

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

England & Wales - Charity number 1195721

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-09-06

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

Contact

Address c/o New Leaf Advice Centre
124a Blaker Court
Charlton
London
SE7 7EU

Phone 0800 208 8410

Email hello@debtcentregreenwich.com

Website www.debtcentregreenwich.com

Activities

Objects: 1) THE RELIEF OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP THROUGH THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT AND ACCESS TO FREE FINANCIAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE WITH DEBT-RELATED PROBLEMS LIVING IN GREENWICH AND SURROUNDING AREAS WHO THROUGH LACK OF MEANS WOULD OTHERWISE BE UNABLE TO OBTAIN SUCH SUPPORT AND ADVICE. 2) THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH BY PROMOTING AND ENCOURAGING CHRISTIAN LIVING AND DEMONSTRATING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

Activities: Provision of 1:1 support and access to free financial advice; Taking referrals from CAP Team to assist people with debt-related problems; Providing pastoral support through befrienders to help clients to rebuild their confidence Praying with clients and sharing the gospel message

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** GREENWICH AND SURROUNDING AREAS
- Greenwich

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£61,228	£55,659	-	-
2024-12-31	£68,028	£54,915	-	-
2023-12-31	£27,369	£40,398	-	-
2022-12-31	£36,485	£37,124	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW MICHAEL BESWETHERICK	Chair	2021-07-27
Christopher John Ashworth		2021-09-29
David John Tyron Angel		2025-07-22
Tamara Ruth WOODHOUSE		2021-07-27

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

England & Wales - Charity number 1195721

Accounts

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH
A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

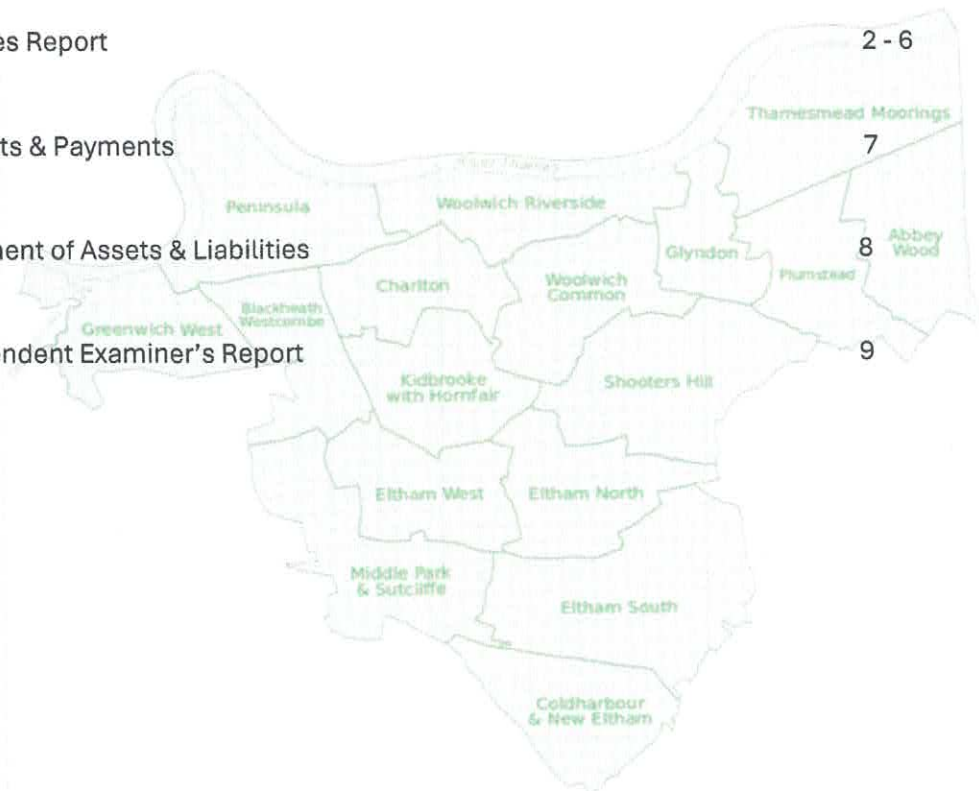


Debt Centre Greenwich

Charity Number 1195721

Report & Financial Statements for the
Period ended 31st December 2025

Contents	Page
Charity Information	1
Trustees Report	2 - 6
Receipts & Payments	7
Statement of Assets & Liabilities	8
Independent Examiner's Report	9



Report of the Management Committee

The Management Committee presents its report and independently examined financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2025

Legal & Administrative Information

Charity Registration Number 1195721

Registered Office & Correspondence Address c/o New Leaf Advice Centre
124a Blaker Court
Charlton
London SE7 7EU

Trustees: Andrew Beswetherick (Chair)
Tamara Woodhouse
Christopher Ashworth
David Angel (Appointed 22/07/2025)

Independent Examiner Vindhya Viswanathan
Community Accountant
BVSC
Engine House Bexley,
2 Veridion Way,
Erith, DA18 4AL

Bankers The Co-operative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT



Structure, Governance and Management

Debt Centre Greenwich (DCG) was established by a partnership of churches in Greenwich in March 2021. We are governed by the regulations set out in the Foundation Model constitution and run by a voluntary Board of Trustees. The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 6th September 2021.

Trustees are encouraged to take an active role in enabling the organisation to fulfil its objectives. This allows trustees to get a clear understanding of what the charity does and the complexity involved in coordinating activities to respond to the needs of those who are struggling with the consequences of financial insecurity and debt. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, regard is given to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

The Board meets formally 6 times a year, which includes an annual meeting of supporters.

Objectives and Activities

As stated in our governing document, the objectives of the charity are:

- The relief of financial hardship through the provision of support and access to free financial advice and assistance to people with debt-related problems living in the postcode areas SE3, SE7, SE9, SE10, SE12, SE18 and parts of SE2, SE8, SE28, BR7 and DA15, who through lack of means would otherwise be unable to obtain such support and advice
- The advancement of the Christian faith and doctrine in accordance with the statement of belief of Christians Against Poverty.

Main activities:

The primary work of the charity is providing debt help for those in the community struggling with unmanageable finances:

- Supporting the client to complete a full review of their financial situation.
- Developing a repayment budget and a route out of debt.
- Stepping in between creditors and clients – facilitating access to qualified debt advisors to negotiate with creditors on behalf of clients.
- Provide support through this journey from our team of trained volunteers.

Related Partnership

Debt Centre Greenwich operate our debt service as a Connect Centre with Community Money Advice. We also have a partnership with CAP to deliver courses such as Life Skills, delivering a Job Club and Money Management.

Policies and Procedures

Through our affiliation with Community Money Advice (CMA), Debt Centre Greenwich continues to operate within a robust framework of policies and procedures that ensure services are delivered in line with recognised good practice and regulatory standards.

CMA provides regular updates, training and guidance enabling the centre to maintain compliance with advice standards and regulatory expectations. The team undertakes ongoing professional development to ensure changes in practice are implemented locally. Risk assessments are undertaken where appropriate before client visits and staff remain alert to safeguarding and vulnerability considerations when supporting clients.

Public Benefit

In reviewing the scope of activities delivered during 2025, the trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the charity's activities clearly demonstrate public benefit.

Debt Centre Greenwich supports individuals and households experiencing financial hardship, disability, unemployment and housing insecurity. Through debt advice, welfare rights advocacy, financial capability training and community wellbeing initiatives the charity works to relieve poverty and improve financial stability for beneficiaries.

