

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

England & Wales · Charity number 1202607

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-04-03

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

Contact

Address Unit D
261 Lewisham High Street
London

Phone 07861623169

Email laurence@lewishamdonationhub.org

Website www.lewishamdonationhub.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:1. THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY PRIMARILY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN SOUTH EAST LONDON BY PROVIDING: GRANTS, ITEMS AND SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED AND/OR CHARITIES OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY.2. TO PROMOTE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT PRIMARILY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN SOUTH EAST LONDON THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT BY WORKING TO MINIMISE WASTE AND ACHIEVE REDUCTIONS IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND RAW MATERIAL USE THROUGH THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY RESOURCE SHARING, RE-USE AND REPAIR INITIATIVES.

Activities: We are a frontline service that collects and organises community donations of all kinds which we then distribute to those facing acute hardship in London. Founded in 2020, we are now one of the main points of support for those seeking asylum, the homeless, domestic violence survivors & many other groups.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bexley
- Bromley
- Croydon
- Greenwich
- Lambeth
- Lewisham
- Southwark

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£569,800	£603,449	£44,293	5
2024-03-31	£200,235	£101,894	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Yvette Dearden	Chair	2022-09-21
Akida John-Ambrose		2026-02-04
Carolyn Emanuel		2022-09-21
Catherine McCarthy		2024-12-04
Evgenii Khramkov		2024-07-08
Magdalena Szlenkier		2022-09-21
Sandra Ajidahun		2026-02-04
Thomas Lax		2026-02-04

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1202607

Accounts

Charity registration number 1202607 (England and Wales)

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Y Dearden
C Emanuel
M Szlenkier
S Williams
C McCarthy
E Khramkov

(Appointed 4 December 2024)
(Appointed 8 July 2024)

Charity number (England and Wales)

1202607

Principal address

Unit D
Place Ladywell
261 Lewisham High Street
Lewisham
SE13 6AY

Independent examiner

Frances Wilde FCCA DChA
Warner Wilde Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley
Surrey
GU24 9SF

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 15
Independent examiner's report	16
Statement of financial activities	17
Balance sheet	18
Statement of cash flows	19
Notes to the financial statements	20 - 29

Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31st March 2025

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Welcome from our Chair

It is my pleasure to introduce our second Annual Report. It sets out Lewisham Donation Hub's key activities, financial performance, and impact between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025.

Reflecting on our second year as a registered charity, I'm truly grateful for the unwavering support of our community, which has enabled us to positively impact the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in south-east London.

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to express my sincere thanks to our staff, volunteers, partners and community of supporters – your dedication, hard work, generosity of spirit and donations have powered our work. I would also like to acknowledge the ongoing support we have received from Lewisham Council.

Building on our first year as a charity, this past 12 months has seen Lewisham Donation Hub expand its reach and strengthen its partnerships. Despite the challenges we faced in securing our premises longer term, we continued to make significant progress in meeting our charitable purposes. The Hub recorded just over 12,000 support instances (visits) during this 12-month period and diverted 75,000kg of potential waste from landfill. This is testament to the resilience and commitment of everyone involved, including our pool of volunteers who have given the Hub approximately 25,000 hours of their time.

We have been successful this year in achieving 3-year grant funding for our Food Support and General Support Co-ordinator posts. Securing this long-term funding brings greater stability for our staff and strengthens our ability to provide a better and more consistent service to those who come to us for support.

I would also like to recognise the work of my fellow trustees - Lewisham Donation Hub's mission has guided every decision and action that we have taken throughout the year, and I am very grateful for their support.

In terms of monetary income, we received £129,298 this financial year. To better demonstrate the scale of our charity and given we have moved to accounting on an accruals basis this year, for the first time we have also valued the material donations and services received, taking our total income to £569,800.

We continue to remain acutely aware of the global climate crisis, the cost-of-living crisis and the conflicts around the world which continue to impact so many individuals and families. And, as we move into our third year as a charity, we renew our commitment to being a beacon of hope and practical support for the people living in south-east London.

