 - Fees & Subscriptions	£520.00	-	-	-	£520.00	£35.00
E11 - Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	£15.45
E12 - Website, Email & Phone	£359.51	-	-	-	£359.51	£311.36
E13 - Gratuity	£100.00	-	-	-	£100.00	£52.00
E15 - Stationery & Printing	-	-	-	-	-	£261.00
Other expenditure Totals	£1,654.34	-	£73.72	-	£1,728.06	£1,610.19
Expenditure Grand totals	£1,706.59	-	£33,977.05	-	£35,683.64	£17,928.03



**Independent examiner's report on
the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

BEXLEY WINTER SHELTER

On accounts for the year
ended

30TH MAY 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1184243

Set out on pages

5 - 6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust) for the year ended 30/5/2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Signed: *K Kennedy*

Date: 21/3/2022

Name: KATHLEEN KENNEDY

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

Address: 7 OAKLANDS CLOSE
BEXLEYHEATH
KENT DA8 7AP

Section B

Disclosure

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