Achievements for the Year

During 2025 the centre supported 44 households (plus 26 carried over from 2024) through structured debt advice and budgeting support. Many clients were experiencing complex financial challenges linked to unemployment, disability, housing insecurity and rising living costs.

By the end of the reporting period 62 cases remained active, reflecting the ongoing nature of the support required for many clients. The centre continued to deliver integrated support through debt advice, welfare rights advocacy and community wellbeing initiatives, helping residents stabilise their circumstances and avoid crisis outcomes such as eviction, enforcement action or insolvency.

Debt Management Activity – Key Statistics (2025)

Where debt was not the primary issue, clients were supported through budgeting advice and referred into welfare rights casework to maximise income, ensuring financial difficulties were addressed at their root rather than through inappropriate debt solutions.

Although no formal Debt Relief Orders, IVAs, or bankruptcy solutions were required during this period, this reflects successful early intervention, ensuring clients received the right help at the right time and avoided unnecessary insolvency routes.

This preventative approach aligns with the charity's mission to reduce poverty, protect dignity, and strengthen household resilience, while also reducing pressure on statutory services.

Measure	Total	Average
Cases opened (Jan–Dec 2025)	44	–
Current live cases (year-end)	62	–
Total debt managed	£143,722.65	£3,266.42
Priority debt	£54,188.91	£1,231.57
Non-priority debt	£73,761.90	£1,676.41
Total reportable debt	£127,950.81	£2,907.97
Excluded debt	£15,771.84	£358.45
Monthly household income	£19,505.83	£443.31
Monthly household expenditure	£20,740.00	£471.36

Welfare Rights Outcomes 2025

During the reporting year of 2025, Debt Centre Greenwich provided welfare rights support to 27 clients across a range of complex benefit issues, including Personal Independence Payment (PIP), Universal Credit, LCWRA, Managed Migration, and disability-related benefits.

During the year, we successfully secured £279,695.80 in annualised benefit income for clients across a range of welfare entitlements, including Personal Independence Payment (PIP), Universal Credit, LCWRA, Pension Credit, and disability-related benefits.

A significant proportion of this work involved representing clients through the most challenging stages of the benefits system, particularly at appeal and tribunal level. In total, £39,125.55 in PIP back pay was awarded to clients, alongside ongoing annual awards that provide long-term financial stability.

Benefit Category	Annualised Value Secured (£)
Managed Migration (UC Transitional Protection)	£94,832.64
Personal Independence Payment (PIP)	£77,933.52
LCWRA	£25,276.20
Pension Credit	£27,929.16
State Pension adjustments	£11,973.00
Universal Credit corrections	£11,845.68
Attendance Allowance	£11,481.60
Child Disability Living Allowance	£9,747.36
Housing Benefit	£7,044.00
Carer's Allowance	£4,331.64
Council Tax Support	£2,640.00
Discretionary Housing Payment	£660.00
Total Annualised Benefit Income Secured	£279,695.80

Strategic Partnerships and Collaboration

During 2025 Debt Centre Greenwich strengthened several strategic partnerships that support the delivery of community-based advice, wellbeing initiatives and preventative support across the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

Be Well Hub – South London Listens

During the reporting year Debt Centre Greenwich became affiliated as a Be Well Hub under the South London Listens programme. This affiliation recognises the centre's role as a trusted community setting contributing to early intervention and prevention within the borough's mental health and wellbeing system.

Through advice, advocacy and holistic support the centre addresses key social determinants of health including debt, financial insecurity and housing instability. Working within the Be Well network strengthens collaboration with Public Health partners and improves referral pathways for residents requiring support.

Partnership with Peabody Charlton

A key development during the year was the strengthening of the centre's partnership with Peabody Charlton. Through this relationship Debt Centre Greenwich became based at the New Leaf Advice Centre on the Peabody Charlton Estate.

Locating services within the community has improved accessibility for residents and strengthened collaboration with housing and community teams. This partnership supports earlier intervention for households experiencing financial hardship and enables the centre to deliver advice and wellbeing services within a trusted neighbourhood setting.

Greenwich Community Advice Network (GCAN)

Debt Centre Greenwich also played a leading role in establishing the Greenwich Community Advice Network (GCAN) alongside Plumstead Community Law Centre and Greenwich Housing Rights.

The network brings together advice providers from across the borough to share knowledge, coordinate support and address systemic challenges affecting residents. A key element of this work has been the introduction of the Step referral platform, enabling agencies to make seamless referrals and ensuring residents are connected quickly to the right support service.

Frazzled Greenwich – Community Mental Wellbeing Initiative

During 2025 the Centre began developing Frazzled Greenwich, a community mental wellbeing initiative delivered in partnership with Peabody Charlton and AfiriLife MIND. The project is linked to the national Frazzled Café network and aims to provide peer-led support for residents experiencing stress, anxiety and loneliness.

Frazzled Greenwich will provide a safe and non-judgemental environment where residents can share experiences and develop coping strategies through structured conversations. In-person sessions are planned to launch in early 2026.

Review of Activities and Impact

The trustees consider the outcomes achieved during the year to demonstrate effective use of charitable resources. Debt Centre Greenwich continues to provide specialist support for individuals who would otherwise struggle to navigate complex welfare and financial systems independently.

By stabilising debt, maximising income through welfare rights advocacy and strengthening community partnerships, the centre has helped residents avoid crisis and build greater financial resilience.

Plans for the Future

Looking ahead, Debt Centre Greenwich will continue to strengthen its preventative debt advice model, with a clear focus on sustainability, early intervention, and integrated support. A key priority is capacity building within the organisation, strengthen referral pathways, and further integrate debt advice with welfare rights and wellbeing support. This approach remains consistent with Debt Centre Greenwich's long-standing mission to alleviate poverty, promote justice, and support individuals and families to move forward with hope and stability.

During September 2025, the Centre Manager and Money Mentor successfully completed CMA Parts 1, 2 and 3 Generalist Debt Advice Training. Once fully accredited, they will be able to deliver the centre's debt advice services entirely in-house, reducing reliance on external advisers and increasing the charity's ability to respond flexibly to local demand.

Financial Review

Finance Report

Income for the year was £61,228 (2024 68,028) and expenditure was £55,659 (2024 £54,915) All funds raised by DCG are detailed in the accounts at the end of this report. The accounts provide a summary of financial activity over the last year. Funds are used to achieve the objectives summarised above and to develop DCG for the benefit of the community it serves.

We are thankful for the partnership with the Greenwich Foodbank that provides funding to March 2025 through a Service Level Agreement and to our partner churches who have provided funding and other resources.

We were successful in getting funding from Awards for All (£15.8k) for a volunteer programme; and £23.7k from Greenwich Healthier Communities Fund to build financial resilience to improve mental health and well-being. Funding from the Foyle Foundation (£5k) enabled us to deliver Life Skills and 2 Money Coaching courses in 2024.

Reserves Policy

As a mission charity we feel strongly that the priority for the funds received should be to use them to achieve our charitable purposes, this means that we keep our reserves low. Our current requirement for 3 months running costs is £14,000. A future objective of the trustees going forward will be to review the requirements for a suitable reserves position for the charity.

