

JUNCTION 7

England & Wales · Charity number 1185423

Details

Other names COUNTY DURHAM TEES VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-09-20

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

Contact

Address 7 Silverdale Place
Newton Aycliffe
DL5 7DZ

Phone 07783539167

Email junc7tion@gmail.com

Activities

Objects: THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE AND SURROUNDING AREAS BY PROVIDING: ITEMS AND SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED AND/OR CHARITIES, OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY

Activities: Junction 7 are based in the Western Area of Newton Aycliffe we provide a crisis intervention program for the residents of the Western Area and surrounding areas of Newton Aycliffe and beyond. We also deal with cases of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

Classification

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

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Darlington
- Durham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£24,922	£22,179	-	-
2024-03-31	£35,159	£33,480	-	-
2023-03-31	£111,048	£109,548	-	-
2022-03-31	£56,324	£45,202	-	-
2021-03-31	£85,403	£59,314	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Simon Day	Chair	2019-03-07
Gill Stebbings		2019-12-05
JANE DEBORAH ALISON DAY		2019-03-07
Shaun Mclean		2021-10-04

JUNCTION 7

England & Wales - Charity number 1185423

Accounts



Junction 7

Annual Report
&
Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2025
Charity No: 1185423



#buildingcommunities

The trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

(“Accounting and Reporting by Charities”) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Reference and Administration Details

Name of Charity: Junction 7

Registered Charity number: 1185423

Registered Address: 7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

Principal Operating Address: The ARK 8-9 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

The Charity’s Trustees:	Office held	Term of Office
Simon Day	Chair	20 September 19 – To Present
Ms Jane Day	Honorary Secretary	20 September 19 – To Present
Mrs Gill Stebbings	Treasurer	05 December 19 – To Present
Shaun Mclean	Trustee	04 October 21 – To Present

Bankers:

Barclays: Bank PLC, Jenkins House, Bob Hardisty Drive, Bishop Auckland DL14 7TH

Suits Me Bank: The Old Shippon, Moseley Hallfarm, Chelmsford Road, Knutsford Cheshire WA16 8RB

2) STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

2.1 Governing Document

Junction 7 became a registered charity with the Charities Commission on 20th September 20019 under charity number 1185423.

2.2 Organisational Structure

Trustees: Junction 7 is directed by a board of trustees drawn from the local community. Trustees are appointed at the charity’s Annual General Meeting.

The board takes responsibility for all policy decisions and the charity’s finances. The minutes of board meetings constitute the formal record of proceedings and decisions taken and approved by the trustees.

Financial Oversight: The treasurer of the charity is also a trustee and reports regularly to the trustees as to the charity’s ongoing financial status. A trained volunteer carries out much of the day to-day financial management of Junction 7, under the close supervision of the treasurer and a second designated trustee.

Team: The trustees have delegated much of the day-to-day running of the charity and operational decisions to two trained trustees. Team meetings take place monthly (generally with a trustee also present); minutes are kept as a formal record of proceedings.

Volunteers: Junction 7 benefits from the service of approximately 14 volunteers, who are recruited from all sections of the local community. Voluntary team leaders oversee specific areas of operation.

2.3 Risk Management

Risk Register & Policies: The Trustees consider the major risks to which the charity is exposed via a risk register when updating its annual plan. These include internal and external risks that, if occurring, would be likely to affect finance and resources and other aspects of the work of the charity. The trustees are now satisfied that procedures and systems are in place to monitor and control these risks and to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity and in its future operations.

Junction 7 has an appropriate manual for volunteers and clients of the charity which is reviewed annually. This includes policies covering Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Safeguarding (Vulnerable Adult and Child Protection) and Complaints.

Financial Procedures: A new Financial Procedures Policy has been implemented, and finances are kept under regular review. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out below and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Registered Charity no. 1185423 Registered in England & Wales

GDPR: Junction 7 takes Data Protection very seriously. We ensure that all our online and office practice are in line with the General Data Protection Regulations which were implemented in May 2018. We review all our policies annually and update them with guidance from Durham Community Action.

The Charity's governing documents are a Trust Declaration adopted on 20th September 2019 There must be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 7, who are appointed or re-appointed annually. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

All trustees must sign a confidentiality agreement. All trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Charity is supported by supporters from many walks of life who provide donations of food, assist with food collections, donate financially and act as volunteers. We work closely with the range of agencies in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas and an extended network of local front-line professionals including local Schools, Doctors' surgeries, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Social Services and local churches. Distribution Centres are operated from the Ark 8-9 Silverdale Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ Place.

The prevention or relief of poverty in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas by providing items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Chair of Trustee's Report, Simon Day

Junction 7 – letter from our Trustees

Junction 7 opened as a Foodbank in 2018. It was very simple project, opened by a couple called Simon & Jane. Two people that wanted to help their community. It must have seemed unthinkable that by 2025 not only would there still be a need for any foodbanks, or a charity such as Junction 7.

Like many Charities, Junction 7 opened in response to the financial crisis of 2018 The charity has genuinely hoped to not be needed for as long as it has existed. It was established to serve people while it was essential, but the hope was that this would be short term. Sadly, 9 years on, our services are valued more than ever by our community. Junction 7 is not just a independent Foodbank we are a overall charity that tackles crisis head on.

To wish that there was no need for a Junction 7 foodbank or our any of our much-needed services does not fail to recognise all the good about such an organisation. Charities across the country bring together a vast group of people who believe in a different way and a better world. It brings together staff and volunteer teams who desire to do good in their local community, to share their time and resources and to make a positive impact. When we see all of these people working together it is humbling and inspiring. In Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, while we wish that people did not need to depend on donated food and other items, we see the very best of human nature working together to support friends and neighbours in their most vulnerable moments. That is why we have worked so hard with our community to ensure that our services can be as accessible and can offer as much support to as many people as is possible. And we are delighted to see this support making a difference.

At this time Junction 7 is part of a national project with Faresare and a small number of Charities across the country to see how we can best support households who are in need. This learning and experience will then be shared with our wider community network so that each Charity can be inspired and learn ways to combat local food poverty.

Our story this year is not one of building a larger charity. It is one of building collaboration to ensure that we are working with other groups, charities, churches and organisations to make as much difference as we all can. Every person who no longer needs us is a 'win'.

When a person comes into Junction 7, if they choose to work with us and our partners, we will work closely with them.

As a trustee board, we have been very pleased to see the early impact with Fareshare. We have put in place all the governance and structures to help our volunteers to make as much positive difference in our community as they can. We are grateful to the residents and business of Newton Aycliffe for their support and passion - and to the people who continue to support us and affirm this work.

Thank you.

3) OBJECTIVES, AIMS & ACTIVITIES

3.1 Charitable Objectives

The objective of the charity, as set out in the charity's governing constitution, is to relieve persons in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress in such ways as the trustees from time-to-time think fit.

3.2 Aims

Emergency Food Provision: Junction 7 seeks to alleviate food poverty in and around Newton Aycliffe by providing short term, emergency food for families or individuals in crisis. We operate a self-referral or a services provider referral as well as the local council and police. Beneficiaries come from a broad cross-section of the local community; they include families, young people, and both the unemployed and those in work. Anyone can be referred to us, regardless of background, belief, race or creed.

Contextual Support: Through Advice Work, close partnership working and effective signposting, Junction 7 aims to relieve the immediate physical and psychological pressures caused by food poverty, whilst ensuring that more long-term support is put in place.

Raising Awareness of Food Poverty: Additional, Junction 7 aims to raise awareness of the complex issues that surround food poverty and to contribute to research into its causes. In doing so, we aim to improve public understanding of the causes of food poverty, engender greater community cohesion and contribute constructively. Collectively, these measures aim both to meet immediate local need and to address the wider causes of food poverty, to promote long term change. Junction7 have relied heavily this year on public and business donations to minimise request for funding and grants so we could be more self-efficient. Our community really stepped up and provided most of the resources Junction 7 needed to operate.

3.3 Public Benefit

Each year, our trustees review our activities and strategies to ensure that we are effective in reaching those most in need of assistance in the local area, and in meeting our longer term aims. In carrying out this review, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary public guidance on the Prevention of Relief of Poverty for the Public Benefit.

3.4 How the Foodbank Works

Non-perishable food is donated by members of the public and business from a prescribed list the food is then stored in our leased house close to the ARK where we operate from.

Clients in crisis are assessed by one of our authorised referral agencies and then a short form is filled in with the client's further details and then a food parcel is issued.

Clients are encouraged to access further signposting and support services, as required.

3.5 Objectives for the Year

Our objectives for this year are a continuation of work that we have already begun. They are based upon the objectives that we have agreed by our Trustees. We aim at helping to reduce the need for clients for come to foodbanks by offering alternative resources. These objectives will continue to move forward for the next coming year:

- a) Develop Participation
- b) Develop Referral Pathways
- c) Develop Financial Inclusion
- d) Develop volunteers' skills

3.6 Strategies for Achieving the Objectives

a) Participation

We have increased the input of clients with a lived experience of food poverty. We are doing this with a variety of methods including surveys, interviews and dialogue with referrers. Ultimately, we hope to bring together a group of people with lived experience so that they can share their stories and utilise their experience to help the Junction 7 adapt to the needs of its users. We hope that this will enhance both the experience of visiting Junction 7 and the support that is available.

b) Referral Pathways

We are working most closely with our largest referral partners across the Newton Aycliffe to not only understand who is coming to us and why, but also to see how we can create collaborative systems across the Town to offer the very best support to clients who are in need – and offer this help at the earliest opportunity

c) Financial Inclusion

We have developed collaborative, multi-agency work within our centre. We are now able to offer clients far greater support in areas like Benefits advice, debt advice and employment skills. We will continue to work with agencies who can offer support with general cost of living and cost of utilities

d) Volunteer skills and experience

We aim to continue to develop our volunteers by offering training (in areas like valuable conversations, de-escalation, conversations with vulnerable clients and in areas of signposting). We hope that by being part of Junction 7 that our volunteers are learning new skills, can participate in their community more deeply and build friendships. Our aim is that volunteering for us is a fulfilling experience which also bringing positive change to our community.

Other News

- We continued to collect food surplus that would have gone to landfill, Junction collected a total of 144, 657kg.
- Christmas saw us involved in various initiatives including a Christmas Grotto and Christmas Dinner for people on their own or in need
- 144 donations of Christmas Hampers donated. All of these were given to local families.
- This year we received sufficient donations to be able to offer extra items to families throughout the year.
- We held work shops for our local community
- We supported over 70 children as part as regular youth sessions
- We delivered and supported 50+ clients with hot meals twice a week on behalf of AGE UK
- We supported 58 clients as part of our Prom Dress project
- We delivered a community Play and a radio show with Mustard Stories.
- We continued to support the work of the Western Partnership.
- We support clients with Drug & Alcohol situations through our Chaotic Lives Project
- We still provide our NEFirst Credit Union collection and service point
- Held sessions in J7 Community Garden for other Charities and residents.
- Toys and items delivered from our local business

Once again, we must record our thanks to everyone who has volunteered during the year. It would be impossible to help as many people as we do without the wonderful team who give their time so freely. Their energy and kindness help create a charity that truly cares for those experiencing poverty.