We believe that with a core team of employed staff and a dedicated pool of volunteers, we can maintain the passion and community involvement that has continued to define and power our charity.

Yvette Dearden

Chair of the Board of Trustees

About Us

Vision and charitable objectives

Our vision is of a society where nothing that can be re-used goes to waste; where people do not have to rely on donations to access food and other essential items; where people who find themselves facing hardship receive the support they need; and where everyone can make a home.

Lewisham Donation Hub was founded in June 2020 and established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 3 April 2023.

The objects in the constitution of the CIO are:

1. The prevention or relief of poverty primarily but not exclusively in Southeast London by providing grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
2. To promote for the public benefit primarily but not exclusively in Southeast London the protection and preservation of the environment by working to minimise waste and achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and raw material use through the provision of community resource sharing, re-use and repair initiatives.

How we work

The first of our charitable objectives is carried out by the provision of two core services: food support, and a 'general support' service that includes all non-food items. These are delivered, in person, three days per week, on a drop-in basis:

Through these services, LDH:

- Provides food and general support in person at the Hub, free of charge, with no referral process.
- Provides a range of services in one place, reducing the need for visitors to travel to multiple sites and to different organisations. By providing food and other items in person, it enables us to support people in crisis who are struggling to access more complex assessment-based services, enabling people to move forward in their lives.
- Provides an array of essential items including household items (homeware, kitchenware), safety tested household electricals, communication devices (laptops, desktops, tablets and phones), clothing, footwear, sanitary products, toiletries, equipment for the homeless, white goods (predominantly fridge/freezers and washing machines) and items for new parents (including prams).
- Provides new homes for preloved items that enrich people's lives, for example bicycles and scooters, musical instruments, art supplies, children's toys and games, books, and decorative items for the home.
- Uses community monetary donations to purchase essential electricals, food and toiletries for which demand exceeds supply. Essential electricals include kettles, irons, toasters, hair clippers, microwaves and slow cookers.

The second objective is carried out by acting as a one-stop reuse organisation. The activities of LDH are focussed on promoting resource efficiency, underpinned by the waste hierarchy and moving towards a circular economy.

LDH does this by:

- Providing an outlet for items from businesses and organisations that are destined for waste disposal, including landfill.
- Offering the community a local alternative to landfill disposal by encouraging re-use.
- Repairing, refurbishing and upgrading donated items for reuse, including bicycles, mobile phones, laptops, and baby buggies.
- Reducing food, household and commercial waste.
- Educating and changing the behaviour of organisations and the community.

The trustees have taken due regard of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and confirm the activities of Lewisham Donation Hub are undertaken for the public benefit.

Strategies

To meet our objectives and maximise the impact of our work in 2024/2025, we focused on the following strategic areas.

