

DEBT CENTRE GREENWICH

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Annual Accounts

Period ended 31st December 2025



Debt Centre Greenwich

Charity Number 1195721

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

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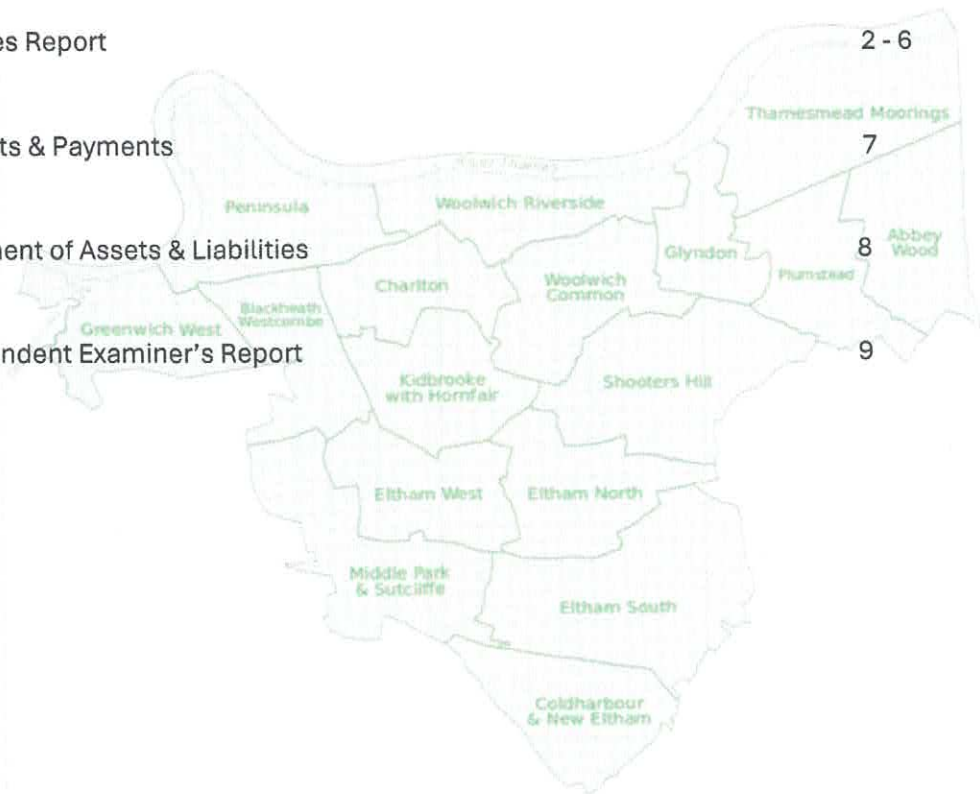
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Report of the Management Committee

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

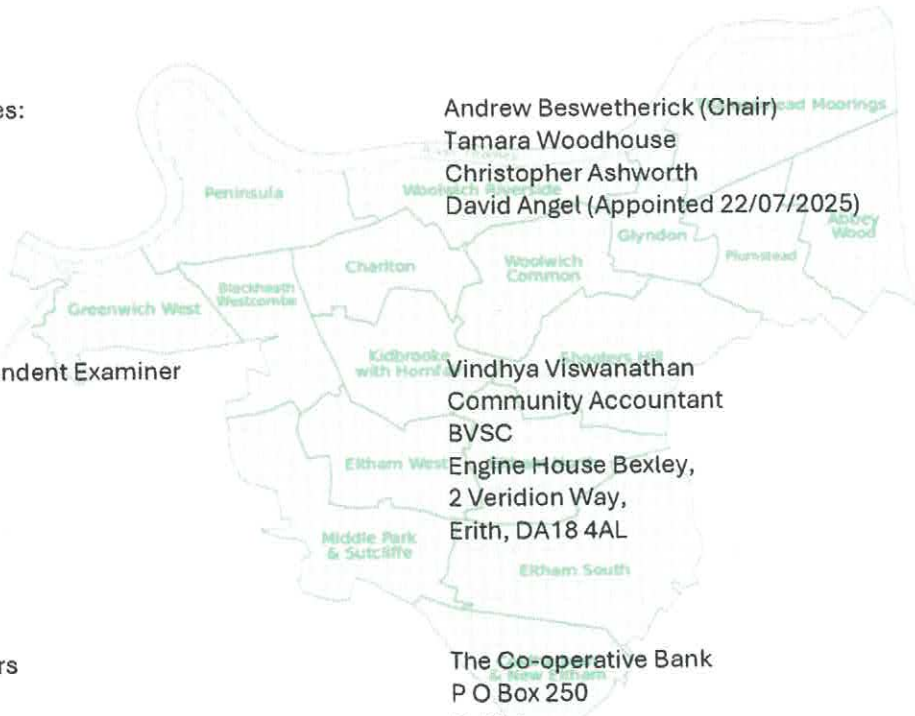
Legal & Administrative Information

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)
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Independent Examiner	Vindhya Viswanathan Community Accountant BVSC Engine House Bexley, 2 Veridion Way, Erith, DA18 4AL
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Bankers	The Co-operative Bank P O Box 250 Delf House Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
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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
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2024	To	Period end date 31/12/2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
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	22,637

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))			

	Details	Unrestricted funds 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	1,910	22 January 2026
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by Chair on behalf of all the trustees

Signature



Print Name

ANDREW BESNETHERICK

Date of approval

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	31 st DECEMBER 2025	Charity no (if any)	1195721
Set out on pages	1-8		

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:

V. Vindhya

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