Approved by the Trustees on 30/01/2026

Trustee Signatures

Name

Signature

Simon Day

Simon Day

Jane Day

Jane Day

Gillian Stebbings

G Stebbings

Shaun Mclean

S Mclean

Policies

Junction 7 has the following policies in place:

- Policy Statement for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults from Abuse
- (Safeguarding)
- Health and Safety: Statement of General Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Financial Control Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Confidentiality Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Disciplinary Procedure
- Environmental Policy

JUNCTION 7

THE ARK, 7 SILVERDALE PLACE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE DL5 7DZ

CHARITY NO: - 1185423

APRIL 2024-MARCH 2025

Approved by the Trustees on 30/01/2026

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Receipts

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024/25
<i>Fundraising</i>		3926.47
<i>Lifeline Litter Picks</i>		180.00
	<i>Age UK Hot Meals</i>	20,636.00
<i>Bank interest</i>		0.08
<i>Start Balance</i>		<u>178.84</u>
	Total receipts	<u>24,921.39</u>

Payments

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024/25
<i>Audit Cost</i>		650.00
<i>Insurance</i>		997.31
<i>Storage Parnaby</i>		1320.00
<i>Commission Charge Bank</i>		90.60
<i>Rent Number 7</i>		2008.00
<i>Utilities</i>		100.00
	<i>Age UK Hot Meals</i>	17,012.17
	Total Payments	<u>22,178.08</u>
	Net receipts/(payments)	<u>22,178.08</u>

Bank and cash at the start of the period April 2024 **178.84**

Bank and cash at the end of the period **2743.31**

Statement of assets and liabilities at *March 2025*

Cash assets	
Cash assets	2743.31
Total cash assets	<u>2743.31</u>

LIABILITIES

Independent Examiners Fee £500.00

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities, Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts as receipts and payments.

FUND

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as general funds.

PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the CIO. No material transactions took place between the organisations and a trustee, or any person connected with them.

RISK ASSESSMENT.

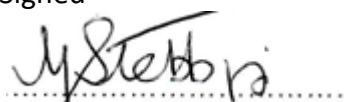
The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks

4. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour to set aside funds unnecessarily.

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

Signed



Gillian Stebbings, Treasure

Notes to the accounts for the year ended *March 2025*

RESTRICTED FUNDS

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

Balance 01-Apr-26

Reserve	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31-Mar-25
£	£	£	£
1500			1500

Grants

We received no Grants for this year

Approved by the Trustees on 30/01/2026

Trustee Signatures

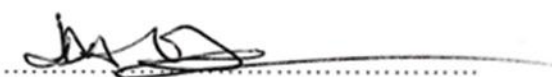
Name

Signature

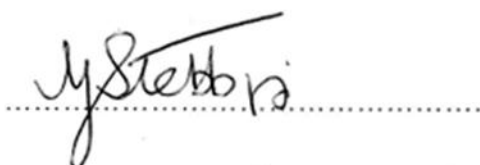
Simon Day



Jane Day



Gillian Stebbings



Shaun Mclean



JUNCTION 7

England & Wales - Charity number 1185423

Accounts



Junction 7

Annual Report
&
Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2024
Charity No: 1185423



Trustees Annual Report for the period 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

The trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

(“Accounting and Reporting by Charities”) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity

Reference and Administration Details

Name of Charity: Junction 7

Registered Charity number: 1185423

Registered Address: 7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

Principal Operating Address: The ARK 8-9 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

The Charity’s Trustees:	Office held	Term of Office
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Ms Jane Day	Honorary Secretary	20 September 19 – To Present
Mrs Gill Stebbings	Treasurer	05 December 19 – To Present
Shaun Mclean	Trustee	04 October 21 – To Present



Bankers:

Barclays: Bank PLC, Jenkins House, Bob Hardisty Drive, Bishop Auckland DL14 7TH

Engage: Engage 1st Floor, Navigation House Belmont Wharf Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 1RL

2) STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

2.1 Governing Document

Junction 7 became a registered charity with the Charities Commission on 20th September 20019 under charity number 1185423.

2.2 Organisational Structure

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The board takes responsibility for all policy decisions and the charity's finances. The minutes of board meetings constitute the formal record of proceedings and decisions taken and approved by the trustees.

Financial Oversight: The treasurer of the charity is also a trustee and reports regularly to the trustees as to the charity's ongoing financial status. A trained volunteer carries out much of the day to-day financial management of Junction 7, under the close supervision of the treasurer and a second designated trustee.

Team: The trustees have delegated much of the day-to-day running of the charity and operational decisions to two trained trustees. Team meetings take place monthly (generally with a trustee also present); minutes are kept as a formal record of proceedings.

Volunteers: Junction 7 benefits from the service of approximately 16 volunteers, who are recruited from all sections of the local community. Voluntary team leaders oversee specific areas of operation.

2.3 Risk Management

Risk Register & Policies: The Trustees consider the major risks to which the charity is exposed via a risk register when updating its annual plan. These include internal and external risks that, if occurring, would be likely to affect finance and resources and other aspects of the work of the charity. The trustees are now satisfied that procedures and systems are in place to monitor and control these risks and to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity and in its future operations.

Junction 7 has an appropriate manual for volunteers and clients of the charity which is reviewed annually. This includes policies covering Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Safeguarding (Vulnerable Adult and Child Protection) and Complaints.

Financial Procedures: A new Financial Procedures Policy has been implemented, and finances are kept under regular review. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out below and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Registered Charity no. 1185423 Registered in England & Wales

GDPR: Junction 7 takes Data Protection very seriously. We ensure that all our online and office practice are in line with the General Data Protection Regulations which were implemented in May 2018. We review all our policies annually and update them with guidance from Durham Community Action.

The Charity's governing documents are a Trust Declaration adopted on 20th September 2019. There must be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 7, who are appointed or re-appointed annually. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

All trustees must sign a confidentiality agreement. All trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Charity is supported by supporters from many walks of life who provide donations of food, assist with food collections, donate financially and act as volunteers. We work closely with the range of agencies in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas and an extended network of local front-line professionals including local Schools, Doctors' surgeries, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Social Services and local churches. Distribution Centres are operated from the Ark 8-9 Silverdale Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ Place.

Objectives and Activities

The prevention or relief of poverty in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas by providing items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Chair of Trustee's Report, Simon Day

Junction 7 – letter from our Trustees

In these days of soundbites and quick news, the number from our Annual Report that really grabs the attention is that in 2023/24 we saw a 36% increase in the number of food parcels that we provided. This does tell a story, but it does not tell the whole story of what Junction 7 accomplished as a charity in the last year.

During a time when almost every newspaper or tv news programme mentioned the term 'Cost of Living Crisis', it was always going to bring challenges for us. However, the first and most important piece of news that I would highlight is that although many people were finding the economic situation very difficult, food donations made to Junction 7 food projects increased during the year.

This came as a bit of a surprise. We expected people to be less able to support our work in these circumstances, but it says much about the kindness of our community that they continued to give generously and sacrificially to help us to support their neighbours in times of emergency and crisis.

The second number that we noticed was that 1156 local households were referred to Junction 7 for the first time. These are people who usually are doing okay – but they had to seek help for the very first time because they could not afford to buy food. We do deal with times of emergency and crisis. Most families only need us for a short time while they can put a plan in place.

More than 3232 clients accessed Junction 7 over this period for various different project Junction 7 offer. We have built solid relationships with various agencies across the Newton Aycliffe and are now able to get immediate help with issues like advice, debt homeless and addiction issues benefit problems.

We have seen such an uptake in the offers for advice that we have entered into relationships with various different partners to help clients who come to Junction 7. Our aim, as it has always been, is to help clients out of situations of crisis and back to a sustainable place. The advice Junction 7 have offered is making a significant difference to many clients who now no longer need the help of our foodbank.

Clients often arrive at our doors feeling the weight of the world on their shoulders. Our hope is that when they leave us that they will feel lighter and more ready and equipped to move forward.

The highlight this year, among many, was hearing the story of one client.

Because of the collaborative work that we are doing with other agencies, this client was able to come in to collect food in his time of crisis. He was able to access support with his benefits as he had been made redundant. He was then able to get help writing his CV and applying for work, and finally, we sourced bus tickets for him to get to his new job until he was paid for the first time.

That was one 'win' amongst many. It was also a reminder of what we do, and that even in a sea of numbers, statistics and headlines, it is the individuals whose lives are impacted in these times and that, with the support of other agencies, can see real times of crisis transformed into times of hope.

Thank you.

"Throughout our report green boxes will appear, these are used to share the voices of clients who come to Junction 7 and have shared their experience with us"

"I'm worried about the cost of living crisis because even part time working I'm struggling to afford bills and to make ends meet. Even trying to limit my outgoings it's the main essentials making money not go far. I worry I won't be able to provide for my kids without foodbanks and other help "

Emergency Food Provision: Junction 7 seeks to alleviate food poverty in and around Newton Aycliffe by providing short term, emergency food for families or individuals in crisis via self-referral partner agencies schools and police.

Beneficiaries come from a broad cross-section of the local community; they include families, young people, and both the unemployed and those in work. Anyone can be referred to Junction 7, regardless of background, belief, race or creed.

Contextual Support: Through Advice Work, close partnership working and effective sign-posting, Junction 7 aims to relieve the immediate physical and psychological pressures caused by food poverty, whilst ensuring that more long-term support is put in place.

Raising Awareness of Food Poverty:

Additionally, Junction 7 aims to raise awareness of the complex issues that surround food poverty and to contribute to research into its causes. In doing so, we aim to improve public understanding of the causes of food poverty, engender greater community cohesion and contribute constructively to public debate (IFAN).

Collectively, these measures aim both to meet immediate local need and to address the wider causes of food poverty, to promote long term change.

Public Benefit

Each year, our trustees review our activities and strategies to ensure that we are effective in reaching those most in need of assistance in the local area, and in meeting our longer term aims. In carrying out this review, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, and particularly its supplementary public guidance on the Prevention of Relief of Poverty for the Public Benefit.

Junction 7 Foodbank Works How

- Non-perishable & perishable food is donated by members of the public supermarkets and other food establishments.
- Food is transported to our centre, where it is sorted by date and by type.
- Clients in crisis are assessed by one of our authorised referral agencies and are issued with an appointment time to collect and discuss further on-going support.
- Clients are encouraged to access further sign-posting and support services, as required.

Objectives for the Year

Our objectives for this year are a continuation of work that we have already begun. They are based upon the objectives that we have agreed with Trustees and local food suppliers This project is aimed at helping to reduce the need for clients for come to foodbanks by offering alternative resources.