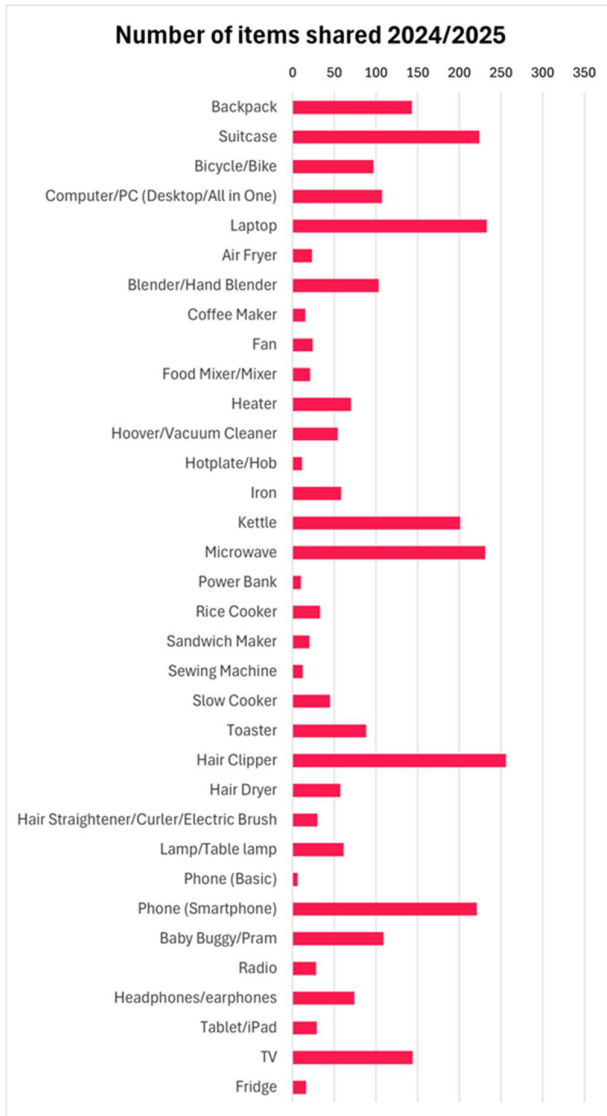
1. **Partnerships.** Through deepening and strengthening relationships with other organisations within and outside the nonprofit sector, we aimed to build in predictability of the volume and type of donations we expect to receive. We were motivated by the huge potential value that partnerships bring in minimising commercial waste, sourcing high value donations, and as a way to share knowledge and generate new ideas.
2. **Engaging volunteers.** Volunteers are the lifeblood of Lewisham Donation Hub. Our service requires hundreds of hours of volunteer time. Through empowering volunteers to continue taking on responsibilities, we hoped to find new ways to drive positive change and ultimately deliver a better service for our visitors. Lewisham Donation Hub has a diverse volunteering team, with approximately 75% of volunteers in the asylum process. Engagement of volunteers therefore needs to be sensitive and relevant to their experiences.

Impact & Achievements

Between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025, we recorded just over 12,000 support instances (visits). We estimate that we also supported over 1,500 visitors for whom we could not record visits.

Across the year, Food support saw ~2100 individuals and therefore provided food for approximately 6,300 people when accounting for household size (based on mean average family size of 3). We shared approximately 150,000 portions of food provided by The Felix Project and 140,000kg of excess bread and pastries from Gail's Bakery, in addition to community donations of non-perishable foods. Sourced through InKind Direct and supplemented with community donations, we shared toiletries (including dental hygiene, period and personal hygiene products) 7,413 times, and nappies 2,536 times. In total, 167,000 carrier bags-worth of food and toiletries went to homes in Southeast London.

General support saw ~1700 individuals, meaning that it provided a huge variety of essential items to over 5000 people. Many of these visitors were in temporary accommodation and faced with an empty flat and little means to equip it with the basics, let alone make it feel like home. We shared approximately 3000 essential items along with over 60,000kg of clothing, shoes, toys and kitchenware.



This plot shows (conservative estimates of) the number of each item shared over the last 12 months. Of these, 590 were digital devices to allow individuals and families to get online, and able to access services and educational resources that would otherwise have been out of reach.

“I sincerely felt loved and cared for at the time I received the laptop alongside other home appliances. The laptop have been so helpful to my family and that can never be over emphasised. I want to seize this opportunity to say a very big thank you to the team @Lewisham donations hub. We are really grateful for the support.” Visitor J

“Receiving the laptop has made a real difference to me. It has enabled me to studies and my children as well, which would have been very difficult otherwise. I truly appreciate the kindness and dedication of your team. Charities like yours play such an important role in the community— offering practical help and genuine care when people need it most. It’s reassuring to know there are people who are willing to give their time and resources to help others.” Visitor F

“Everyone was very kind to us. We were asked to return a few hours later, and when we came back, we were received with respect and warmth, and helped with several things we needed. Among them, we received an Apple laptop in excellent condition, something we really didn’t expect. It was a big surprise and a deeply emotional moment; my wife couldn’t hold back her tears. We knew that, in our current situation, having access to such a device would be almost impossible, and that’s why we value it so much.

