

Company Registration Number
12238989
Registered Charity Number
1186659

Advocacy in Greenwich

Report and Accounts

31 March 2024

**Advocacy in Greenwich
Report and accounts
Contents**

	Page
Legal and Administrative information	1
Report of the Trustees	2
Independent Examiners Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance sheet	7
Cash flow statement	8
Notes to the accounts	9

Advocacy in Greenwich

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and Administration Information

Principal address:

First Floor, Equitable House
7 General Gordon Square
London
SE18 6FH

Company Number:

12238989

Registered Charity Number:

1186659

Trustees:

Jenny Chan
Beth Hardwick
Roland Mortimer
Adekunle Odubamiro (resigned Sept 2024)
James Olorode (resigned Sept 2024)
Eveline Peates

Senior Officer:

Andrew Heffer, Director

Independent Examiners:

Michael Adamson and Co
23 Helena Road
Rayleigh
Essex SS6 8LN

Bankers:

The Co-operative Bank
151-155 Lewisham High Street
London
SE13 6AA 2

Advocacy in Greenwich

Registered Charity number: 1186659

Structure, Governance and Management

Advocacy in Greenwich is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21 September 2019.

The Trustees are elected annually by the membership at the Annual General Meeting of the Charity up to a maximum of 6 people. In addition, two people may be co-opted by the Trustees as required until the next AGM.

All Trustees attend Trustee Training and online Safeguarding training and receive a comprehensive pack which includes the confidentiality policy, conflict of interest policy, disciplinary and grievance procedures, complaints procedures and details of the Charity's policy on diversification.

Advocacy in Greenwich is a member of a local consortium

The Charity continually monitors major risks. The decisions on how to manage the risks are taken at the Trustee Meetings and a risk register is in place.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's aim is to assist and support people with disabilities within the area of benefit, in particular by providing them with a range of advocacy services, which focus on people with learning disabilities and to work strategically to influence policy and practice.

We aim to empower people with a learning disability to bring about change for individuals and in society and to make sure that we provide independent advocacy to anyone who needs it. We do this through:

- One to one advocacy
- Positively encouraging self-advocacy and promoting people with learning disabilities as leaders
- Raising awareness among groups and individuals in the community about the issues affecting people with a learning disability
- Offering people with learning disabilities paid and voluntary roles within our organisation
- Empowering people with learning disabilities to bring about positive change in services, and in the community

Many of the people we work with have complex communication and we use multimedia resources to support people to make choices. We have several projects offering one to one advocacy and self-advocacy groups. We promote advocacy through choices workshops. We also support people to develop skills and have paid and voluntary roles within the organisation, Trainers, Peer MPs, developing training

materials and films, promotion, facilitating consultation groups and becoming members of our Board of Trustees.

We support people with learning disabilities to take on leadership roles locally, regionally, and nationally.

When reviewing the activities of the Charity, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

It has been another hard year for Advocacy in Greenwich. It is still difficult to get the money we need and some long-term staff members have left the charity. However, we have also welcomed some new team members and are making decisions that should make it easier to get the money we need to continue to provide a good service.

The charity sector in the UK continues to be underfunded. There are not as many grants available, and they often have criteria that are difficult to meet. Two board members have left this year, and to increase our chances of getting funding, we are changing our board to include more service users and people with learning disabilities. As well as being a requirement for funding bodies, this also means that the people who use the service can have more say in what projects might be helpful for them.

The board is conscious that in the long-term the situation with funding is unlikely to improve. It is therefore important that we take action to ensure that the services Advocacy in Greenwich provide remain available. The board is considering what the charity needs to do and will consult with the members before any final decisions are made.

At the start of the year, the charity goodbye to Geraldine, who had been with Advocacy in Greenwich for many years and will be missed. We are delighted that Rahima has moved into the role of Project Manager, and that Cathy has joined the team as the team as a new Project Worker for the People's Parliament.

We also had some changes with our projects, with the funding coming to an end for both the Quality Checkers and Transitions work. It is our hope that we may be able to do some similar projects in future as they both provided valuable support to those in our local community.

Our priority remains ensuring that people with learning disabilities in our community have access to a high-quality service and all decisions taken by the board will drive us towards that goal. The board are thankful to Andy, the team and the members of Advocacy in Greenwich for making this happen.

Financial Review

The results for the year are as shown on page 6.

In the current economic climate, it continues to be difficult to secure funding. We therefore ensure that we secure funding from a range of funders. As we are an independent advocacy organisation, most of our applications are to grant making trusts. We also receive some funding from the statutory sector as we believe this is evidence of the value that the statutory sector places on the work of our organisation.

Our funds are spent on supporting the delivery of an effective and high-quality advocacy service.