These objectives will continue until the end of this Project in 2025:

- a) Develop Participation
- b) Develop Referral Process
- c) Develop our Financial Inclusion
- d) Develop volunteer skills and experience
- e) Develop our operations

Strategies for Achieving the Objectives

a) Participation

We have increased the input of clients with a lived-experience of food poverty. We are doing this with a variety of methods including surveys, interviews and dialogue with referrers. Ultimately, we hope to bring together a group of people with lived experience so that they can share their stories and utilise their experience to help the foodbank adapt to the needs of its users. We hope that this will enhance both the experience of visiting a foodbank and also the support that is available.

b) Referral

We are working most closely with our largest referral partners across Newton Aycliffe to not only understand who is coming to us and why, but also to see how we can create collaborative systems across Newton Aycliffe to offer the very best support to clients who are in need – and offer this help at the earliest opportunity

c) Financial Inclusion

We have developed collaborative, multi-agency work within our Community Hub. We are now able to offer clients far greater support in areas like Benefits advice, debt advice and employment skills. We will continue to work with agencies who can offer support with general cost of living and cost of utilities.

d) Volunteer skills and experience

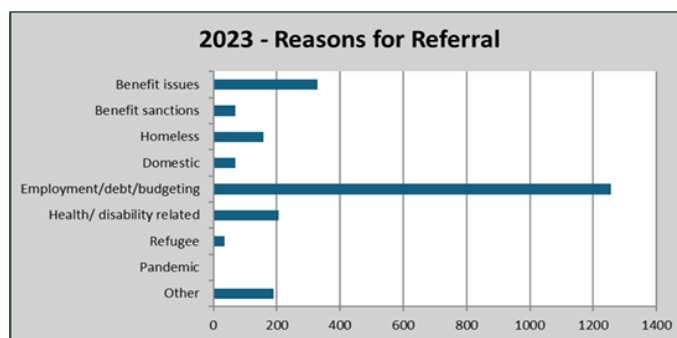
We now use an online system which allows our volunteers to anonymously share their feelings and experience of their time at Junction 7. The results were very encouraging with our volunteers suggesting that they rated the value of their experience at 9.2 out of 10. This shows how invested and enthusiastic our volunteers are about supporting the overall aim of Junction 7 and serving the community.

We aim to continue to develop our volunteers by offering training (in areas like valuable conversations with clients and signposting).

e) Operations

With the charity growing at such a rate, we increased our volunteer team in 2023. We added two more volunteer roles these rolls were more specific for Junction 7.

During the Summer of 2023 we began negotiating with the Bread & Butter Thing to become a Hub for their project. This new project would allow us to not only develop the food provision that we offer, it will also allow us to expand the Advice Work that is so central to our objectives.



The number of clients presenting because of 'low income' is multi-faceted. This may include working households, those in receipt of benefits or both. It also includes many families who are coping with a long-term health issue. Generally speaking, the number of clients who present and have reported that they are not earning enough money to afford the most basic of essentials has increased dramatically.

The category of 'other' includes issues such as Domestic Violence, School Holiday Meals, those refused a Short-term Benefit Advance or people whose wages have been delayed or unpaid.

Other interesting data from this year:

- a) 2165 unique households received support from Junction 7
- b) The average number of visits per household was less than 3; this shows that we are most commonly working with people in times of 'emergency and crisis' rather than needing long-term support.
- c) During the year 1156 households approached Junction 7 for help for the very first time having never asked for help before. This shows that a growing number of people are struggling to cope with the cost of living and that many people do not have any financial resilience in times of unexpected expense.

*"I am unable to eat three meals a day.
I am unable to pay my fuel bill.
I am in debt.
I am unable to go to the dentist.
I am unable to afford even the smallest of luxuries.
I am no longer able to afford pet insurance"*

"I've moved to a smaller home but my energy bill has gone up x 3! I paid £18,000 to become better educated, only to find I'm still to inexperienced to get full-time work in my field, despite the government saying they need more professionals... and food gets more expensive at the supermarket"



Other News

- We continued to collect food surplus that would have gone to landfill, Junction collected a total of 126,571kg.
- Christmas 2023 saw us involved in various initiatives:
- 116 donations of Christmas Hampers donated. All of these were given to local families.
- This year we received sufficient donations to be able to offer extra items to families at Christmas.
- We are now regularly providing Gas & Electric vouchers which we offer in specific circumstances and can be used to purchase food and other items at supermarkets which allows us more flexibility in helping reduce food poverty. We also occasionally use vouchers to allow families in temporary accommodation to buy a hot meal.
- We supported over 70 children as part as regular youth sessions
- We delivered and supported 50+ clients with hot meals twice a week on behalf of AGE UK
- We supported 66 clients as part of our Prom Dress project
- We delivered our annual Fun Day were 180 local people turned up for the event.
- We continued to support the work of the Western Partnership.
- We support clients with Drug & Alcohol situations
- We still provide our NEFirst Credit Union collection and service point
- Held sessions in J7 Community Garden for other Charities and residents.

"I am worried about how I will feed my two children, age 1 + 3. I am also worried about how I will get them both Christmas presents, let alone the basic essentials like clothes and shoes"

"Never be afraid to admit you need help, please donate what you can! We all need to eat, drink and be warm to be healthy"

"I am worried about the cost of living crisis because prices have almost doubled in my supermarket. I had to buy a kitchen appliance as mine broke and it left me short for food – these people do an amazing job!"

"I'm struggling at the moment due to loss of employment and not getting much money due to my circumstances – so the foodbank is a huge help for people like myself. The volunteers are so kind, helpful and very understanding. So I'm grateful for that. Overall they are doing a great job and I appreciate that so much. Thanks"

Once again, we must record our thanks to everyone who has volunteered during the year. It would be impossible to help as many people as we do without the wonderful team who give their time so freely. Their energy and kindness help create a charity that truly cares for those experiencing poverty.

Policies

Junction 7 has the following policies in place:

- Policy Statement for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults from Abuse
- (Safeguarding)
- Health and Safety: Statement of General Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Financial Control Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Confidentiality Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Disciplinary Procedure
- Environmental Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Ethical Fundraising and investment policy
- Harassment and Bullying Policy
- health and safety
- ICT Policy
- Junction 7 Safeguarding – DBS (CRB) checking Procedures
- Organisational Risk Assessment
- Recruitment Policy
- Resolution of conflict between trustees Policy and procedure
- Supervision Procedure
- Trustee Recruitment Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy.

Junction 7 is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and has taken steps to ensure that it is fully compliant with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulations. We have a Waste Carriers Licence.

These are reviewed appropriately. In addition, Junction 7 is operated in accordance with our Operating Manual, Food Standards Agency level 5 kitchen rating and Environmental Health.

AIMS FOR 2024

The worsening cost of living crisis presents challenges, and unknown factors make planning difficult. Nonetheless these are our aims for 2023:

- Assess the needs of our clients and provide them with appropriate emergency food parcels.
- Maintain stock of a nutritionally balanced range of food, liaising with other Charities & Suppliers to share excess and address gaps.
- Recruit and train volunteers to engage with clients to establish what their underlying cause of crisis is, identify and refer/signpost to other support agencies.
- In cases of crisis, provide support and advocate for individuals during transition from food bank to benefits.
- Monitor changes in local our local community to ensure the continuation of effective, local provision in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas.
- Continue to seek out new opportunities to address poverty, particularly food poverty, in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, working with our volunteers, collaborating with new and existing referral agencies, partners, donors and supporters.

The Trustees have agreed:

1. To increase the amount of food donated via Supermarket collections
2. To work with other agencies to ensure families with children on free school meals receive
3. enough food during school holidays and develop a School Holiday Activity Programme.
4. To increase the availability of different items for example fresh food, frozen
5. food and bread via our Foodbank and Community Fridge
6. To increase the number of Agencies to assist with referrals.
7. To Involve the community with new activities

Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 March 2023

A professional audit is now required for our Accounts since the income of the charity has risen above the threshold level prescribed by The Charity Commission.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of Junction 7 seek to maintain adequate reserves to ensure that all reasonable day-to-day running costs can be met as and when they fall due, recognising the basic financial principle that the Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that solvency is maintained. 'Adequate reserves' is deemed to be sufficient funding for 3 months' of normal expenditure.

JUNCTION 7

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of the surplus of the trust for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to.

Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will ' continue in existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 13/05/2025

Trustee Signatures

Name

Signature


Simon Day

.....

Jane Day

.....

Gillian Stebbings

.....

Shaun Mclean

.....

JUNCTION 7

THE ARK, 7 SILVERDALE PLACE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE DL5 7DZ
CHARITY NO:- 1185423
APRIL 2023-MARCH 2024

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23	
	£	£	£	£	
Notes					
Current Account	2a	27183	-	27183	76520
Current ac (bank c/f)	2b	669	-	669	34528
Cash raised and spent		7307			
Total Receipts					
		35159	-	27853	111,048
PAYMENTS:					
Current Account	3a	33480	-	33480	109,548
TOTAL PAYMENTS		33480			
NET INCOMING /(OUTGOING)					
RESOURCES					
Balances Brought Forward		178.84	-	669.28	34,528
-					
Transfer Between accounts	-	-	-	-	-
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD					
		178.84	-	178.84	669.28

The Charity's operations are classed as continuing operations.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23
	£	£	£	£
Notes				
 ASSETS				
CASH FUNDS:	178.84			
Cash at Bank & (Reserves)	1500			2169.28
				2169.28
	1678.84	-	669.28	2169.28
 Charity funds:				
General Funds (bank)	178.84			
Restricted Funds	1500			
	1678.84	-	2169.28	30,510
 Assets retained for the Charity's own use				
LIABILITIES				
Independent Examiners Fee				
	500		500	500

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Approved by the Trustees on 13/05/2025

Trustee Signatures

Name

Signature

Simon Day

Simon Day

Jane Day

Jane Day

Gillian Stebbings

Gillian Stebbings

Shaun Mclean

Shaun Mclean

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts & Payments" basis as prescribed by the Charity Commissioners and documents meet the appropriate legal requirements.

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
£	£	£	£

2. RECEIPTS

a) Donations & Legacies

Current Account.

Learning curve	900	
Age concern		9125
Livin		1351
Junc 7 (fundraising)	350	
Loyalty rewards	1	
P Howell	600	
DCC	5512	
Van (sale)	4764	
Cash	7307	

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	2320			
Donations	2260			
Engage Account.				
Engage J7	22,057 (transfer from Barclays A/C)			
<hr/>				
	34490			
<hr/>				

b) Investment Income

Bank Interest

PAYMENTS

a) Costs of Charitable Activities

Current Account.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
RFL Vans	718			
Insurance	956			
HelpMeFund	931			
Junc7 (ENGAGE A/C) transfer spent			18,360.00	
POSTAGE	74			
Storage	12			
PPE	86			

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23
	£	£	£	£
Comm Garden		177		
Events	89			
Parnaby Inbox	1320			
Food bank		1259		
Vol food	621			
Kids gamp		680		
Age Uk		9125.00		
CAFÉ	102			
Homeless	111			
Men's Group	95			
Utilities	195			
cons	10			
events	60			

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23
	£	£	£	
			34981	78,489
			34981	109,488

b) Governance Costs

Independent Examiners Fee	500	500
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Insurance Costs

500

500

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Junction 7

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

Balance 01-Apr-24	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31-Mar-23
£	£	£	£	£
1500				1500

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities, Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts as receipts and payments.

FUNDS

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as general funds.

2. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the CIO. No material transactions took place between the organisations and a trustee, or any person connected with them.

3. RISK ASSESSMENT.

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks

4. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour to set aside funds unnecessarily.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/members of Junction 7 on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (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 matters have come to my attention.

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 charity 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts

which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have been met.



Paul Charlton A.I. A.

Founder Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Charlton", is written over a light blue, circular watermark that contains the text "Clear Way Forward".

Dated: 15/05/2025

JUNCTION 7

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Jane Day

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Gillian Stebbings

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Bank Interest

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b) Governance Costs

Independent Examiners Fee	500	500
---------------------------	-----	-----

Insurance Costs

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Junction 7

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

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Paul Charlton A.I. A.