This laptop has meant a lot to our family. It has allowed us to communicate, reply to emails, complete important forms, and look for essential information related to our process. But above all, it has been a great help for our daughter, she uses it for her schoolwork, to connect to her school platform, and also in her free time to draw and create fashion designs, something she is truly passionate about.... In addition to the laptop, you also gave us clothes, some household items, and food. We went there looking for a bit of help and left with so much more, not only material things, but also a great dose of kindness, hope, and humanity. It was a very special day, not so much because of what we received, but because of the people we met and the noble work you do.” Visitor R

We also had success in our two strategic areas.

1. Partnerships

We successfully strengthened our existing partnerships. Most prominently, LDH was asked to attend several events run by The Felix Project, including when His Majesty The King opened its new facility in Deptford and a delivery round with David Morrissey volunteering. The Felix Project also offered LDH the loan of an electric van in March 2025 and we are looking forward to the significant impact that will have on our service.

This was also the case for our partnership with InKind Direct. They visited our site and invited LDH as a partner charity to the Royal Foundation’s ‘Together at Christmas’, in celebration of volunteering, at Westminster Abbey. Our partnership with Knit for Peace, now in its fifth year, continued to flourish and led to a visit where we had the chance to show them the happiness that their knitted creations bring to so many!

Growing relationships led to several important visits and talks throughout the year. For example, members of the Mayor’s Office, the GLA and civil servants from the Cabinet Office interested in the role community hubs play in building resilience.

Our CEO sat on the panel at Goldsmith's University's roundtable discussion on the Rwanda policy and its implications and gave the 'Tim Yeager Memorial Community Lecture' (*After the Riots: Community responses and how hardship harms us all*).

As well as further computer collections from our existing partnership with UCL and Gravity 9 Solutions, we forged a new relationship with a software company in central London (EPAM), who have begun to donate batches of high-end laptops that no longer meet their requirements. We could not have hoped for higher quality donations to share with our visitors. And finally, we also connected with another new partner, Our Technician – driven by our shared concern for the impact of digital deprivation as well as the need to conserve precious resources, they are now also redirecting surplus equipment to LDH.

A fantastic partnership with the Foundation for International Education led to internships with two students from US Universities keen to learn more about grassroots organisations, who each joined us for 10 weeks starting in April and November.

In August we were invited to represent LDH at the Bromley parkrun 15th anniversary. What began as a suggested collection of trainers, expanded into an impressive haul of winter coats, food, toiletries and equipment for the homeless. It was a great opportunity to raise awareness in the nearby borough and was followed up with a similar event at Hillyfields parkrun.

Following a nomination by The Homestead Cafe in Beckenham Place Park, we have been accepted as one of the carefully vetted organisations that has proven alignment with 1% for the Planet's Impact Areas. By becoming an Environmental Partner, we hope to gain access to potential funding from 1% for the Planet's network of businesses committed to environmental giving.

And finally, we have engaged with many local schools – giving talks, offering opportunities for volunteering and receiving donations.

2. Engaging volunteers

We continued to have success in recruiting new volunteers and retaining existing ones. From our pool of 160 volunteers, we have between 70 and 90 volunteers each week who together give approximately 500 hours.

One way we enhanced the engagement of our volunteers was through establishing a Volunteer Advisory Panel (VAP). VAP was established in July 2024 and was set up to represent the large pool of volunteers. It consists of members of the volunteer community who have been nominated to the Panel by their peers and at least half of the group are experts through experience.

By working with the Volunteer Manager, this resulted in producing induction videos in 3 languages, running a number of workshops including one on values, running training events and developing a Volunteer Induction Pack.

Another area of success was our Corporate Volunteering programme. Corporate volunteers have enjoyed taking a day away from their offices, and in return, we have benefitted from their hard work and financial donations. We encourage companies to donate a minimum of £50 per person per day.