Other Information

We produce a more detailed report which is accessible to our beneficiaries and is available on our website at www.advocacyingreenwich.org.uk.

This report was approved by the board on
and signed on its behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Beth Hardwick', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

29.10.2024

Beth Hardwick - Chair

Advocacy in Greenwich
Independent Examiners report

**Report of the Independent Examiners to the Members
of Advocacy in Greenwich**

We have examined the financial statements on pages 6 to 15 for the year ended 31 March 2024, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 9

Respective responsibilities of the 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 our 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 report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which indicate that:

- 1) accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 2) where accounts are prepared on an accruals basis, whether they fail to comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- 3) any matter which the examiner believes should be drawn to the attention of the reader to gain a proper understanding of the accounts.

Michael Adamson and Co
Chartered Accountants

23 Helena Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 8LN

Date :

Advocacy in Greenwich
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Incoming resources:					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income		-	88,622	88,622	91,235
Investment income		-	-	-	-
Incoming resources from charitable activities		47,423	49,048	96,471	130,880
Total incoming resources	2	47,423	137,670	185,093	222,115
Resources expended:					
Cost of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		92,244	115,574	207,818	220,463
Governance costs		-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total resources expended	3	92,244	116,574	208,818	221,463
Net income for the year		(44,821)	21,096	(23,725)	652
Transfer between funds		39,136	(39,136)	-	-
Funds brought forward		17,238	55,702	72,940	72,288
Funds carried forward	11	11,553	37,662	49,215	72,940

The attached notes for part of these accounts

Advocacy in Greenwich
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024	Total 2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
Current assets					
Debtors	8	18,512	13,064	31,576	2,827
Cash at bank and in hand		(5,959)	42,120	36,161	95,652
		12,553	55,184	67,737	98,479
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,000)	(17,522)	(18,522)	(25,539)
Net current assets		11,553	37,662	49,215	72,940
Net assets		11,553	37,662	49,215	72,940
Funds carried forward					
Unrestricted funds		11,553	-	11,553	17,238
Restricted funds		-	37,662	37,662	55,702
Total funds	11	11,553	37,662	49,215	72,940

The management committee are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act. The management committee acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

These accounts were approved by the Management Committee on

and signed on its behalf by



Trustee

BETH HARDWICK - 29.10.2024

Trustee

The attached notes for part of these accounts

**Advocacy in Greenwich
Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

		Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Net cash used in operating activities	12	(59,491)	(21,385)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received	2	-	-
Cost of fixed assets	7	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		(59,491)	(21,385)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		95,652	117,037
Cash at bank and in hand less overdrafts at 31 March		<u>36,161</u>	<u>95,652</u>
Consisting of:			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>36,161</u>	<u>95,652</u>

The attached notes for part of these accounts

Advocacy in Greenwich
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and are in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- * The charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- * The trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and
- * The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- * Where grants are received in advance, the income is spread over the period of the grant and any funds received which relate to future accounting periods are treated as deferred income and released in the period to which they relate.

Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure, the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Volunteer help

The value of any volunteer help is not included in the accounts.

Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs of preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of the Annual General Meeting and the costs of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

FIXED ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets used by the charity

They are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt. Where a grant is received specifically for the purchase of capital items, once the conditions of the grant have been met, the assets are transferred to the general fund.

Depreciation

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Furniture and equipment	25% on cost
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Advocacy in Greenwich
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Analysis of incoming resources

	2024	2023
	£	£
Voluntary income:		
Restricted funds:		
City Bridge Trust	14,900	29,575
National Lottery Community Fund	73,722	61,660
	<u>88,622</u>	<u>91,235</u>
Income from charitable activities:		
Unrestricted funds:		
Royal Borough of Greenwich	-	5,744
Royal Borough of Greenwich - Childrens services	42,184	5,880
National Lottery Community Fund	-	5,951
Co-op Local Community Fund	1,068	4,277
Unity Trust	-	1,500
NHS England	-	8,821
City Bridge Trust	1,770	2,738
Scope	-	18,406
Other	2,401	2,070
	<u>47,423</u>	<u>55,387</u>
Restricted		
Royal Borough of Greenwich	35,984	19,780
NHS England	13,064	36,505
Unity Trust	-	19,208
	<u>49,048</u>	<u>75,493</u>
Investment income		
Bank interest	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>185,093</u>	<u>222,115</u>

Advocacy in Greenwich
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

3 Analysis of resources expended

Details of resources expended are shown on page 15 of the accounts

4 Net incoming resources for the year

	2024	2023
	£	£
These are stated after charging		
Depreciation	95	95
Independent Examiners fee	1,000	1,000

Trustees expenses

Trustees expenses for the year amounted to £Nil (2023: Nil)

No member of the Board of Trustees nor any person connected with them has received or is due to receive any remuneration for the year directly or indirectly from the Charity's funds.