Founder Signed:

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Dated: 15/05/2025

JUNCTION 7

England & Wales - Charity number 1185423

Accounts



Junction 7

Annual Report
&
Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2023
Charity No: 1185423



Trustees Annual Report for the period 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

The trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

(“Accounting and Reporting by Charities”) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity

Reference and Administration Details

Name of Charity: Junction 7

Registered Charity number: 1185423

Registered Address: 7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

Principal Operating Address: The ARK 7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

The Charity’s Trustees:	Office held	Term of Office
Simon Day	Chair	20 September 19 – To Present
Ms Jane Day	Honorary Secretary	20 September 19 – To Present
Mrs Gill Stebbings	Treasurer	05 December 19 – To Present
Shaun Mclean	Trustee	04 October 21 – To Present

Bankers:

Barclays: Bank PLC, Jenkins House, Bob Hardisty Drive, Bishop Auckland DL14 7TH

Engage Bank: Engage 1st Floor, Navigation House Belmont Wharf Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 1RL

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity's governing documents are a Trust Declaration adopted on 20th September 2019. There must be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 7, who are appointed or re-appointed annually. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

All trustees must sign a confidentiality agreement. All trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Charity is supported by supporters from many walks of life who provide donations of food, assist with food collections, donate financially and act as volunteers. We work closely with the range of agencies in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas and an extended network of local front-line professionals including local Schools, Doctors' surgeries, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Social Services and local churches. Distribution Centres are operated from the Ark 8-9 Silverdale Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ Place.

Objectives and Activities

The prevention or relief of poverty in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas by providing items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008

Chair of Trustee’s Report, Simon Day

I’m pleased to introduce the annual report for Junction 7 for the year 2022-2023. Unfortunately, I must report once again that this year was extremely busy again. It corresponds with the gloomy reports in the press of ever-increasing pressure on our finances, with people on low incomes being the most vulnerable. Hopefully this will be the worsts to date, but that may well not be the case.

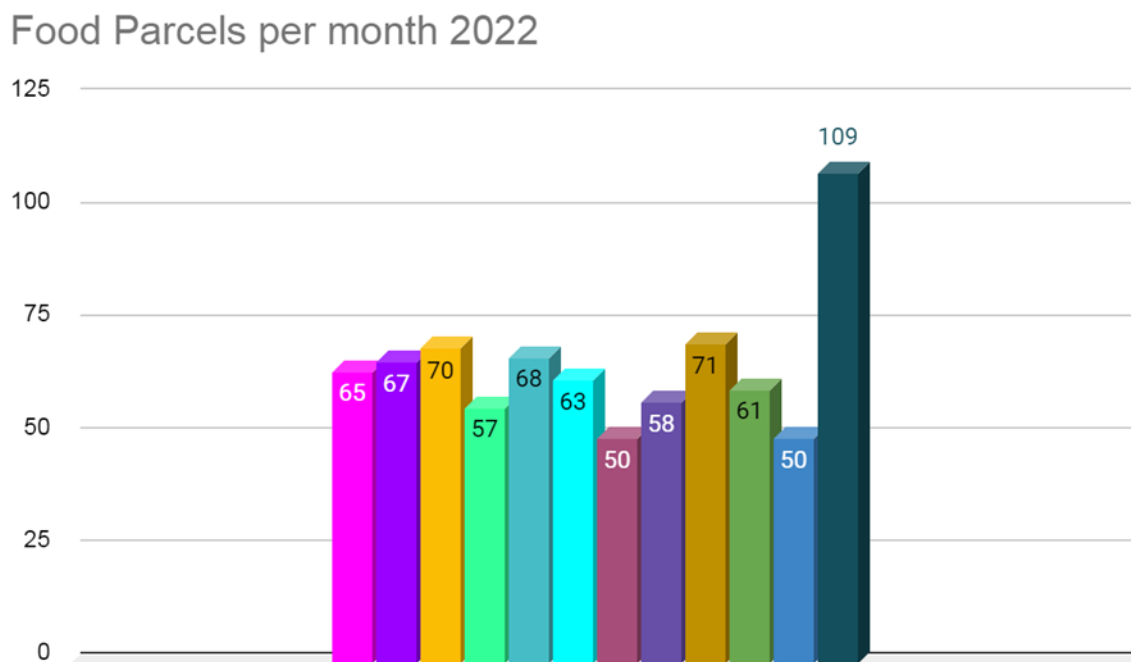
This only shows the number of food parcels given out, but some parcels are for single people, some are for large families, and everything in between.

In 2022 we gave away enough ambient crisis food to feed 1851 people for the year.

The following graph shows how many people we helped each month:



The next graph shows how many food parcels we gave out each month:



From these two graphs December was our busiest month in every respect. If you look at December 2022, we gave out 109 crisis food parcels (ambient food) in one month.

Our volunteers worked extremely hard this December. As well as food parcels, we also gave out Christmas hampers in December; one with each food parcel, and 42 separate “nominated Christmas hampers” which were requested by referring agencies. The “Nominated Christmas hampers” included age-appropriate toys for children, and we are very grateful to the children and parents of Wooden Academy School for donating most of these hampers. We had so many toys that we were able to give them away to other clients in need and a Human Trafficking Charity (Ashiana) for 35 children. We also have a wonderful benefactor who gifted Aldi and Greggs vouchers for the Homeless

The other interesting statistic is the number of different individuals we have helped in 2022.

As usual, some people need repeat parcels, as the crisis they are facing doesn’t always resolve quickly. When we remove all the repeats, we have helped 1015 different individuals in 2022. If the population of Newton Aycliffe is 10,000, we have helped 10% of the population.

The following are some thoughts from a Donations Collector:

The main thing that I've noticed this year is that, while demand on the Food Bank is steadily increasing, so are donations. Not only do they seem to have gone up in quantity, but the quality also seems to have improved: Thoughtful non-food items that hungry people may well neglect to buy for themselves and their families, and especially those without the means to cook a proper meal seem to be thought of more.

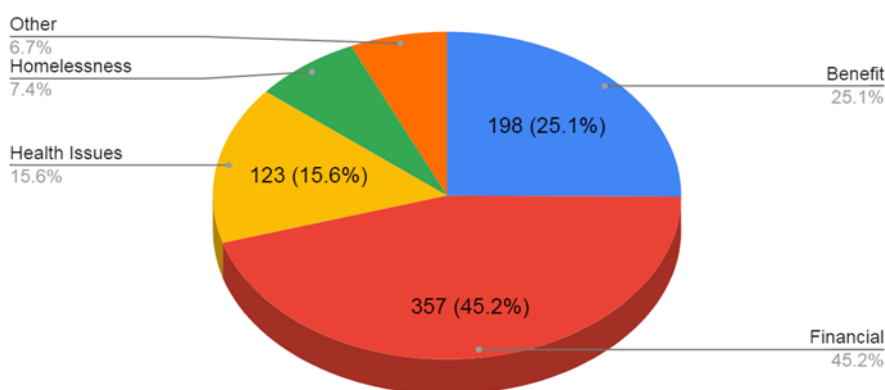
It's also worth mentioning that a further ten to twenty percent of donated groceries are brought into the food bank by individual, private donors (to say nothing of local schools and clubs) and during our weekday sessions when we are open, two or even three such donations are not unusual.

Now and again we've also had some surprising (and large) corporate donations from the food retailers themselves, often things fast approaching their sell by date, these go through our Community Food Project

It's quite humbling to feel a small but useful part of this extensive network of generosity that is making such a difference to so many lives.

The graphs below show the reasons given for needing a food parcel.

Reasons for needing a food parcel



For the 198 parcels given to people who have given "Benefit" as a reason, this is usually delays in receiving their benefit, or having their benefit sanctioned.

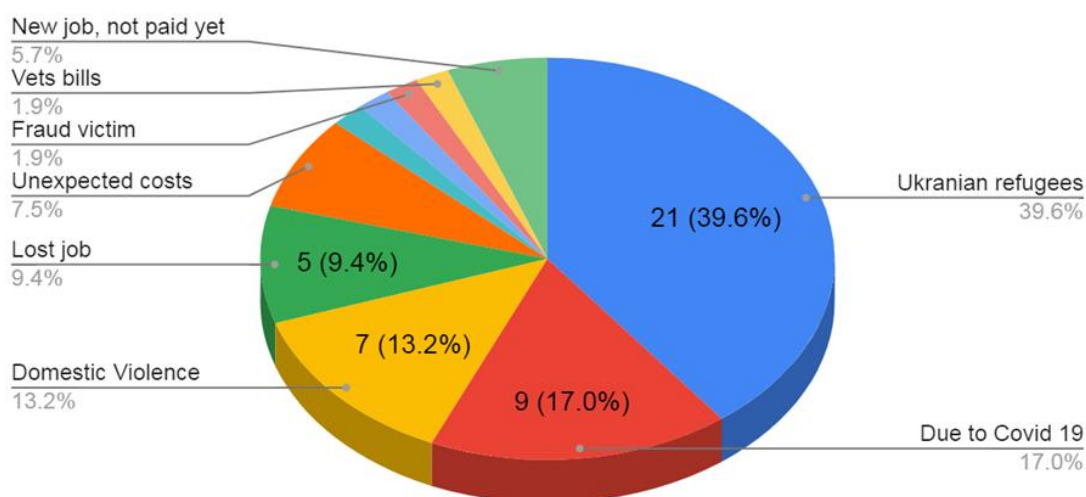
When someone applies for Universal Credit, there is a minimum wait of 8 weeks before any payment is made. On some occasions the wait is longer if there are any queries. The DWP does offer an advance (basically a loan) to help people through this waiting period, but this will be paid back by people receiving less benefit until it is paid off. Many people do not take this option, and therefore have 8 weeks with no income.

Sometimes, people can be sanctioned by the DWP, and their benefits will be stopped or greatly reduced. We have heard of people who were sanctioned because they were late for an appointment at the Job Centre, or the person’s phone was out of credit, and they were unaware that an appointment had been made. This was more of a problem when Universal Credit was first introduced, and for many years the main reason people needed a food parcel was because the system wasn’t working very well. This does seem to have improved, and now the main reason for needing a food parcel is lack of finances.

It is interesting to note that in November we became relatively quiet when the “Cost of Living Payments” were made.

The Other reasons people needed food parcels is shown below:

"Other" reasons

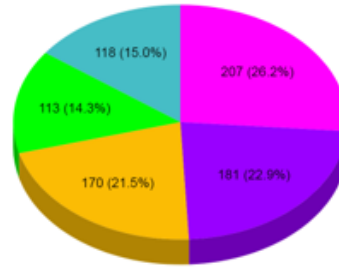


The 9 parcels which were delivered to people suffering from Covid 19 were all at the start of the year when Shielding was still in place. We have given 21 food parcels to families and individuals who are Ukrainian refugees. This year has seen a reduction in the number of people needing a food parcel due to fleeing domestic violence. Last year there were 14 parcels, and this year only 7. This is a very welcome change.