Since May 2024, we have organised 18 days of group volunteering and received £3,075.00 in donations from various companies. Several companies have returned multiple times, strengthening their partnerships with us. Additionally, some are collecting material donations, including previously used computers and phones. In the future, our ambition is to explore other ways to increase their support for Lewisham Donation Hub, such as becoming their charity of the year.

Quotes from some of our corporate volunteers:

“Thank you to the Lewisham Donation Hub for allowing us to spend time with you and see your absolutely incredible work supporting local people. In just one day we saw the variety of requests that you receive; for a warm jacket or a pair of gloves; for a saucepan or a cake tin; for a mobile phone or a hairdryer; an umbrella, toiletries, food... all the things that we are fortunate enough to take for granted. We saw the respect with which you treated every individual who came to your door and the quiet gratitude with which these items were received. We heard the many languages spoken that were needed to understand each request and the laughter as you tried your best to communicate when there was no common language. It was a privilege for us to contribute in even the smallest of ways to your work.” Team from Digital.ai

“It’s a great way for corporate teams to spend some time with each other in a non-office environment, working together differently and discovering more about each other. I’d really recommend volunteering at the Lewisham hub to others. We had an extraordinary day doing what we could to support this tremendously important local hub in Lewisham which provides some of the most vulnerable people in the community with free food, clothing, electrical goods, shoes, and pretty well anything you might need. It was a huge privilege to help in a variety of ways including putting up shelves, clearing space for new items, and sorting donations. We were given a great welcome and were looked after fantastically – it was a real pleasure to meet the amazing people who run this hub.” Team from Diageo

“Hays started a volunteering initiative every year during May, where teams and individuals can take a day out from the office to volunteer. We found out about the opportunity at the Hub through Neighbourly. It’s been a really enlightening experience. The Hub supports people with all sorts of basic needs that most people take for granted, such as cutlery and plates to eat from. I served a couple of families and realised that trying to support a family without the basics must be so difficult. We had a few visitors today that had been moved into empty properties so they needed everything, but had no money to make a stable home for themselves and their families. My eyes were open to the reality of other people’s lives.” Team from Hays

Finally, we further broadened our offer of volunteering opportunities to include hosting a number of Duke of Edinburgh students. Several local schools also brought sixth form students for one-off or regular enrichment activities.

Treasurer's Report

Over the past year, we have continued to steward our resources with care and integrity, ensuring that every pound spent contributes meaningfully to our mission. Despite increased demand for services, and challenges of securing grant funding for core costs, we have remained financially resilient.

This report includes a summary of income and expenditure, key financial highlights, and an overview of reserves and risk management. I hope it offers reassurance to our supporters, beneficiaries, and stakeholders that we are managing our finances responsibly and sustainably.

Income

Our total reported income for 2024/25 was £569,800. This consisted of:

Total Reported Income 2024/25 (£)		
Restricted Grant Funding	38,949	
Unrestricted Grant Funding	10,000	
Donations	71,411	
Gift Aid	8,938	
Total Income		129,298
Donated Food (via The Felix Project)	295,518	
Donated goods	103,304	
Use of premises	30,000	
Pro Bono CEO work	11,680	
Total in kind		440,502
Total Reported Income		569,800

Detailed breakdown of income sources:

	2024/25 (£)	2023/24 (£)
Total grants received	48,949	99,525
Online giving*	63,612	39,504
Gift aid	8,938	3,273
Corporate donations	2,800	1,550
Payroll giving and matched funding	3,574	1,745
Other (includes third party fundraising and Lewisham Lottery)	1,425	-
	129,298	164,458