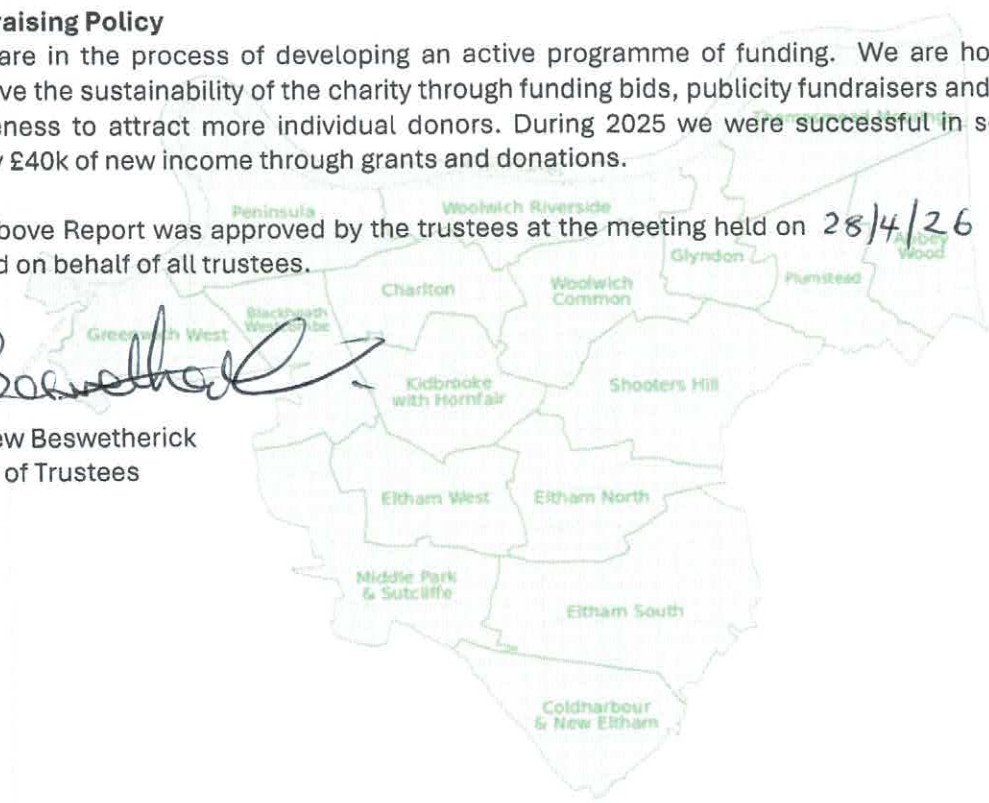
Fundraising Policy

DCG are in the process of developing an active programme of funding. We are hoping to improve the sustainability of the charity through funding bids, publicity fundraisers and raising awareness to attract more individual donors. During 2025 we were successful in securing nearly £40k of new income through grants and donations.

The above Report was approved by the trustees at the meeting held on 28/4/26 and is signed on behalf of all trustees.



Andrew Beswetherick
Chair of Trustees





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

No (if any)
1195721

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2024	To	Period end date 31/12/2025
------------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

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					
Donations	18,119	-		18,119	15,490
Regular Giving	971	-		971	1,712
Grants	-	39,036		39,036	45,431
Fundraising Events	500	-		500	1,399
Hardship Fund		1,380		1,380	2,870
Gift Aid Reclaim	1,022	-		1,022	360
Sundry Income	200	-		200	766
					-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	20,812	40,416		61,228	68,028
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
					-
Sub total					-
Total receipts	20,812	40,416		61,228	68,028
A3 Payments					
Staffing Costs	11,083	33,228		44,311	33,307
Website/Internet/Phone	2,083	-		2,083	-
CAP Subscription Fees	400	840		1,240	3,700
CAP Courses	-	164		164	1,024
DBS	-	-		-	170
Office Administration	962	-		962	2,999
Travel Costs	735	-		735	-
Client Support/Hardship Fund	3,401	-		3,401	4,260
CMA Connect Membership Costs	1,560	-		1,560	9,455
Training Costs		750		750	-
Subs/Memberships	93	360		453	-
					-
Sub total	20,317	35,342		55,659	54,915
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
					-
Sub total					-
Total payments	20,317	35,342		55,659	54,915
Net of receipts/(payments)	495	5,074		5,569	13,113
A5 Transfers between funds					-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,637			22,637	9,524
Cash funds this year end	23,132	5,074		28,206	22,837

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	Current Account	28,206	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	23,132	5,074	-
	(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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	HMRC - PAYE/NIC	Unrestricted	1,910	22 January 2026
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by Chair on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	ANDREW BESNETHERICK	28/4/26



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st DECEMBER 2025
Charity no (if any) 1195721

Set out on pages

1-8
(COMMISSION TO CHECK THE CORRECTNESS OF THIS REPORT PLEASE)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/ 12 / 2025**

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: 

Date: 15/04/2026

Name: Vindhya Viswanathan

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

MBA Finance

Address: Bexley Voluntary Service Council
The Engine House, 2 Veridion Way
Erith DA18 4AL

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

England & Wales - Charity number 1195721

Accounts

Charity Number 1195721

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Annual Accounts

Period ended 31st December 2024



Debt Centre Greenwich

Charity Number 1195721

Report & Financial Statements for the
Period ended 31st December 2024

Contents Page

Charity Information 1

Trustees Report 2 - 8

Receipts & Payments 9

Statement of Assets & Liabilities 10

Independent Examiner's Report 11



Report of the Management Committee

The Management Committee presents its report and independently examined financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2024

Legal & Administrative Information

Charity Registration Number 1195721

Registered Office & Correspondence Address
c/o 2a Reynolds Place
Blackheath
London SE3 8SX

Trustees:

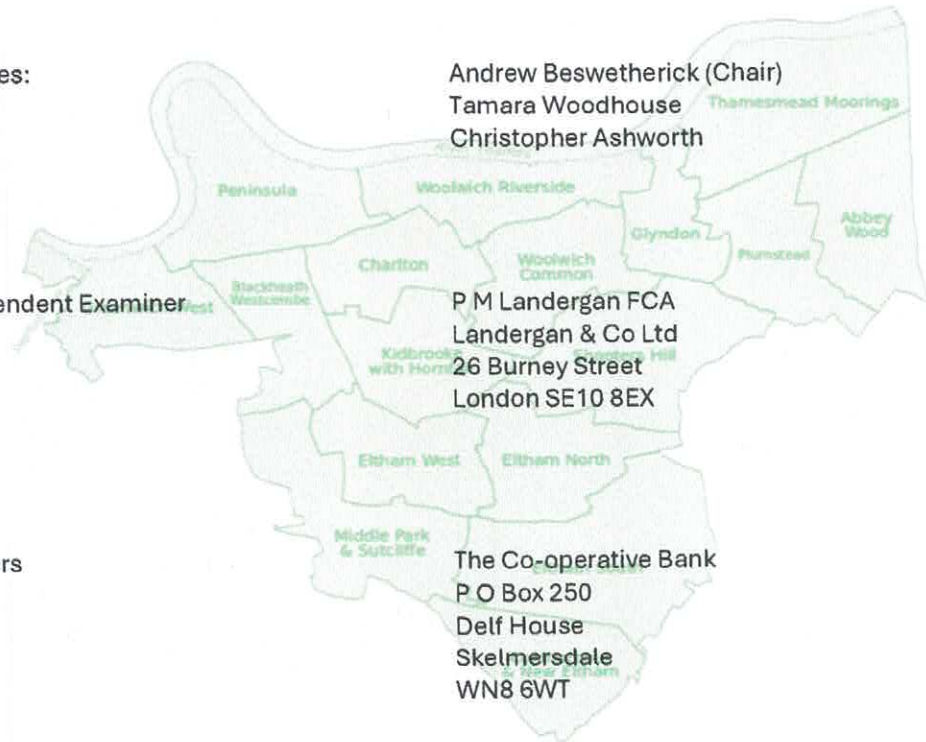
Andrew Beswetherick (Chair)
Tamara Woodhouse
Christopher Ashworth

Independent Examiner

P M Landergeran FCA
Landergeran & Co Ltd
26 Burney Street
London SE10 8EX

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT



Structure, Governance and Management

Debt Centre Greenwich (DCG) was established by a partnership of churches in Greenwich in March 2021. We are governed by the regulations set out in the Foundation Model constitution and run by a voluntary Board of Trustees. The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 6th September 2021.