Single Male	207
Single Parent Family	181
2 Parent Family	170
Single Female	113
Couple	118
	789
Single adult	501
Married adult	576
Children	663
Dependant adults	112
Total number of people helped	1852
Number of individuals helped (removing repeats)	1015

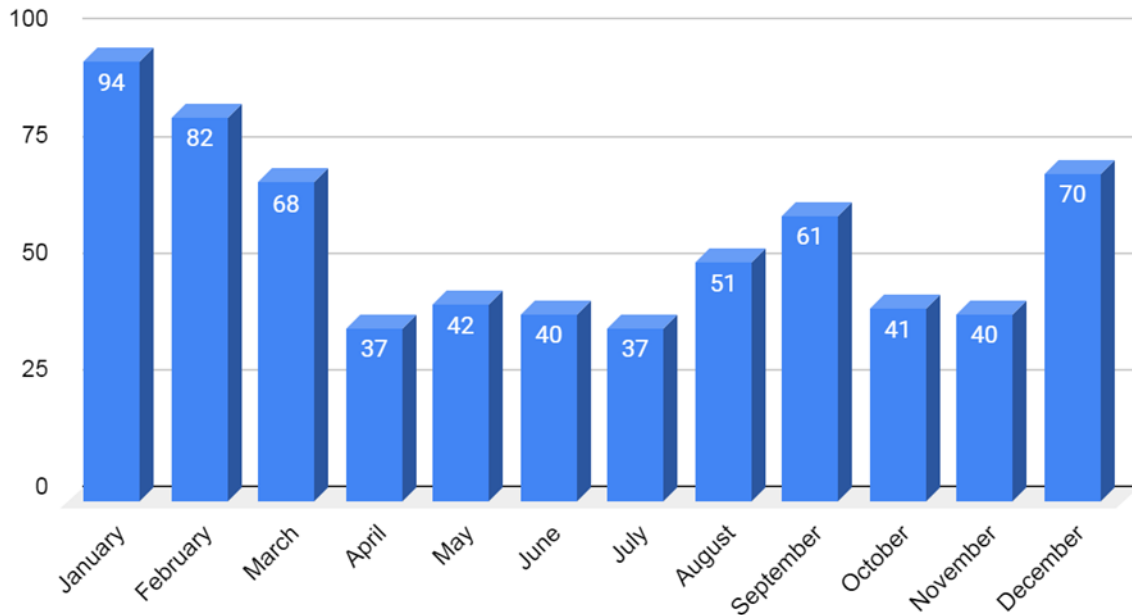
Family Type

- Single Male
- Single Parent Family
- 2 Parent Family
- Single Female
- Couple



The table and chart above show the demographics of the people who have had food parcels. Single men are the most frequently in need.

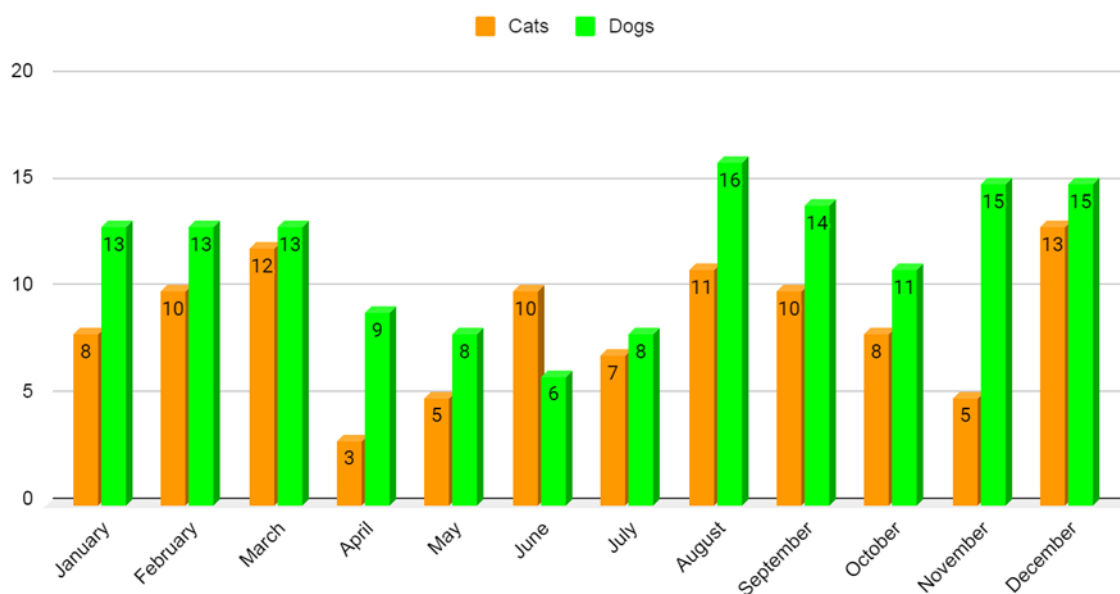
Children helped per month



We helped 663 children in 2022.

Cats and Dogs

2022



In 2022 we helped 102 cats and 141 dogs. Often when people are in crisis, they are more worried about their pet than themselves. NASSL a Darlington based animal rescue centre supported Junction 7 with items of dog and cat food and we had quite a number of other donations of cat and dog food from kind residents of Newton Aycliffe.

Hardship Vouchers

During 2022 we became a Fuel Bank as well as a Foodbank. In partnership with DCC Hardship Fund we were able to issue vouchers to households which use pre-payment meters.

In this scheme, which is funded by the DWP, people can visit a participating Foodbank or community group and receive (in 2022) a £49 credit which they can use to top up their gas, electricity meter, it also can be used for help with food and items such as extra heating equipment and blankets This enables households that have run out of energy to get the power back on within a few hours and keep the lights and heating on for up to two weeks.

Warehouse & Storage

We continued to rationalise and manage our stock to enable us to operate effectively from the limited space in the ARK where we are based. Around Christmas in particular, storage space is inadequate, and the work can continue only with very careful management of stock. We are grateful to our local AAP for the funding we received to operate from an industrial unit in Newton Aycliffe (6 Sydney House Riknall Avenue Newton Aycliffe) this has helped our operation tremendously and we continue to use a storage container in Newton Aycliffe (Inbox Parnaby Self Storage Ridgeway Newton Aycliffe) for the storage of excess long-dated stock and sports equipment for school holidays sessions with our youth club. We review our storage options regularly.

One of our goals Ethical Food Charity is to reduce food waste and help people in need. Junction 7 play a big role in helping achieve those things.

Surplus Food.

Food donations have been given generously by the people of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, we also collected surplus food from various supermarkets which exceeded over 178 tons in the period from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

A total of 3,271 people were given fresh food in this period. We have also seen increase towards the end of March 31, 2023, due to cost-of-living expenses. The supermarket surplus food would have gone to Landfill if Junction 7 had not collected.

We have been active members of the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), contributing our data and experience to their work lobbying both UK and Scottish governments.

Once again, I am indebted to my fellow trustees and all the volunteers for their help and support during this year. This year marks the 4TH year of operation for Junction 7. Over this period, we have seen a growth in Junction 7 with the continued support of Livin Housing one of our Local Authorities for the use of Two of their buildings the (ARK Newton Aycliffe & 7 Silverdale Place).

We feel we have an increased community responsibility to serve those unfortunates enough to require the provision of emergency food supplies. Especially with the onset of Covid 19 from the 1st Lockdown on March 19th to March 2022 we have seen an increased need for our service with more clients requesting emergency food.

Achievements and Performance

How did we do in 2022?

Looking back on 2022 and considering our purpose, there are some important activities and achievements to focus on:

We still provide our NEFirst Credit Union collection and service point.

Provided Warm Spaces for Housing Association

Held Resident Bee Keeping Courses for Kids Club and Residents

Introduced Beehives to J7 Community Garden

Held sessions in J7 Community Garden for other Charities and residents.

Feeding up to 90 Homeless people a week

Started new Toddle Group (little ducklings) 15 attendees.

Supported and delivered residents Royal Jubilee Street party in Westward.

We organised and delivered Guitar Lessons for residents.

We organised and delivered a free Slow Cooker project for residents and offered free cooking lessons taken by volunteer chefs from our local businesses.

Organised and delivered Newton Aycliffe Funday on Silverdale Green (250 + people)

Organised and delivered Community Food Festival in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre with special presentations by Chef Shaun Wilson, Martin Platt (Coronation Street) to help support local business.

We have been able to increase the amount of fresh fruit, vegetables, and dairy products that we give out. We have also provided frozen ready-meals and other frozen food.

In April 2022 we recorded the number of adults and children who were receiving our food parcels.

We have over 26 volunteers regularly involved in many different aspects of Junction 7 operations.

We still operated with packing and delivering 6 days a week. Obviously, some of the days were busier than others but the ability to respond to a request for help usually within 24 hours was an important factor in maintaining our operating hours.

We had various family day trips and went to places such as Animal Sanctuaries, Christmas Market, and Raby Castle.

We continued to develop new groups and had our traditional Christmas family grotto for the residents of the estate where we are based, and we took families to Eden Grange Shildon for their Christmas Grotto.

Highlights of 2022

Eden Grange Christmas Grotto



Junction 7 Christmas Grotto 2022



Support for Westward residents with Queens Jublie Party



Junction 7 Light House Kids



Junction 7 Beekeeping



Family Fun Day Silverdale Green Newton Aycliffe



Junction 7 Newton Aycliffe Town Centre Food & Craft Festival



Community Garden





Toddler Group (little Ducklings)

Men's Group



Homeless Project

Slow Cooker Give Away



Food Donations

Surplus Fresh Food (ASDA) Frozen Meals local Business Ambient Food (Morrisons)



Pet Food Donation



Food Rescue, On tour Project & Warm spaces



Aid Trucks Ready to leave for Ukraine.



Partnerships

Building upon the online partnerships created during the first year of the Pandemic we continued as part of a wider community support to people in need. The opportunities this network creates was invaluable in signposting clients to other local charities and supporting groups.

Referral Agencies

Our relationship with a large number of referring agencies is also of prime importance to us. During the pandemic, many of the offices used by these agencies were closed, and support workers were working from home. These stringencies helped to accelerate the move already begun, to streamline and plan for new projects. This in turn helped to simplify the process for clients, to gain access to our school holiday club, men's group, and other social events.

Work with other charities.

It's always a challenge to match the stock we receive with the clients we serve. We were gratified to take in more donations of some products than we were able to distribute directly to clients. Fortunately, we have built up contacts both with nearby foodbanks and with a number of other local charities whose work involves supporting people in crisis. The charities we worked with received our excess donations.

Volunteers

We have over 26 volunteers regularly involved in many different rolls for the running of Junction 7.

Once again, we must record our thanks to everyone who has volunteered during the year. It would be impossible to help as many people as we do without the wonderful team who give their time so freely. Their energy and kindness help create a charity that truly cares for those experiencing poverty. During the year we bade farewell to a number of our volunteers who were moving away and welcomed a handful new and returning volunteers. We have continued to work with a smaller number of volunteers (around 14) working in small bubbles to help manage the risks associated with the ongoing pandemic. The smaller teams have continued to display remarkable resilience and flexibility whilst undertaking the collecting, sorting, dating, shelving, picking, and packing tasks.

Policies

Junction 7 has the following policies in place:

- Policy Statement for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults from Abuse
- (Safeguarding)
- Health and Safety: Statement of General Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Financial Control Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Confidentiality Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Disciplinary Procedure
- Environmental Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Ethical Fundraising and investment policy
- Harassment and Bullying Policy
- health and safety
- ICT Policy
- Junction 7 Safeguarding – DBS (CRB) checking Procedures
- Organisational Risk Assessment

- Recruitment Policy
- Resolution of conflict between trustees Policy and procedure
- Supervision Procedure
- Trustee Recruitment Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy.

Junction 7 is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and has taken steps to ensure that it is fully compliant with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulations. We have a Waste Carriers Licence.

These are reviewed appropriately. In addition, the Foodbank is operated in accordance with our Operating Manual, Food Standards Agency level 5 kitchen rating and Environmental Health.