*includes Just Giving, Paypal, CAF, Benevity, Easy Fundraising

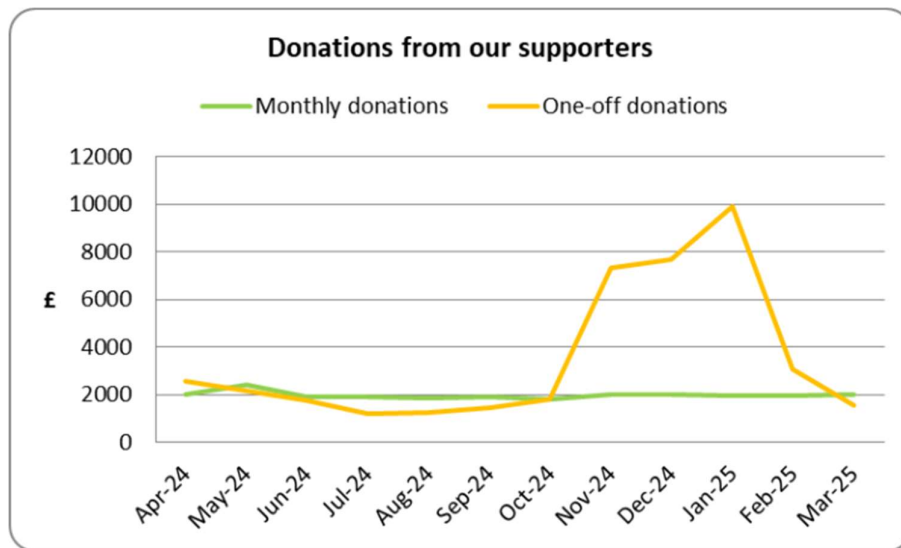
We are very grateful to everyone who has supported us this year. We received grant funding to cover employment costs for two part-time roles (Food Support and General Support Co-ordinators) from the JUSACA Charitable Trust and The Albert Hunt Trust. This has provided stability and continuity in the services we provide.

Grants to support our service were received from Lewisham Council Food Justice Grant, Co-operative Local Community Fund, Point North, Stef & Philips Foundation, Sainsburys, Lewisham Council Repair, Reuse, Recycle and Borough of Sanctuary Grants. These were used to purchase basic food and toiletry supplies when we were unable to meet demand, over 350 household electrical appliances (such as microwaves, kettles and blenders) and spare parts to support our IT repair/upgrade programme.

The Jack Petchey Foundation grant (received for a second year) enabled us to purchase back-to-school supplies, stationery, geometry sets and scientific calculators.

We were also very grateful for the unrestricted grants from FB Coales Family Trust and The Leathersellers' Foundation, which helped to cover our overheads.

We rely heavily on financial donations from the local community, receiving on average £1,970 per month from regular monthly donors with a boost in one-off donations, for example during our Winter Appeal which included generous donations from Helikon Shipping and Christ Church Beckenham.



Our fundraising group ended the year working on plans for our first major fundraising event in May 2025 and improving links with corporate sponsors.

Expenditure

Our expenditure for 2024/25 consisted of

- £22,810 on our Food Support service; we spend approximately £400 a week to ensure we have a constant supply of basic food items. We also purchase toiletries, nappies and period products (at substantially discounted prices via InKind Direct).
- £15,219 on our General Support service; using grant funding to purchase essential electricals, cover cost of upgrading computers and laptops, as well as supplementing our supply of shoes (at heavily discounted prices).
- £119,182 on employment costs.
- £5,581 on administration and other overheads.
- £10,815 on volunteer expenses (our service is made possible by the dedication of our volunteers many of whom are seeking asylum, and we therefore refund travel costs for anyone in need, who volunteers for a minimum of 4 hours per day).

Reserves Policy

Lewisham Donation Hub operates a risk-based reserves policy to protect the operational requirements of the charity from short-term disruption to ensure that the Hub can continue to provide food and general support to service users. If the Hub were suddenly unable to operate, there would be serious problems for the vulnerable and disadvantaged people who rely on the Hub.

The Hub aims to have reserves to bridge any possible delays in receiving promised grants or managing payment in arrears contracts. This has been defined as a minimum of three months budgeted trading activity. At March 31, 2025, actual unrestricted and free reserves were £41,807.