5 Employees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross salaries	136,539	134,150
Employers National Insurance costs	5,545	6,030
Pension contributions	21,245	23,408
	<u>163,329</u>	<u>163,588</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 8 (2023: 7).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 per annum.

Remuneration to key management personnel in the year amounted to £ 36,535 (2023 £34,172)

6 Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 31 March 2023	<u>23,210</u>	<u>23,210</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>23,210</u>	<u>23,210</u>
Depreciation		
At 31 March 2023	23,210	23,210
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>23,210</u>	<u>23,210</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Advocacy in Greenwich
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

8 Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors	31,576	2,827
	<u>31,576</u>	<u>2,827</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors and accruals	1,000	8,450
Deferred income	17,522	17,089
	<u>18,522</u>	<u>25,539</u>

Analysis of deferred income:

Name of funder	Opening deferral	Released in year	Deferred in year	Closing deferral
	£	£	£	£
National Lottery Community Fund	17,089	17,089	17,522	17,522
	<u>17,089</u>	<u>17,089</u>	<u>17,522</u>	<u>17,522</u>

10 Details of funds
Unrestricted Fund

We are committed to ensuring that the people we work with are empowered to fully participate in the wider community and we work together to challenge assumptions and change minds.

We aim to promote the rights of people we work with as citizens and to ensure that people with learning disabilities and young people with disabilities participate in the project work at all levels.

Parents with a Learning Disability

We work with parents with a learning disability to ensure that they receive the support that they need to care for their children and where there are child protection issues, to ensure that they have a voice in those proceedings. The Royal Borough of Greenwich and other London Boroughs spot purchase one-to-one advocacy.

Restricted funds

People's Parliament

The project supports the running of the People's Parliament. MPs are elected by their peers to represent their views and interests at decision making meetings locally. This work is funded by the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

Transitions Project

We are funded by City Bridge Trust to provide self-advocacy for young people in Transition.

Quality Checkers Project

We are funded by the Big Lottery Fund to develop a Quality Checking Project to check the accessibility of a range of statutory, community and leisure services in the Borough.

Safe Places

We have funding to revisit sites that are currently Safe Places in Greenwich borough to make sure nothing has changed since the pandemic. We are offering a training update to staff at the Safe Places.

London Regional Forum

We continue coordinating the London Forum for people with a learning disability. This work is funded by NHS England.

Advocacy in Greenwich
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

11 Movement in funds
Year ended 31 March 2024

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Gross transfers between funds	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	17,238	47,423	(92,244)	39,136	11,553
Restricted funds					
Advocacy	-	-	-	-	-
Self Advocacy	5,177	-	-	(5,177)	-
Quality Checkers	28,481	73,722	(64,541)	-	37,662
Transitions	-	14,900	(12,671)	(2,229)	-
Other projects	22,044	49,048	(39,362)	(31,730)	-
Designated Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	72,940	185,093	(208,818)	-	49,215

Movement in funds
Year ended 31 March 2023

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Gross transfers between funds	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	4,871	55,387	(75,999)	32,979	17,238
Restricted funds					
Advocacy	-	-	(2,899)	2,899	-
Self Advocacy	-	67,710	(58,478)	(4,055)	5,177
Quality Checkers	45,373	61,660	(56,481)	(22,071)	28,481
Other projects	22,044	37,358	(27,606)	(9,752)	22,044
Designated Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	72,288	222,115	(221,463)	-	72,940

Advocacy in Greenwich**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024****12 Reconciliation of net movements in funds to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net movement in funds		
Add back depreciation	49,215	72,940
Less interest received	97	97
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(13,225)	(13,225)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	58,069	58,069
Net cash used in operating activities	-	-
	<u>94,156</u>	<u>117,881</u>

13 Status

The company, which is a registered charity, is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Advocacy in Greenwich
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

12 Reconciliation of net movements in funds to net cash flow from operating

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds		(23,725)	652
Add back depreciation	7	-	95
Less interest received	2	-	-
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		(28,749)	10,398
Increase / (decrease) in creditors		(7,017)	(32,530)
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(59,491)</u>	<u>(21,385)</u>