AIMS FOR 2023

In our last annual report, we noted that we were emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic, with all the disruption that brought. The worsening cost of living crisis presents challenges and unknown factors make planning difficult. Nonetheless these are our aims for 2023:

- Assess the needs of our clients and provide them with appropriate emergency food parcels.
- Maintain stock of a nutritionally balanced range of food, liaising with other food banks to share excess and address gaps.
- Recruit and train volunteers to engage with clients to establish what their underlying cause of crisis is, identify and refer/signpost to other support agencies.
- In cases of crisis, provide support and advocate for individuals during transition from food bank to benefits.
- Consolidate the work of the HSF working alongside the Junction 7, in view of the escalating cost of fuel which impacts most severely on those we already serve.
- Overtake the backlog of Safeguarding training caused by the Covid pandemic.
- Monitor changes in local our local community to ensure the continuation of effective, local provision in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas.
- Continue to seek out new opportunities to address poverty, particularly food poverty, in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, working with our volunteers, collaborating with new and existing referral agencies, partners, donors and supporters.

The Trustees have agreed:

1. To seek to ameliorate the impact of the Pandemic on our clients
2. To increase the amount of food donated via Supermarket collections
3. To work with other agencies to ensure families with children on free school meals receive enough food during school holidays and develop a School Holiday Activity Programme.
4. To increase the availability of different items for example fresh food, frozen food and bread via our Foodbank and Community Fridge
5. To increase the number of Agencies to assist with referrals.
6. To Involve the community with new activities such as youth work, men's group, community café fundays and outside events, a new developing community garden to help recover from the social isolation issues that the Pandemic is creating.
7. To develop more our On Tour project

Finally, having been with Junction 7 since its inception and Chair of Trustees for this period. It has been a pleasure to be involved with Junction 7 to help to successfully develop what will be a thriving and sadly, necessary Charity. The success of the Junction 7 would simply not be possible without the tireless effort of my fellow Trustees and the large number of Volunteers that make Junction 7 the success it is. Thank you all.

Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 March 2023

Mrs Gillian Stebbings, Treasurer

As well as receiving so many donations from people in and around Newton Aycliffe, we do quite often need to do shopping to make sure that the parcels include all the essentials. This was also supported by our help me fund and access to the DCC Hardship fund.

Thankfully we have a good number of kind donors who give us money regularly, there have been several fundraising events around the town, and we have been able to apply for a small number of grants.

I have been asked whether we check if all our food parcel recipients receive Universal Credit. We do not quiz every food parcel recipient, as they are all referred to us by professional agencies. Being in receipt of Universal Credit is not a prerequisite for receiving a food parcel, as that would exclude many very needy people such as people fleeing domestic violence, refugees, or newly homeless people. We do have people in work coming to us, but they are normally during a crisis such as falling victim to fraud, their washing machine breaking down or other unexpected urgent expenses.

Some of our financial well-being has been the result of the generosity of several donors but it is now clear that this will reduce in future.

The Trustees have continued with their policy of prudence and fairness in managing the financial affairs of Junction 7 and intend to continue in that vein for the indefinite future.

A professional audit is now required for our Accounts since the income of the charity has risen above the threshold level prescribed by The Charity Commission.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of Junction 7 seek to maintain adequate reserves to ensure that all reasonable day-to-day running costs can be met as and when they fall due, recognising the basic financial principle that the Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that solvency is maintained. 'Adequate reserves' is deemed to be sufficient funding for 3 months' of normal expenditure.

Statement of the Examiner

JUNCTION 7

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of the surplus of the trust for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to.

Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will ' continue in existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 26/03/2025

Trustee Signatures

Name

Signature


Simon Day

.....

Jane Day

.....

Gillian Stebbings

.....

Shaun Mclean

.....

JUNCTION 7

THE ARK, 7 SILVERDALE PLACE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE DL5 7DZ

CHARITY NO:- 185423

APRIL 2022-MARCH 2023

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Notes				
Current Account	2a 76,520	-	76,520	56,324
Current ac (bank c/f)	2b 34,528	-	34,528	-
Total Receipts	<hr/>			
	111,048	-	111,048	56,324
PAYMENTS:				
Current Account	3a 109,548	-	109,548	42,635
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<hr/>			
	109,548			
NET INCOMING /(OUTGOING)				
RESOURCES				
Balances Brought Forward	34,528	-	34,528	-
Transfer Between accounts	78,489	-	-	-
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD	<hr/>			
	669.28	-	669.28	13,689

The Charity's operations are classed as continuing operations.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Notes				
ASSETS				
CASH FUNDS:				
Cash at Bank & (Reserves)	2294			
			2294	30,510
	2294	-		30,510
Charity funds:				
General Funds (bank)	669.28			
Restricted Funds	1500			
	2169.28	-		30,510
Assets retained for the Charity's own use				
LIABILITIES				
Independent Examiners Fee				
			500	500

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Approved by the Trustees on 26/03/2025

Trustee Signatures

Name

Signature

Simon Day

Simon Day

Jane Day

Jane Day

Gillian Stebbings

G Stebbings

Shaun Mclean

S Mclean

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts & Payments" basis as prescribed by the Charity Commissioners and documents meet the appropriate legal requirements.

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
£	£	£	£

2. RECEIPTS

a) Donations & Legacies

Current Account.

Van rental	120		
Engage J7	675		
Café	47		
Livin		2703	
Loy Reward	5		
S Humphrey	60		
P Howell	600		
DCC		40,955	
Cash	400		

Bank Refund	150			
Craft Fair	240			
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Weathering's		162		
Comm Garden		1695		
Harbour View	500			
Events	480			
Vehicle	1988			
Ev Lodge		300		
Parnaby Inbox	1020			
Engage Account transferred			78489	
Utilities		2770		
Fuel Gamp		4159		
Goods Gamp		2438		
J7 Fuel	2992.28			
Vehicle Costs	6126			
Bank Charges	189			
Café	966			
Insurance	634			
MSFT	18			
Unit Rent		6918		
Modern Slavery	211			
Clothing PPE		1681		
Homeless	215			
Volunteer Exp	2088			
Men's Group		940		
Stationary	751			
Youth Group		2219		
Crafts Gamp		2139		
Misc	1148			

Security	305			
Unit 6		648		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
DCC HSF		28,920		
Subscriptions	287			
Assets TV	350			
Gazebo		350		
Tumble Dryer	279			
Washing Machine	250			
			78,489	42,635
Total between accounts			109488	42,635

b) Governance Costs

Independent Examiners Fee	650
Insurance Costs	
<hr/>	
	650
<hr/>	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Junction 7

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS
CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

Balance 01-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31-Mar-23
£	£	£	£	£
				1500

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities, Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts as receipts and payments.

FUNDS

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as general funds.

2. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the CIO. No material transactions took place between the organisations and a trustee or any person connected with them.

3. RISK ASSESSMENT.

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks

4. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour to set aside funds unnecessarily.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/members of Junction 7 on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 set out on pages 5 to 20.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (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 matters have come to my attention.

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 charity 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have been met.



Paul Charlton A.I. A.

Founder Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Charlton".

Dated: 24/03/2025

Clear Way Forward: Head Office: 70 Station, Road St Helen, West Auckland DL14 9EX

JUNCTION 7

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Approved by the Trustees on 26/03/2025

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RESOURCES				
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LIABILITIES				
Independent Examiners Fee				
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Approved by the Trustees on 26/03/2025

Trustee Signatures

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Signature


Simon Day



Jane Day



Gillian Stebbings



Shaun Mclean



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

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Engage J7	675		
Café	47		
Livin		2703	
Loy Reward	5		
S Humphrey	60		
P Howell	600		
DCC		40,955	
Cash	400		

Food Festival		780		
Craft Fair	884			
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	1139			
Donations	4480			
Engage Account.				
Engage J7	22,057			
Engage J7				
Cash Raised From Fund Raise	1616			
Gift Aid Tax Refund				
	<hr/>			
	76,520			
	<hr/>			

b) Investment Income

Bank Interest

3. PAYMENTS

a) Costs of Charitable Activities

Current Account.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
RFL Vans	739			
Insurance	1,787			
Commission	182			
Family Trips		1327		
Junc7		22,000		
Fareshare		800		
Junc7 Engage	70,059			
Food Fest	4,335			

Bank Refund	150			
Craft Fair	240			
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Weathering's		162		
Comm Garden		1695		
Harbour View	500			
Events	480			
Vehicle	1988			
Ev Lodge		300		
Parnaby Inbox	1020			
Engage Account transferred			78489	
Utilities		2770		
Fuel Gamp		4159		
Goods Gamp		2438		
J7 Fuel	2992.28			
Vehicle Costs	6126			
Bank Charges	189			
Café	966			
Insurance	634			
MSFT	18			
Unit Rent		6918		
Modern Slavery	211			
Clothing PPE		1681		
Homeless	215			
Volunteer Exp	2088			
Men's Group		940		
Stationary	751			
Youth Group		2219		
Crafts Gamp		2139		
Misc	1148			

Security	305			
Unit 6		648		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
DCC HSF		28,920		
Subscriptions	287			
Assets TV	350			
Gazebo		350		
Tumble Dryer	279			
Washing Machine	250			
			78,489	42,635
Total between accounts			109488	42,635

b) Governance Costs

Independent Examiners Fee	650
Insurance Costs	
<hr/>	
	650
<hr/>	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Junction 7

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS
CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

Balance 01-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31-Mar-23
£	£	£	£	£
				1500

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities, Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts as receipts and payments.

FUNDS

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as general funds.

2. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the CIO. No material transactions took place between the organisations and a trustee or any person connected with them.

3. RISK ASSESSMENT.

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks

4. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour to set aside funds unnecessarily.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/members of Junction 7 on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 set out on pages 5 to 20.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (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 matters have come to my attention.

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 charity 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have been met.



Paul Charlton A.I. A.

Founder Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Charlton".

Dated: 24/03/2025

Clear Way Forward: Head Office: 70 Station, Road St Helen, West Auckland DL14 9EX

JUNCTION 7

England & Wales - Charity number 1185423

Accounts

**ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

JUNCTION 7

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1185423



Harbour View Accounting Ltd
16 Purbeck Place
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 5DP

JUNCTION 7

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Page 3	Legal and Administrative Information.
Page 4	Independent Examiner's Report.
Page 5-10	Trustees Report.
Page 11-14	Statement of Receipts and Payments.
Page 12	Statement of Assets and Liabilities.
Pages 15	Notes to the Accounts.

JUNCTION 7

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1185423

DATE OF REGISTRATION 20th September 2019

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR 1st April 2021

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 31st March 2022

TRUSTEES AT 31 MARCH 2022
Simon Day Date of appointment 7th March 2019
Shaun Maclean Date of appointment 4th October 2021
Gill Stebbings Date of appointment 5th December 2019
Jane Deborah Alison Day Date of appointment 7th March 2019

The existing trustees appoint any new trustees following the provisions laid out in the Charity's governing instrument.

LEGAL STATUS Charitable Incorporated Organisation

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT CIO Foundation Registered 20th September 2019

OBJECTS

THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE AND SURROUNDING AREAS BY PROVIDING: ITEMS AND SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED AND/OR CHARITIES, OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS
7 Silverdale Place
Newton Aycliffe
DL5 7DZ

PRIMARY BANKERS

Barclays Bank PLC	Engage Bank
Jenkins House	1st Floor
Bob Hardisty Drive	Navigation House
Bishop Auckland	Belmont Wharf
DL14 7TH	Skipton
	North Yorkshire
	BD23 1RL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS
Harbour View Accounting Limited
16 Purbeck Place
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 5DP
Company Number 14345779

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/members of Junction 7 on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 set out on pages 5 to 10.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (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.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

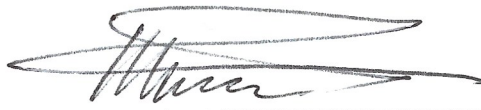
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures 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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: William Hall LLB, Harbour View Accounting Limited



Dated: 15th February 2024

JUNCTION 7

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of the surplus of the trust for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will continue in existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 19/02/2024

Signed on their behalf by Trustee Simon J


Printed Name:

SIMON DAY.