Trustees are encouraged to take an active role in enabling the organisation to fulfil its objectives. This allows trustees to get a clear understanding of what the charity does and the complexity involved in coordinating activities to respond to the needs of those who are struggling with the consequences of financial insecurity and debt. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, regard is given to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

The Board meets formally 6 times a year, which includes an annual meeting of supporters.

Objectives and Activities

As stated in our governing document, the objectives of the charity are:

- The relief of financial hardship through the provision of support and access to free financial advice and assistance to people with debt-related problems living in the postcode areas SE3, SE7, SE9, SE10, SE12, SE18 and parts of SE2, SE8, SE28, BR7 and DA15, who through lack of means would otherwise be unable to obtain such support and advice
- The advancement of the Christian faith and doctrine in accordance with the statement of belief of Christians Against Poverty.

Main activities:

The primary work of the charity is providing debt help for those in the community struggling with unmanageable finances:

- Supporting the client to complete a full review of their financial situation.
- Developing a repayment budget and a route out of debt.
- Stepping in between creditors and clients – facilitating access to qualified debt advisors to negotiate with creditors on behalf of clients.
- Provide support through this journey from our team of trained volunteers.

Related Partnership

During 2024, DCG decided to move from being an accredited member of Christians Against Poverty (CAP). From June 2024, we formally switched to operating our debt service as a Connect Centre with Community Money Advice. We continue to have a partnership with CAP to deliver courses such as Life Skills and Money Management. Going forward, we will also be delivering a Job Club.

Policies and Procedures

Through our affiliation with CMA, we have access to policies and procedures that ensure that we operate in compliance with good practices in delivering our services. Through regular updates and annual training, DCG can ensure that any changes are implemented at a local level. This includes conducting risk assessments on the clients before doing home visits and being alert to any issues that would put staff or volunteers at risk. As part of our membership, we sign an annual declaration to ensure our policies and procedures are up to date and compliant in line with the FCA regulations.

Public Benefit

In reviewing the scope of the activities delivered by the charity the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the purposes for which the charity has been established and the activities undertaken demonstrate how we meet the requirements of the test.

Achievements for the Year

Since becoming an accredited organisation in November 2021, Debt Centre Greenwich has become a trusted provider of debt support across the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We have established strong working relationships with Council officers, social housing landlords, DWP advisors and the community mental health team at Oxleas.

Through supporting our clients, we have developed our skills as debt coaches to deliver a high level of support, including welfare rights support and advice in terms of form filling for health benefits through to appeal, advocating for tenants with landlords regarding rent arrears or repairs, supporting clients at court regarding possession orders and dealing with utility companies.

As well as the debt counselling work we have remained committed to providing pastoral support, praying with clients and walking with them in their faith journey. Several clients now actively participate in Church and two clients were recently baptised at one of our partner churches.

In the final quarter of 2023, the management team met to review and reflect on the work Debt Centre Greenwich had accomplished over the first two years. We acknowledged that Christians Against Poverty (CAP) was essential in providing the foundation from which we have been able to develop and grow as an organisation. Looking towards the future, we explored how we, as an organisation, could take steps to become more sustainable, better able to support the needs of clients and increasing the level of support we can offer in the long term.

We looked at three key areas in terms of growing our portfolio of advice and the products we could offer our clients in terms of:

- Income maximization
- Support to manage a budget once the client is debt-free
- Support getting back into the workplace

We researched organisations that shared the same values and vision of Debt Centre Greenwich and could support develop the organisation towards becoming an accredited FCA debt advice centre. One option explored at the review day was to consider a move from CAP to Community Money Advice (CMA). CMA's three-tiered approach of:

- Maximise Income
- Minimise Expenditure
- Manage Debt

Fell in line with our objectives and the needs of our clients. CMA also offered a Budgeting Mentor course that we believe clients would benefit from. This, in turn, would attract a talent pool of volunteers to be upskilled and support clients in terms of aftercare once their debt has been managed.

The business case was taken to the board of Trustees in November 2023 and a vote to move Debt Centre Greenwich from CAP to CMA was agreed, with the objective to transition to CMA over the course of 2024.

2024 has seen us amicably transition as a CAP Debt Centre to a CMA Connect Debt Centre, training and upskilling our team in terms of service, systems and support. In terms of client management we are able to prioritise cases and triage cases effectively giving us more control and providing urgent support where necessary.

Having seen success with both the CAP Money Coaching and Life Skills courses we agreed to continue working with CAP as part of our client learning development portfolio. With the Government's decision to encourage people back to work, we made the decision to include the CAP Job club to our client learning and development portfolio. Under the leadership of Beverley Campbell as CAP Job Club Manager, Caroline King and Leanne Rivett trained as Job Club Coaches.

2024 Achievements at a Glance



£350,000
Managed Client
Debt



£76,343
Client Debt Written Off



£58,892
Client Financial Gains*



2
Evictions stopped
through
intervention



3
New Team Members



4
Successful Money
Coach & Life Skills
Courses

Debt Management

Throughout 2024 we managed over £350,000 of client debt this year and successfully written off £76,500 by the end of 2024. We are anticipating our first CMA clients to become debt free in the spring of 2025.

We continue to support two long term CAP clients when we made the transition to CMA. Unfortunately, the debts were deemed too complex for the team to support remotely, and we agreed to step in and transition them to CMA. Both clients were happy to continue to work with us.

Welfare Rights Support:

Welfare rights has been close to our chest from the moment we provided debt support. We feel it is of immense importance that our clients have full access to any benefits that they are entitled to. Maximising a client's income ensures a sustainable income, manage a household budget and prevent falling into arrears and debt in the future. We have successfully applied for over £58,800 of benefits for our most vulnerable clients, many with large amounts of back pay.

Managed Migration

The DWP announced in the summer of 2024, that the process of moving clients on legacy benefits of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and ESA with Housing Benefit (HB) to Universal Credit will be starting on a small scale in the Autumn of 2024. The DWP began sending migration notices to these claimants in September 2024 aiming to notify claimants in this cohort by December 2025.

Legacy ESA claimants include a percentage of our vulnerable client base, as such, we have engaged with both new and previous clients whom we believe may be part of this cohort. This ensures that our clients are fully engaged and supported, reducing anxiety and concerns that they may have.