13 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Incoming resources:				
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary income			91,235	91,235
Investment income		-	-	-
Incoming resources from charitable activities		55,387	75,493	130,880
Total incoming resources	2	<u>55,387</u>	<u>166,728</u>	<u>222,115</u>
Resources expended:				
Cost of generating funds				
Costs of generating voluntary income		75,999	144,464	220,463
Charitable activities		-	1,000	1,000
Governance costs		-	-	-
Total resources expended	3	<u>75,999</u>	<u>145,464</u>	<u>221,463</u>
Net income for the year		(20,612)	21,264	652
Transfer between funds		32,979	(32,979)	-
Funds brought forward		4,871	67,417	72,288
Funds carried forward	11	<u>17,238</u>	<u>55,702</u>	<u>72,940</u>

Advocacy in Greenwich

Analysis of resources expended

	Voluntary income and governance		People's Parliament		Quality Checkers			Worktrain		2024	2023
	Parents		LRF	Transitions	Worktrain	Total	Total	Total	Total		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Cost of generating funds:											
Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable activities:											
Salaries	54,051	29,416	18,436	6,608	42,227	12,137	454	163,329	163,588		
Consultants costs	455	136	5,478	1,301	8,363	246	648	16,627	27,175		
Office running expenses	16	1,707	1,885	70	4,421	188	-	8,287	15,096		
Other staff costs	358	714	89	3	689	6	-	1,859	1,137		
Bad debts	270	1,602	-	-	-	-	-	1,872	-		
Support costs:											
Premises	-	2,191	3,519	133	7,356	79	-	13,278	12,000		
Insurance	-	250	402	15	839	9	-	1,515	1,372		
Sundry expenses	886	27	44	2	92	-	-	1,051	-		
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95		
Total	56,036	36,043	29,853	8,132	63,987	12,665	1,102	207,818	220,463		
Governance costs:											
AGM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Independent Examiners fees	-	165	265	10	554	6	-	1,000	1,000		
Total	-	165	265	10	554	6	-	1,000	1,000		
Total resources expended	56,036	36,208	30,118	8,142	64,541	12,671	1,102	208,818	221,463		

Advocacy in Greenwich
Detailed Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
	restricted		unrestricted		restricted		unrestricted		Total 2024	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources:										
Royal Borough of Greenwich	-	-	35,984	-	-	-	35,984	-	35,984	
Royal Borough of Greenwich -										
Childrens services	-	42,184	-	-	-	-	-	42,184	42,184	
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	73,722	-	73,722	-	73,722	
Co-op Local Community Fund	1,068	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,068	1,068	
Unity Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
City Bridge Trust	1,770	-	-	-	-	14,900	14,900	1,770	16,670	
PIMCO	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000	
NHS England	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,064	-	13,064	
Scope	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sundries	401	-	-	-	-	-	-	401	401	
Total Incoming resources	5,239	42,184	-	35,984	13,064	73,722	14,900	-	137,670	47,423
										185,093

Advocacy in Greenwich
Detailed Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Total restricted										Total unrestricted										Total 2024	
	General					People's					Quality					Worktrain						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outgoing Resources:																						
Salaries	54,051	29,416	-	-	18,436	6,608	42,227	12,137	454	79,862	83,467	163,329										
Consultants	455	136	-	-	5,478	1,301	8,363	246	648	16,036	591	16,627										
Accountancy	-	165	-	-	265	10	554	6	-	835	165	1,000										
Office expenses	16	1,180	-	-	1,039	38	2,572	139	-	3,788	1,196	4,984										
Rent	-	2,191	-	-	3,519	133	7,356	79	-	11,087	2,191	13,278										
IT	-	119	-	-	191	7	400	5	-	603	119	722										
Telephone	-	122	-	-	195	8	444	34	-	681	122	803										
Insurance	-	250	-	-	402	15	839	9	-	1,265	250	1,515										
Publications	-	286	-	-	460	17	1,005	10	-	1,492	286	1,778										
Staff supervision and training	-	4	-	-	5	-	83	-	-	88	4	92										
Staff travel	10	710	-	-	5	-	440	4	-	449	720	1,169										
Staff recruitment	348	-	-	-	79	3	166	2	-	250	348	598										
Sundry expenses	886	27	-	-	44	2	92	-	-	138	913	1,051										
Bad debts	270	1,602	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,872										
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-										
Total outgoing resources	56,036	36,208	-	-	30,118	8,142	64,541	12,671	1,102	116,574	92,244	208,818										
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(50,797)	5,976	-	-	5,866	4,922	9,181	2,229	(1,102)	21,096	(44,821)	(23,725)										
Gross transfers between funds	45,112	(5,976)	(22,044)	-	(5,866)	(4,922)	-	(2,229)	(4,075)	(39,136)	39,136	-										
Funds brought forward	17,238	-	22,044	-	-	-	28,481	-	5,177	55,702	17,238	72,940										
Funds carried forward	11,553	-	-	-	-	-	37,662	-	-	37,662	11,553	49,215										