JUNCTION 7

Trustees Annual Report
for the period
01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

The trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

("Accounting and Reporting by Charities") in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity

Reference and Administration Details

Name of Charity: Junction 7

Registered Charity number: 1185423

Registered Address: 7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

Principal Operating Address: The ARK 8-9 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

The Charity's Trustees:	Office held	Term of Office
Simon Day	Chair	20 September 19 - To Present
Mrs Jane Day	Honorary Secretary	20 September 19 - To Present
Mrs Gill Stebbings	Treasurer	05 December 19 - To Present
Shaun Mclean	Trustee	04 October 21 - To Present

Bankers:

Barclays: Bank PLC, Jenkins House, Bob Hardisty Drive, Bishop Auckland DL14 7TH

Engage Bank: Engage 1st Floor, Navigation House Belmont Wharf Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 1RL

JUNCTION 7

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity's governing documents are a Trust Declaration adopted on 20th September 2019. There must be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 7, who are appointed or re-appointed annually at the AGM held in September. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

All trustees must sign a confidentiality agreement. All trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Charity is supported by supporters from many walks of life who provide donations of food, assist with food collections, donate financially and act as volunteers. We work closely with the range of agencies in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas and an extended network of local front-line professionals including local Schools, Doctors' surgeries, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Social Services and local churches. Distribution Centres are operated from the Ark 8-9 Silverdale Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ Place.

Objectives and Activities

The prevention or relief of poverty in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas by providing items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008

Chair of Trustee's Report, Simon Day

I'm pleased to introduce the annual report for Junction 7 for the year 2021-2022. If we look back to 1st of April 2021, we were just entering the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The way ahead was unclear and although we were learning to adjust our lives to cope with the impact of the pandemic, we knew that we would need to adapt and respond to changing guidance and situations as the year progressed. Once again, I am indebted to my fellow trustees and all the volunteers for their help and support during this year. This year marks the 3rd year of operation for Junction 7. Over this period, we have seen a growth in Junction 7 with the continued support of Livin Housing one of our Local Authorities for the use of two of their buildings the (ARK Newton Aycliffe & 7 Silverdale Place).

We feel we have an increased community responsibility to serve those unfortunates enough to require the provision of emergency food supplies. Especially with the onset of Covid 19 from the 1st Lockdown on March 19th to March 2021 we have seen an increased need for our service with more clients requesting emergency food.

Achievements and Performance

The year starting 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 was our 3rd period as a charity operation.

How did we do in 2021?

Looking back on 2021 and considering our purpose, there are some important activities and achievements to focus on:

We have been able to increase the amount of fresh fruit, vegetables and dairy products that we give out. We have also provided frozen ready-meals and other frozen food.

In April 2021 we started recording the number of adults and children who were receiving our food parcels. Between April and December 36% of the total number receiving food were children.

Many people only require to use our foodbank for a short-term crisis: in 2021, 72% of our clients visited only 5 times or less. However, we have a very small number of clients (less than 2% of the total number) who visited on average at least once a week in 2021.

2020 seemed to be an exceptional year, with particularly high need for food in the 3 months of the initial lockdown period. However, in 2021 we had only 2% less visits than in 2020. Since June 2021 there is a clear upward trend in the number of visits—a trend that has sadly only got worse in 2022.

JUNCTION 7

Food donations have been given generously by the people of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, we also collected surplus food from various supermarkets which exceeded over 168 tons in the period from 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

A total of 3,168 people were given fresh food in this period. We have also seen increase towards the end of March 31, 2022, due to Covid 19. The supermarket surplus food would have gone to Landfill if Junction 7 had not collected.

Funding partners supplied funding to cover the increase in demand of the running off Junction 7 due to Covid we also obtained funding for a separate storage facility to help with the increasing volumes of surplus food this also included funding for new fridges and freezers and running costs of a vehicle to help deliver surplus food around Newton Aycliffe for year 2022. The Trustees are grateful to all individuals and organisations who have given financially, as the operation of the Foodbank requires income to cover running expenses for the ambient food.

We have been active members of the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), contributing our data and experience to their work lobbying both UK and Scottish governments.

Despite the challenges of continuing to provide food directly to our clients throughout the pandemic, we're not aware of anyone who contracted Covid whilst in our premises.

We have over 26 volunteers regularly involved in many different aspects of Junction 7 operations.

Although we were not as busy as 2020-2021 we still operated with packing and delivering 6 days a week. Obviously, some of the days were busier than others but the ability to respond to a request for help usually within 24 hours was an important factor in maintaining our operating hours.

Partnerships

Building upon the online partnerships created during the first year of the Pandemic we continued as part of a wider community support to people in need. The opportunities this network creates was invaluable in signposting clients to other local charities and supporting groups.

Volunteers

We have over 26 volunteers regularly involved in many different rolls for the running of Junction 7.

Once again, we must record our thanks to everyone who has volunteered during the year. It would be impossible to help as many people as we do without the wonderful team who give their time so freely. Their energy and kindness help create a charity that truly cares for those experiencing poverty. During the year we bade farewell to a number of our volunteers who were moving away and welcomed a handful new and returning volunteers. We have continued to work with a smaller number of volunteers (around 14) working in small bubbles to help manage the risks associated with the ongoing pandemic. The smaller teams have continued to display remarkable resilience and flexibility whilst undertaking the collecting, sorting, dating, shelving, picking, and packing tasks.

Policies

Junction 7 has the following policies in place:

- Policy Statement for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults from Abuse (Safeguarding)
- Health and Safety: Statement of General Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Financial Control Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Confidentiality Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Disciplinary Procedure
- Environmental Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Ethical Fundraising and investment policy
- Harassment and Bullying Policy

JUNCTION 7

- health and safety
- ICT Policy
- Junction 7 Safeguarding – DBS (CRB) checking Procedures
- Organisational Risk Assessment
- Recruitment Policy
- Resolution of conflict between trustees Policy and procedure
- Supervision Procedure
- Trustee Recruitment Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy.

Junction 7 is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and has taken steps to ensure that it is fully compliant with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulations. We also obtained a Waste Carriers Licence and received a Level 5 from The Food Standards Agency.

These are reviewed appropriately. In addition, the Foodbank is operated in accordance with our Operating Manual, Food Standards Agency and Environmental Health.

Future

The Trustees have agreed:

1. To seek to ameliorate the impact of the Pandemic on our clients
2. To increase the amount of food donated via Supermarket collections
3. To work with other agencies to ensure families with children on free school meals receive enough food during school holidays and develop a School Holiday Activity Programme.
4. To increase the availability of different items for example fresh food, frozen food and bread via our Foodbank and Community Fridge
5. To increase the number of Agencies to assist with referrals.
6. To Involve the community with new activities such as youth work, men's group, community café fundays and outside events, a new developing community garden to help recover from the social isolation issues that the Pandemic is creating.
7. To develop more our On Tour project

Finally, having been with Junction 7 since its inception and Chair of Trustees for this period. It has been a pleasure to be involved with Junction 7 to help to successfully develop what will be a thriving and sadly, necessary Charity. The success of the Junction 7 would simply not be possible without the tireless effort of my fellow Trustees and the large number of Volunteers that make Junction 7 the success it is. Thank you all.

Financial Statements

for the Year ended 31 March 2022

Mrs Gillian Stebbings, Treasurer

We are very fortunate to have wonderful financial support from local people and organisations.

Some of our financial well-being has been the result of the generosity of a number of donors but it is now clear that this will reduce in future.

The Trustees have continued with their policy of prudence and fairness in managing the financial affairs of Junction 7 and intend to continue in that vein for the indefinite future.

A professional independent examination is now required for our Accounts since the income of the charity has risen above the threshold level prescribed by The Charity Commission.

JUNCTION 7

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of Junction 7 seek to maintain adequate reserves to ensure that all reasonable day-to-day running costs can be met as and when they fall due, recognising the basic financial principle that the Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that solvency is maintained. 'Adequate reserves' is deemed to be sufficient funding for 3 months' of normal expenditure.

JUNCTION 7

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021/22 £	Total 2020/21 £
RECEIPTS :				
Donations & Legacies	56,324		56,324	85,403
Investment Income			-	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	56,324	-	56,324	85,403
PAYMENTS :				
Costs of Charitable Activities	44,652		44,652	59,314
Governance Costs	550	-	550	500
TOTAL PAYMENTS	45,202	-	45,202	59,814
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES	11,123	-	11,123	25,589
Balances Brought Forward	-		30,510	4,421
Transfer Between Funds	-	-	-	-
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD	-	-	41,633	30,010

The Charity's operations are classed as continuing operations.

The notes on pages 8 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

JUNCTION 7

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Mar-22 £	Total 31-Mar-21 £
ASSETS					
Cash Funds:					
Cash at Bank and in Hand		42,183	-	42,183	30,510
		1,617		1,617	
		<u>43,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,800</u>	<u>30,510</u>
Charity Funds:					
General Funds		42,183	-	42,183	30,510
Restricted Funds		-		-	
Cash		1,617		1,617	
		<u>43,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,800</u>	<u>30,510</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use					
Freezers		2,891	-	2,891	-
		£	£	£	£
LIABILITIES					
Independent Examiners Fee		550	-	550	500
		<u>550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>550</u>	<u>500</u>

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities which are set out on pages 6 and 7.

Approved by the Trustees on 19/02/2024

Signed on their behalf by Trustee Simon J

Printed Name:

Simon Day

JUNCTION 7

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts and Payments" basis as prescribed by the Charity Commissioners and the documents meet the appropriate legal requirements.

2. RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
	£	£	£	£
a) Donations & Legacies				
Gifts & Donations				
GATC	1000			
IFAN Grant	200			
Livin	8534.05			
Fundraising	386.50			
Donations	780.00	-		
Café	68.80			
DCC	37822.20			
Loyalty Reward	2.44			
CAF	2108.25	-		
Paltinum J	500.00			
Cash Deposit	4555.00			
Harvest Food	100.00			
JCN Ent	266.92			
	56,324	-	56,324	85,403

3. PAYMENTS

a) Costs of Charitable Activities

EXPENDITURE BARCLAYS

Misc	60			
Fareshare	200			
IE fee	600			
Fareshare	200			
Fareshare	200			
Newton News	713.8			
Animal Antics Funday	300			
DFY Funday	330			
J and J Coaches Trip	675			
HAG Toddler Sing and Sign	180			
Dyslexic Course	500			
Neville Community Centre Hire	460			
Fareshare	200			
Fareshare	200			
Fareshare	200			
J and J Coaches Trip	460			
HAG Toddler Sing and Sign	300			
Ian Snowball	3000			
Sydney House Unit Rent	550	-		
Newton Aycliffe Beekeeping Equipment	620	-		
Newton Aycliffe Beekeeping Course	250	-		

Misc	540	-	-
RFL YD67EOX	162.26	-	-
CloseAccess	245	-	-
Commission	138	-	-
RFL LG57KBZ	157.5	-	-
<u>EXPENDITURE ENGAGE</u>			
EASTER AFTERNOON TEA	254.48		
UNIT 3B	650.00		
GAS/ELECTRIC	2463.50		
FOOD RESCUE FUEL	4542.10		
FOOD RESCUE GOODS	602.17		
VEH FUEL	715.54		
MOTOR EXP	2199.35		
NQA	250.00		
CAFÉ	521.35		
INSURANCE	30.00		
LIVIN	439.95		
STATIONERY	626.45		
KIDS CLUB	1104.48		
CRAFTS	264.73		
FUNDAY	200.38		
MISC/CONS	961.60		
FUN FOOD	2496.85		
AMAZON	1281.92		
SELF STORAGE	943.00		
COMM GDN	2023.77		
DCC SUPPORT FUND	3421.38		
MSFT	363.60		
HAG FUND	1313.55		
MOD SLAVERY	304.89		
NYA	11.50		
IT INS CURRY	219.30		
BANK CHARGES	97.06		
FREEZER	719.00		
FREEZER	2171.91		
	42,635	-	42,635
			59,314

b) Governance Costs

Independent Examiner's Fee	550	-	550	500
	-	-	-	-
	550	-	550	500

JUNCTION 7

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

4. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Payments were made to trustees for services to the charity in line with charity commission guidance. No material transaction took place between the organisation and other trustees or any person connected with them.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

6. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily. Although the Church Growth Trust hold the title deeds of the building the maintenance and renewals of the building are the responsibility of Culverden Evangelical Church this is always taken into consideration when reviewing the level of reserves.

7. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this are provided in the Trustees Report. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

JUNCTION 7

England & Wales - Charity number 1185423

Accounts

Charity Registration Number: 1185423

Junction 7 C.I.O.

Trustees Report and Accounts

For the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Junction 7 C.I.O.

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Receipts and Payments Account	9
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	10 - 11

Junction 7 CIO
Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Simon Day
Trustees	Jane Day Gillian Stebbings Shaun Mclean
Charity Registration Number	1185423
Principal Office	7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DZ
Independent Examiner	William Hall LLB Harbour View Accounting ltd, 16 Purbeck Place, Littlehampton, BN17 5DP

Junction 7 C.I.O.
Trustees' Report
Trustees Annual Report
for the period

01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

The trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

("Accounting and Reporting by Charities") in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Name of Charity: Junction 7

Registered Charity number: 1185423

Registered Address: 7 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

Principal Operating Address: The ARK 8-9 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

The Charity's Trustees:	Office held	Term of Office
Simon Day	Chair	20 September 19 – To Present
Ms Jane Day	Honorary Secretary	20 September 19 – To Present
Mrs Gill Stebbings	Treasurer	05 December 19 – To Present
Shaun Mclean	Trustee	04 October 21 – To Present
Bankers:	Barclays Bank PLC, 45/49 Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4DT	
	Engage Bank	

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity's governing documents are a Trust Declaration adopted on 20th September 2019. There must be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 7, who are appointed or re-appointed annually at the AGM held in September. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

All trustees must sign a confidentiality agreement. All trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Charity is supported by supporters from many walks of life who provide donations of food, assist with food collections, donate financially and act as volunteers. It works closely with the range of agencies in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas and an extended network of local front-line professionals including all the local Schools, Doctors' surgeries, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Social Services and local churches. Distribution Centres are operated from the Ark 8-9 Silverdale Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ Place.

Objectives and Activities

The prevention or relief of poverty in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas by providing items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Achievements and Performance

The year starting 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 was our 2nd period as a charity operation. Emergency Food Boxes were supplied to the residents of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas. Junction 7 Foodbank is undergoing a significant level of growth since its inception in September 2019 and is therefore now in a period of development.

A funding and communications team has been set up to ensure effective communications with both volunteers and the public and work thus far includes an active Facebook page, and regular, high-quality Newsletters and local Newspaper adverts.

Food donations have been given generously by the people of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, as well as collected surplus food from various supermarkets which exceeded over 148 tons in the period from 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

A total of 2,868 people were fed in this period. Of these 1,423 were adults and 1,445 children. We have also seen an increase of 25% towards the end of March 31, 2021, due to Covid 19. The supermarket surplus would have gone to Landfill if Junction 7 had not collected.

Several funding partners supplied funding to cover the increase in demand of the Foodbank due to Covid and we also received funding for a refrigerated vehicle these are detailed in our financial statements. The Trustees are grateful to all individuals and organisations who have given financially, as the operation of the Foodbank requires income to cover running expenses for the ambient food. Junction 7 supplied over 2500 crisis food parcels made from ambient food through this period.

Junction 7 is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and has taken steps to ensure that it is fully compliant with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulations. We also obtained a Waste Carriers Licence and received a Level 5 from The Food Standards Agency.

Policies

Junction 7 has the following policies in place:

- Policy Statement for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults from Abuse
- (Safeguarding)
- Health and Safety: Statement of General Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Financial Control Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Confidentiality Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Disciplinary Procedure
- Environmental Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Ethical Fundraising and investment policy
- Harassment and Bullying Policy
- health and safety
- ICT Policy
- Junction 7 Safeguarding – DBS (CRB) checking Procedures
- Organisational Risk Assessment
- Recruitment Policy
- Resolution of conflict between trustees Policy and procedure
- Supervision Procedure
- Trustee Recruitment Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy

These are reviewed appropriately. In addition, the Foodbank is operated in accordance with our Operating Manual and Environmental Health.

Future

Mr Simon Day, Chairman

This year marks the 2nd year of operation for Junction 7. Over this period, we have seen a growth in Junction 7 with the support of Living Housing one of our Local Authorities for the use of Two of their buildings the (ARK Newton Aycliffe). All group work was shut down due to the pandemic and Junction 7 had to recruit more volunteers to deliver and collect food from various outlets.

This reflects our increased community responsibility to serve those unfortunate enough to require the provision of emergency food supplies. Especially with the onset of Covid 19 from the 1st Lockdown on March 19th to March 2021 we have seen an increased need for our service with 25% more clients requesting emergency food.

The Trustees have agreed a Three-Year Plan with the following objectives:

1. To seek to ameliorate the impact of the Pandemic on our clients
2. To increase the amount of food donated via Supermarket collections
3. To work with other agencies to ensure families with children on free school meals receive enough food during school holidays and develop a School Holiday Activity Programme.
4. To increase the availability of different items for example fresh food, frozen food and bread via our Foodbank and Community Fridge
5. To increase the number of Agencies to assist with referrals.
6. To seek to identify within the next year, the extent of unmet need in the outlying areas of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas.
7. To ensure Volunteers are confident in their ability to signpost clients appropriately
8. To ensure Volunteers are confident in dealing with Safeguarding, awkward clients and IT issues
9. To develop a Business Continuity Plan for Junction 7
10. To ensure that Junction7 has enough Volunteers with appropriate skills and knowledge to carry out its core functions.
11. To investigate and introduce Funding opportunities.

Mindful of the time commitment of key members of Junction 7 we have investigated the possibility of employing key staff. The Trustees have concluded that for the present we will not be pursuing this line. We are exploring the options of using a management company to develop our Anti Human Trafficking and modern slavery accommodation department.

Financially, thanks in no small way to the generosity of our regular funders and donors, we are currently secure. We continue to be mindful of our vulnerability in these times of increasing austerity and other conflicting demands on the generosity of the public. We remain grateful to the local people and supermarkets who have supported the Foodbank and community fridge projects by donating almost 148 metric tons of food in this period. In addition, we are grateful to the increasing number of local food supply businesses who are involved in the various pilot schemes to supply fresh produce and hot food to our clients. My personal thanks to all of them.

Finally, having been with Junction 7 since its inception and Chair of Trustees for this period. It has been a pleasure to be involved with Junction 7 to help to successfully develop what will be a thriving and sadly, necessary Charity. The success of the Junction 7 would simply not be possible without the tireless effort of my fellow Trustees and the large number of Volunteers that make Junction 7 the success it is. Thank you all.

We are very fortunate to have wonderful financial support from local people and organisations.

Some of our financial well-being has been the result of the generosity of a small number of donors but it is now clear that this will reduce in future. We will become more dependent on our regular funding, and sponsorship.

Our new Barclays Bank charity account is working well. We are taking initiatives to increase and improve the support given to local people in need and we expect to cover the costs of these from our current resources and future funding.

The Trustees have continued with their policy of prudence and fairness in managing the financial affairs of Junction 7 and intend to continue in that vein for the indefinite future.

A professional Independent Examination is now required for our Accounts since the income of the charity has risen above the threshold level prescribed by The Charity Commission.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of Junction 7 seek to maintain adequate reserves to ensure that all reasonable day-to-day running costs can be met as and when they fall due, recognising the basic financial principle that the Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that solvency is maintained. 'Adequate reserves' is deemed to be sufficient funding for 3 months' of normal expenditure.

Junction 7 C.I.O.

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Junction 7 C.I.O.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Junction 7 CIO for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity trustees of Junction 7 CIO 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 Junction 7 CIO'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

accounting records were not kept in respect of Junction 7 CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or the accounts do not accord with those 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: 23.3.2023

William Hall LLB

Harbour View Accounting Ltd

16 Purbeck Place

Littlehampton

West Sussex

BN17 5DP



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01.04.2020	To	31.03.2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Current account				85,403	15,434
Wrap	15,000				
Donations	1,600				
Raffle	42				
Selling page	906				
Embrace CH	612				
Dinners / Teas	43				
DCC	1,340				
Livin	7,995				
Ind Food	400				
Donation Sainsburys	5,372				
Lums carr	105				
Eden Gr	500				
Deposit	3,384				
Grant	20,287				
Engage Account					
First Credit	19,800				
Junc7	8,000				
Loyalty cashback	17				
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	85,403	-	-	85,403	15,434
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	85,403	-	-	85,403	15,434

A3 Payments					
Current Account				59,314	9,570
Durham Comm Action	210				1,443
Refrigeration van	13,500				
Deerness Fencing comm garden	3,510				
Funeral Contrib Hayley	1,511				
Fareshare	600				
I Snowball car	2,650				
Fareshare	200				
Engage Junc7	7,000				
Van Rfl	116				
Engage Junc7	1,000				
TRF G Stebbings	800				
Bank Charges	17				
Close access	938				
Engage					
Utilities	241				
Fuel	2,591				
Insurance	718				
Veh costs	854				
Bank Charges	85				
Stationery	344				
Cash	1,270				
Advertising	607				
Waste lic	39				
Food Bank	3,896				
Café	1,235				
Lunches	3,318				
Misc	1,332				
Computer costs	196				
Xmas	2,003				
Easter crafts	334				
Crafts camp	800				
accounts (SS)					

Crafts lott grant	879				
Afternoon tea	846				
Help me fund	109				
Have a go fund	828				
PPE scotto	360				
Laptop	568	-	-		-
Laptop	699				
Man fee	3,110				
Sub total	59,314	-	-	59,314	11,013

A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total payments	59,314	-	-	59,314	11,013
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Net of receipts/(payments)	26,089	-	-	26,089	4,421
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,421	-	-	4,421	-
Cash funds this year end	30,510	-	-	30,510	4,421

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	30,510		

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	car		1,450	-
	safe		180	-
	refrigeration van		13,500	-
	car NT02PKK		2,650	-
	laptop		699	-
	laptop		568	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Accountancy and I E fees.		500	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Simon D</i>	SIMON DAY	24/03/23