Housing

We have seen an increase in clients who need support with housing applications and health & disability assessments. We have held social landlords to account and helping residents whose property is in disrepair. This has developed a trusted relationship with the Housing Enforcement Officer and the RBG Housing Surveyors, assessing properties in disrepair or black mould. We have given light touch frontline support for those in temporary accommodation, either by section 21 no-fault eviction, or those who have been decanted from their properties with Kettle packs from the Greenwich Foodbank. We also successfully represented two clients, both single mums, at court, threatened with possession orders for social housing, due to rent arrears. Working with them to provide emergency financial statements and suggest affordable repayment plans, we were able to save both families from eviction.

Courses and Volunteers

We ran two successful Money Coaching Courses this year at St John's and Christ Church East Greenwich Caroline King and Yetsie Adeboye joined Beverley's Team as newly qualified Money Coaches in the spring, while Susan Archer and Leanne with the support of Caroline King ran a successful Life Skills Course at Woolwich Service Users Project (WSUP) over the summer.

Upskilling

Beverley trained as a Job Club Manager, broadening our portfolio of courses for 2025. Caroline upskilled as a Life Skills and Job Club Coach to support Beverley, Susan and Leanne. While Beverley and Leanne upskilled as coaches under each other's leadership as perspective Job Club and Life Skills Coaches.

Expanded Team

We welcomed Kathy Byfield to our team. Kathy brings a plethora of expertise and professional experience, supporting our clients as the first point of call on the telephone, explaining our service to clients and supporting us at external networking engagements. Kathy will also be responsible for our volunteer engagement and has developed a strategy to grow and train our volunteer base. Our clients love her; she has settled in well and is a huge asset to the team.

First Christmas Dinner

We ended the year on a high. Having supported a lot of single men with severe mental health issues, our major concern was that Christmas is a difficult and lonely time for them. We made the executive decision to open the Boys' Brigade Hall and host a home-cooked Christmas Dinner for our clients on Christmas Day. This was funded by the generosity of members of Emmanuel Church London and CBCF. Together we raised £700 for a great feast, with festive music, games, and a visit from Father Christmas himself.

Plans for the Future

Our plans for 2025 continue to be focused on how we can better serve the needs of our clients and develop the organisation to do this sustainably. Our objectives for next year are to:

- Continue to provide debt help to residents of Greenwich struggling to manage their finances.
- Deliver more Money Coaching and Life Skills courses.
- Set up a Job Club
- Launch our volunteer programme
- Access additional funding to ensure the sustainability of the charity.

Financial Review

All funds raised by DCG are detailed in the accounts at the end of this report. The accounts provide a summary of financial activity over the last year. Funds are used to achieve the objectives summarised above and to develop DCG for the benefit of the community it serves.

We are thankful for the partnership with the Greenwich Foodbank that provides funding to March 2025 through a Service Level Agreement and to our partner churches who have provided funding and other resources.

We also acknowledge the funding from the Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund, which supported the transition from CAP to CMA. Funding from London Catalyst enabled us to deliver Life Skills and 2 Money Coaching courses in 2024.

Reserves Policy

As a mission charity we feel strongly that the priority for the funds received should be to use them to achieve our charitable purposes, this means that we keep our reserves low. A future objective of the trustees going forward will be to review the requirements for a suitable reserves position for the charity.

Fundraising Policy

DCG are in the process of developing an active programme of funding. We are hoping to improve the sustainability of the charity through funding bids, publicity fundraisers and raising awareness to attract more individual donors. We were recently successful in a bid to Awards for All receiving an award of £15,830 for our volunteering programme.

The above Report was approved by the trustees at the meeting held on 14th May 2025 and is signed on behalf of all trustees.



Andrew Beswetherick
Chair of Trustees



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH	No (if any) 1196721
--	-------------------------------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
------------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

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					
Donations	15,490	-		15,490	17,476
Regular Giving	1,712	-		1,712	1,794
Grants	29,475	15,956		45,431	3,000
Fundraising Events	1,399	-		1,399	2,025
Hardship Fund		2,870		2,870	1,090
Gift Aid Reclaim	360	-		360	1,984
Sundry Income	766	-		766	-
<i>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</i>	49,202	18,826		68,028	27,369
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
					-
<i>Sub total</i>					-
Total receipts	49,202	18,826		68,028	27,369
A3 Payments					
Staffing Costs	26,806	6,501		33,307	29,362
Payroll Admin	-	-		-	168
CAP Subscription Fees	3,700	-		3,700	7,500
CAP Courses	1,024	-		1,024	1,298
DBS	170	-		170	-
Office Administration	2,999	-		2,999	1,170
Client Support/Hardship Fund	1,390	2,870		4,260	900
CMA Connect Set-Up & Affiliation	-	9,455		9,455	-
					-
					-
					-
<i>Sub total</i>	36,089	18,826		54,915	40,398
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
					-
<i>Sub total</i>					-
Total payments	36,089	18,826		54,915	40,398
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	13,113	-		13,113	13,029
A5 Transfers between funds					-
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,616			9,616	22,645
Cash funds this year end	22,729			22,729	9,616

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	Current Account	22,729	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	22,729	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

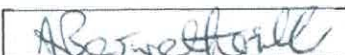
	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	HMRC - PAYE/NIC	Unrestricted	1,687	19 January 2025
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by Chair on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	ANDREW BESWETHERICK	14.05.2025



**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st DECEMBER 2024
Charity no (if any) 1195721

Set out on pages

1- 8-
(examiners should include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/ 12 / 2024**

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

P. M. Landergan

Date: 16 May 2025

Name:

P M Landergan

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

FCA 7643305

Address:

Landergan & Co Ltd
26 Burney Street
London SE10 8EX

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

England & Wales - Charity number 1195721

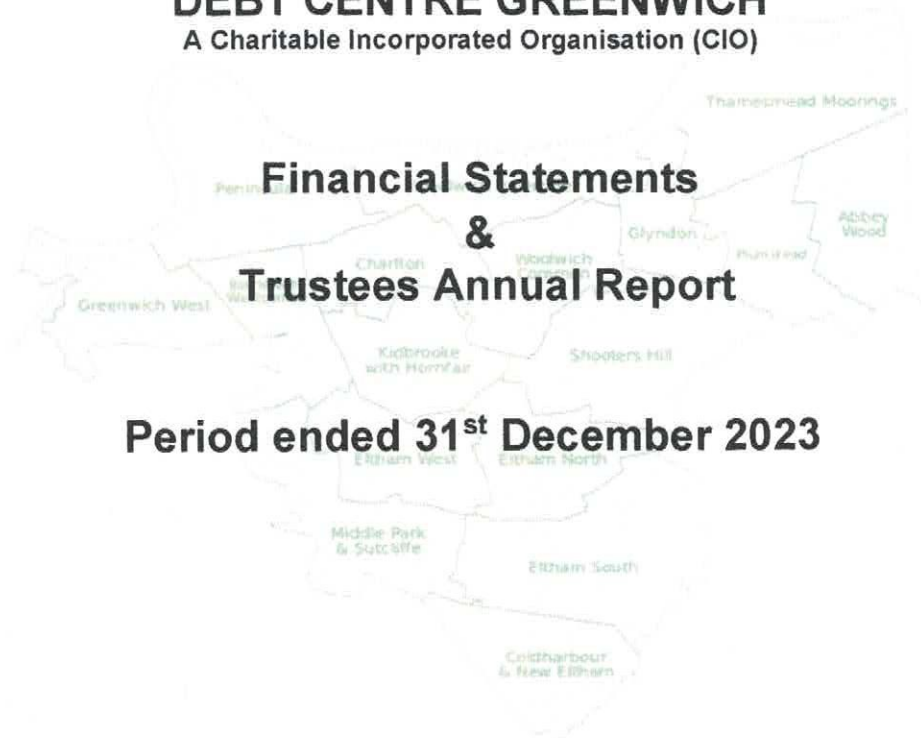
Accounts

Charity Number 1195721

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH
A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

**Financial Statements
&
Trustees Annual Report**

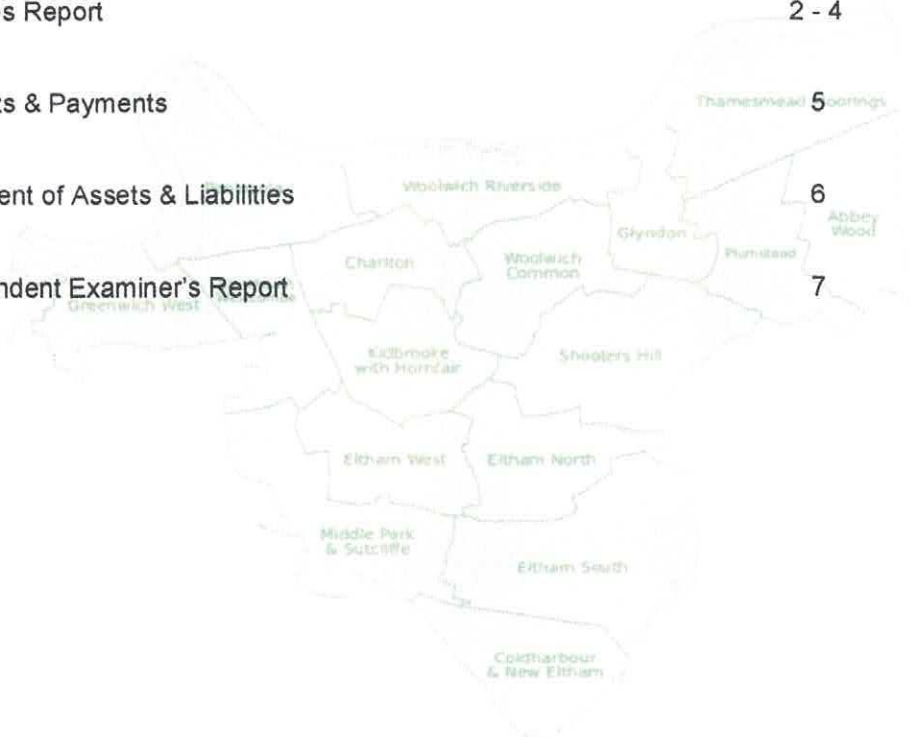
Period ended 31st December 2023



Debt Centre Greenwich

**Report & Financial Statements for the
Period ended 31st December 2023**

Contents	Page
Charity Information	1
Trustees Report	2 - 4
Receipts & Payments	5
Statement of Assets & Liabilities	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7



Report of the Management Committee

The Management Committee presents its report and independently examined financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2023

Legal & Administrative Information

Charity Registration Number 1195721

Registered Office & Correspondence Address
c/o 2a Reynolds Place
Blackheath
London SE3 8SX

Trustees:

Andrew Beswetherick (Chair)
Tamara Woodhouse
Christopher Ashworth

Independent Examiner

P M Landergeran FCA
Landergeran & Co Ltd
26 Burney Street
London SE10 8EX

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT



Structure, Governance and Management

Debt Centre Greenwich (DCG) was established by a partnership of churches in Greenwich in March 2021. We are governed by the regulations set out in the Foundation Model constitution and run by a voluntary Board of Trustees. The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 6th September 2021.

Trustees are encouraged to take an active role in enabling the organisation to fulfil its objectives. This allows trustees to get a clear understanding of what the charity does and the complexity involved in co-ordinating activities to respond to the needs of those who are struggling with the consequences of financial insecurity and debt. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, regard is given to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

The Board meets formally 6 times a year, which includes an annual meeting of supporters.

Objectives and Activities

As stated in our governing document the objectives of the charity are:

- The relief of financial hardship through the provision of support and access to free financial advice and assistance to people with debt-related problems living in the postcode areas SE3, SE7, SE9, SE10, SE12, SE18 and parts of SE2, SE8, SE28, BR7 and DA15, who through lack of means would otherwise be unable to obtain such support and advice
- The advancement of the Christian faith and doctrine in accordance with the statement of belief of Christians Against Poverty.

Main activities:

The primary work of the charity is providing debt help for those in the community struggling with unmanageable finances:

- Supporting the client to complete a full review of their financial situation.
- Developing a repayment budget and a route out of debt.
- Stepping in between creditors and clients – facilitating access to qualified debt advisors to negotiate with creditors on behalf of clients.
- Provide support through this journey from our team of trained volunteers.

Related Partnership

DCG is an accredited member of Christians Against Poverty (CAP). As a faith-based organisation, DCG shares the vision of CAP which is to Transform Lives, Thriving Churches, and an End to UK Poverty. The services provided by DCG are delivered in compliance with the training, performance management, policies, procedures and practices of CAP.

Locally, DCG are supported by a network of churches under the umbrella of Greenwich Churches Together. There are six core churches in the borough that provide financial support and the members of the trustee board come from the partner churches.

Policies and Procedures

Though our affiliation with CAP, we have access to policies and procedures which ensure that we operate in compliance with good practices in delivering our services. Through regular updates and annual training DCG is able to ensure that any changes are implemented at local level. This includes conducting risk assessments on the clients before doing home visits and being alert to any issues which would put staff or volunteers at risk.

Public Benefit

In reviewing the scope of the activities delivered by the charity the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the purposes for

which the charity has been established and the activities undertaken demonstrate how we meet the requirements of the test.

Achievements for the Year

Over the course of 2023 we have seen the fruit of our labour, engaging in the community, with a message of hope and a gift of a debt free future from the burden of unmanageable debt. Our experience over the last 2 years shows that our approach to supporting people out of debt is effective over this period we have achieved:



- 8 Debt Management Plans (4 clients choosing the Independent Option) managing the DMP themselves.
- 8 Debt Relief Orders and 3 Bankruptcies. A total of £111,500 worth of debt was cleared
- We have been able to negotiate with creditors on behalf of clients for breathing space to give time to sort out the finances.
- We supported a client at a court hearing and were able to show financial circumstances for the client, challenging the amount the landlord was asking her to pay off the arrears when her work hours had been reduced, due to caring for a sick child.

Community Engagement

Over the past year we have established links with local agencies who see the benefit of our service and our approach for their clients across the borough:

Home-Start Greenwich – money management for parents; Greenwich Winter Night Shelter – supporting homeless people in the move-on phase to make tenancy sustainable; Mind – people struggling with mental health issues and Job Centre Plus and Greenwich Carers. We have also worked with several clients from VIA (formerly the Westminster Drug Project).

DCG has built strong relationships with the Royal Borough Greenwich Housing, Council Tax and Welfare Rights Team as well as the Housing Authorities offering social housing across the borough.

The feedback that we have received from the people we have supported through the debt help work in the last 6 months; as well as the comments from agencies we have spoken to about DCG has highlighted the importance of the pastoral element in our service delivery. We understand that to help someone in their journey out of debt it is just as important to support that person in addressing the wider issues affecting their lives. Our trained befrienders: volunteers from the local churches are central to ensuring that people have someone that they can talk to and help them to stay on track in their journey out of debt.

We were very pleased to be invited to speak at the Anti-Poverty & Housing Scrutiny Panel in December. We gave a presentation on our work, including our working relationship with Council officers to effectively advocate on the support needs of our clients.

We were able speak number of issues of the impact of Housing issues for our clients including:

- Rent Arrears
- Council Tax Arrears
- Bedroom Tax
- Use of hotels as emergency housing
- Need for accessible housing
- S21 no fault evictions
- Discrepancy Housing Payment
- Benefit claims – PIP/UC50

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to thank Leanne, Debt Centre Manager and Beverley, Debt Coach for the incredible work they have done in the last 12 months in taking forward our vision and the difference that has already been made for clients. This is illustrated in Mark's story below.

Client Case Study

We met Mark at the Greenwich Foodbank at the start of 2022, he had just lost his mum and was suicidal, he had no one to turn to, he had lost all hope. We sat and had a coffee together as we sat together, he opened up and asked for support with his debts, but it turned out that debt was just the tip of the iceberg.

'I'll never forget the moment we first walked into Mark's house. It was freezing cold as he couldn't afford the heating. Mark had no oven and was trying to cook using a makeshift hob with hot water in a bowl placed under another bowl. We have found that debt is usually a symptom of a much wider situation. Our work in the community gives us the opportunity to meet those in need face-to-face, with the love of Jesus, and address so much more of what's going on. It allows us to face the deeper needs across the borough and tackle poverty in a way that will really last.

In partnership with another local organisation, we were able to install an oven for Mark just before Christmas last year. He cooked his first Christmas dinner in three years! Through practical changes like getting an oven, combined with receiving debt help, friendship and wider support from us, poverty's grip on Mark's life is loosening, and we can see him transforming in so many ways.

For one, Mark is desperate to know more about Jesus! He told us, 'I know he's there as I can see him in your eyes'. He has started praying and listening to the Bible on his phone. It's humbling to see. The work we do through at the debt centre is about so much more than just practical help – it offers the chance to explore Christianity and become part of a wider community which can make a huge difference for a lot of people. One year on, Mark is now debt free, happy and giving back to the community by volunteering in at the foodbank that helped him on his journey out of debt.

Plans for the Future

Following the strategic awayday in August 2023 and after careful consideration and prayer, the Trustees have decided to move away from partnering CAP on debt advisory services and instead to work with Community Money Advice (CMA) who provide similar support services. The trustees resolved that it was in the best interests of the charity and its clients

for a variety of reasons and that process is currently under way. It is expected that clients will be supported by CMA from April 2024.

Our objectives for next year are to:

- Through our new partnership with CMA continue to provide debt support to residents of Greenwich struggling to manage their finances.
- Explore ways to improve the service delivery model for our debt work.
- Deliver more Money Coaching and Life Skills courses.
- Build new partnerships and links with organisations and churches in the community.
- Do further work to raise the profile of Debt Centre Greenwich in the borough.
- Access additional funding to ensure the sustainability of charity

Financial Review

All funds raised by DCG are detailed in the accounts at the end of this report. The accounts provide a summary of financial activity over the last year. Funds are used to achieve the objectives summarised above and to develop DCG for the benefit of the community it serves.

We are thankful for the partnership with the Greenwich Foodbank that provides funding to 2024 through a Service Level Agreement and to our partner churches who have provided funding and other resources during our first year.

Funds raised do not profit the Trustees who form the organisation's management committee. No portion is paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the charity's Trustees.

Reserves Policy

As a mission charity we feel strongly that the priority for the funds received should be to use them to achieve our charitable purposes, this means that we keep our reserves low. A future objective of the trustees going forward will be to review the requirements for a suitable reserves position for the charity.

Fundraising Policy

DCG are in the process of developing an active programme of funding. We are hoping to improve the sustainability of the charity through funding bids, publicity fundraisers and raising awareness to attract more individual donors. We were recently successful in a bid to the Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund receiving an award of £15,956. London Catalyst awarded £3,000 to deliver a Life Skills and 2 Money Coaching courses in 2024.

The above Report was approved by the trustees at the meeting held on 14th March 2024 and is signed on behalf of all trustees.



Andrew Beswetherick
Chair of Trustees



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

1195721

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2023	To	31/12/2023
---------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
Donations	17,476	-	-	17,476	12,757
Regular Giving	1,794	-	-	1,794	928
Grants	-	3,000	-	3,000	22,000
Fundraising Events	-	2,025	-	2,025	800
Hardship Fund	-	1,090	-	1,090	-
Gift Aid Reclaim	1,984	-	-	1,984	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total (Gross Income for AR)</i>	21,254	6,115	-	27,369	36,485
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total receipts</i>	21,254	6,115	-	27,369	36,485
A3 Payments					
Staffing Costs	29,362	-	-	29,362	27,965
Payroll Admin	168	-	-	168	504
CAP Subscription Fees	7,500	-	-	7,500	5,280
CAP Life Skills Course	-	1,298	-	1,298	-
DBS	-	-	-	-	214
Office Administration	1,170	-	-	1,170	2,663
Client Support/Hardship Fund	-	900	-	900	498
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	38,200	2,198	-	40,398	37,124
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total payments</i>	38,200	2,198	-	40,398	37,124
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	- 16,946	3,917	-	- 13,029	- 639
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,645	-	-	22,645	23,284
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	5,699	3,917	-	9,616	22,645

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	Current Account	5,699	3,917	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	5,699	3,917	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

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

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B6 Liabilities	HMRC - PAYE/NIC	Unrestricted	1,249	19 January 2024
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by Chair on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	ANDREW BESWETHERICK	14/3/24



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 ST DECEMBER 2023	Charity no (if any)	1195721
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------

Set out on pages

1-6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/ 12 / 2023**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: A. M. Lander

Date: 14-3-2024

Name: PHILIP LANDERMAN

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

FCA (7643305)

Address:

LANDERMAN & CO LTD
26 BURNEY STREET
SE10 8BX

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

England & Wales - Charity number 1195721

Accounts

Charity Number 1195721

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

**Financial Statements
&
Trustees Annual Report**

Period ended 31st December 2022

Debt Centre Greenwich

Report & Financial Statements for the Period ended 31st December 2022

Contents	Page
Charity Information	1
Trustees Report	2 - 4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7

Report of the Management Committee

The Management Committee presents its report and independently examined financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2022

Legal & Administrative Information

Charity Registration Number 1195721

Registered Office & Correspondence Address
c/o 2a Reynolds Place
Blackheath
London SE3 8SX

Trustees:
Andrew Beswetherick (Chair)
Tamara Woodhouse
Christopher Ashworth

Independent Examiner
P M Landergan FCA
Landergan & Co Ltd
26 Burney Street
London SE10 8EX

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Structure, Governance and Management

Debt Centre Greenwich (DCG) was established by a partnership of churches in Greenwich in March 2021. We are governed by the regulations set out in the Foundation Model constitution and run by a voluntary Board of Trustees. The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 6th September 2021.

Trustees are encouraged to take an active role in enabling the organisation to fulfil its objectives. This allows trustees to get a clear understanding of what the charity does and the complexity involved in co-ordinating activities to respond to the needs of those who are struggling with the consequences of financial insecurity and debt. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, regard is given to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

The Board meets formally 6 times a year, which includes an annual meeting of supporters.

Objectives and Activities

As stated in our governing document the objectives of the charity are:

- The relief of financial hardship through the provision of support and access to free financial advice and assistance to people with debt-related problems living in the postcode areas SE3, SE7, SE9, SE10, SE12, SE18 and parts of SE2, SE8, SE28, BR7 and DA15, who through lack of means would otherwise be unable to obtain such support and advice
- The advancement of the Christian faith and doctrine in accordance with the statement of belief of Christians Against Poverty.

Main activities:

The primary work of the charity is providing debt help for those in the community struggling with unmanageable finances:

- Supporting the client to complete a full review of their financial situation
- Developing a repayment budget and a route out of debt.
- Stepping in between creditors and clients – facilitating access to qualified debt advisors to negotiate with creditors on behalf of clients
- Provide support through this journey from our team of trained volunteers

Related Partnership

DCG is an accredited member of Christians Against Poverty (CAP). As a faith based organisation, DCG shares the vision of CAP which is to Transform Lives, Thriving Churches, and an End to UK Poverty. The services provided by DCG are delivered in compliance with the training, performance management, policies, procedures and practices of CAP.

Locally, DCG are supported by a network of churches under the umbrella of Greenwich Churches Together. There are six core churches in the borough that provide financial support and the members of the trustee board come from the partner churches.

Policies and Procedures

Though our affiliation with CAP, we have access to policies and procedures which ensure that we operate in compliance with good practices in delivering our services. Through regular updates and annual training DCG is able to ensure that any changes are implemented at local level. This includes conducting risk assessments on the clients before doing home visits and being alert to any issues which would put staff or volunteers at risk.

Public Benefit

In reviewing the scope of the activities delivered by the charity the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the purposes for which the charity has been established and the activities undertaken demonstrate how we meet the requirements of the test.

Achievements for the Year

In January 2022, we met together at Christ Church East Greenwich, for the launch of the new CAP Debt Centre Greenwich. There we shared the vision for the year ahead with an eagerness to support the community of Greenwich, with a mission of hope for those who needed it the most.

A year on we have seen 41 clients come through the debt centre, managing over £106K of client debt in 2022 and celebrating our first debt free client in November. We have run a CAP Money Course, successfully trialed a new Triage service and, pastorally, have come alongside clients in times of stress, loss, and trauma. We have been able to share the love and compassion of the local church, providing bedding, mobile phones and, in one case, a brand-new oven! As a result of that love and compassion, we have been able to pastorally support and pray for our clients and we have seen three people come to faith over the course of the year.

We are grateful for the generous funding and partnership with Greenwich Foodbank, offering us space in the Foodbank Welcome Centres, which has enabled us to set up CAP Debt Centre Greenwich as a beacon of hope in Greenwich. It has been a privilege to see the significant impact made by this partnership throughout the borough, cementing us as a trusted source of support within the local community and a welcomed extension to Greenwich Foodbank.

The partnerships with the local Churches have been so encouraging and supportive, as prayer partners, in financial giving and also in volunteering. We want to give a shout out to our amazing Befrienders, they truly are the unsung heroes, without their hours of volunteering and flexibility we wouldn't be able to do the work we do. No two clients are the same, we never know what we are going to be walking into, but we do know we walk into it together with God, over the year our clients have become friends. We thank God for love and support, you make our job easier.

Through continued support and funding we will be able to grow and shape our strategy to help combat the pressures we are seeing as a result of the cost-of-living crisis. We are pleased to have recruited a second debt coach. Funding from a micro grant from the Cinnamon Network has given us the means to establish a new CAP service within Greenwich, through the CAP Life Skills programme.

CAP Life Skills will be led by local volunteers who have completed CAP's accredited Life Coach training programme. They will be able to facilitate the course and coach clients one-to-one. From a Debt Centre perspective, we welcome CAP Life Skills. It will mean that the work we do with our clients will be sustainable, clients will be able to go onto the course and learn how to manage the budget that we have worked out with them; it will put them into community and give them the tools and coaching to become independent and cope with day-to-day financial decisions.

We also see a lot of people through the foodbank to whom debt is just a symptom of a more underlining issue. After a discussion, we can see that they need support, but CAP debt help may not be the right path for them. CAP Life Skills will give them the confidence they need to make the right choices and will give them that one to one support medium to long term. Through CAP Life Skills we can help a wider cross section of the community from within the foodbanks and other statutory organisation and charities within the borough.

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to thank Leanne, Debt Centre Manager and Beverley, Debt Coach for the incredible work they have done in the last 12 months in taking forward our vision and the difference that has already been made for clients.

Plans for the Future

Our plans for 2023 are to:

- To continue to provide debt help to residents of Greenwich struggling to manage their finances
- To deliver the CAP Life Skills course
- To build new partnerships and links with organisations and churches in the community
- Further raise the profile of Debt Centre Greenwich in the borough.
- To access funding to ensure the sustainability of charity.

Financial Review

All funds raised by DCG are detailed in the accounts at the end of this report. The accounts provide a summary of financial activity over the last year. Funds are used to achieve the objectives summarised above and to develop DCG for the benefit of the community it serves.

We are thankful for the partnership with the Greenwich Foodbank that provides funding to 2024 through a Service Level Agreement and also to our partner churches who have provided funding and other resources during our first year.

Funds raised do not profit the Trustees who form the organisation's management committee. No portion is paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the charity's Trustees.

Reserves Policy

As a mission charity we feel strongly that the priority for the funds received should be to use them to achieve our charitable purposes, this means that we keep our reserves low. A future objective of the trustees going forward will be to review the requirements for a suitable reserves position for the charity.

Fundraising Policy

DCG are in the process of developing an active programme of funding. We are hoping to improve the sustainability of the charity through funding bids, publicity fundraisers and raising awareness to attract more individual donors.

The above Report was approved by the trustees at the meeting held 20th January 2023 on and is signed on behalf of all trustees



Andrew Beswetherick
Chair of Trustees



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH	No (if any) 1195721
--	-------------------------------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2021	To	Period end date 31/12/2022
------------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

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					
Donations	12,757	-	-	12,757	5,084
Regular Giving	928	-	-	928	-
Grants	20,000	2,000	-	22,000	20,000
Fundraising Events	800	-	-	800	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	34,485	2,000	-	36,485	25,084
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	34,485	2,000	-	36,485	25,084
A3 Payments					
Staffing Costs	27,965	-	-	27,965	-
Payroll Admin	504	-	-	504	-
CAP Subscription Fees	5,280	-	-	5,280	1,800
DBS	112	102	-	214	-
Office Administration	2,502	161	-	2,663	-
Client Support Costs	498	-	-	498	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	36,861	263	-	37,124	1,800
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	36,861	263	-	37,124	1,800
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,376	1,737	-	639	23,284
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	23,284	-	-	23,284	-
Cash funds this year end	20,908	1,737	-	22,645	23,284

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	Current Account	22,645	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	20,908	1,737	-

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Gift Aid Claim	216	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	HMRC - PAYE/NIC	Unrestricted	585	19 January 2023
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by Chair on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

A. Boswellthorpe

ANDREW BOSWELLTHORPE

20.1.23.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

On accounts for the year ended

31st DECEMBER 2022

Charity no (if any)

1195721

Set out on pages

1-6

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

P. M. Lander

Date:

23-1-23

Name:

PHILIP M LANDER

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

FCA (7643305)

Address:

26 BURNEY STREET

SE10 2EX