Risk Management

Risk Category	Description	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigation Strategies
Financial Risks				
Funding Shortfalls	Insufficient funding hindering service delivery.	High	Medium	Diversify funding sources, develop robust fundraising strategies, maintain a reserve fund.
Donation Fluctuations	Variability in donation volume and type.	Medium	High	Implement donor engagement plan, develop partnerships with businesses, use data analytics for forecasting.
Fraud and Financial Mismanagement	Potential for fraud or mismanagement leading to financial	High	Low	Maintain strong financial controls, conduct regular audits,

	losses and reputational damage.			provide training on financial policies.
Operational Risks				
Loss of premises	Planned closure of Place Ladywell	High	High	LDH, and in particular the CEO, are in regular contact with Lewisham Council to address the planned closure of the premises. The Council is actively searching for new premises for LDH.
Service Delivery Disruptions	Interruptions due to logistical challenges or staff shortages.	High	Medium	Develop continuity plan, cross-train staff and volunteers, review logistics processes.
Volunteer and Staff Retention	Difficulty in retaining volunteers and staff, impacting service quality.	Medium	High	Implement recognition programs, provide training and development, gather feedback regularly.
Technology Failures	IT infrastructure failures disrupting operations.	Medium	Medium	Invest in robust IT systems, implement disaster recovery plan, train staff on cybersecurity.
Health and Safety Risks				
Workplace Accidents	Accidents within facilities causing injuries.	High	Medium	Conduct health and safety training, enforce safety protocols, perform routine safety audits.
Health Hazards	Exposure to health hazards, such as foodborne illnesses.	High	Low	Adhere to food safety guidelines, inspect food storage areas, implement incident management policies.
Pandemic/Epidemic Risks	Health risks from infectious diseases impacting operations and health.	High	Medium	Develop and implement health protocols, provide PPE, adjust operations to minimise contact and ensure hygiene, monitor public health updates, and adapt to changing guidelines.

Simon Williams
Treasurer

Reference and administration details

Charity's principal address	Unit D, Place Ladywell 261 High Street Lewisham SE13 6AY
Registered charity number	1202607
Founder and CEO	Laurence Smith
Independent examiner	Frances Wilde FCCA DChA Warner and Wilde Ltd, 4 Marigold Drive, Bisley, Surrey GU24 9SF

Structure, governance and management

All new trustees are recruited and appointed by the Board.

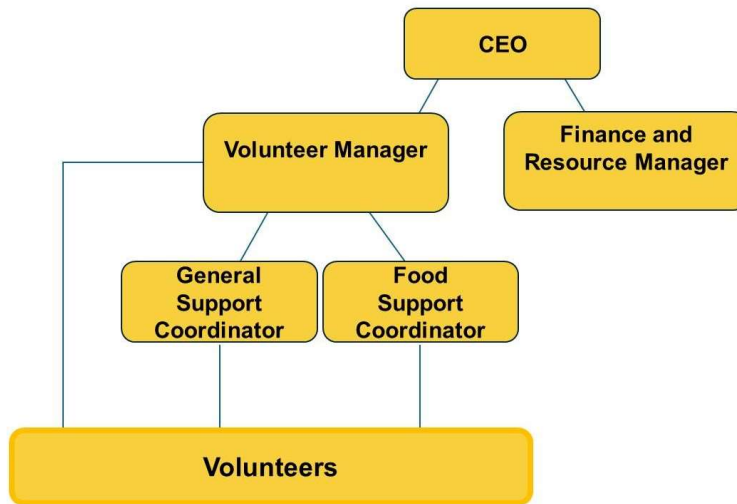
Trustees serving during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Yvette Dearden	Chair	
Simon Williams	Treasurer	
Carolyn Emanuel		
Magdalena Szlenkier		
Evgenii Khramkov		Appointed 8 July 2024
Catherine McCarthy		Appointed 4 Dec 2024

Other trustees who served during the financial year

Christabel Jay		Resigned 18 Sept 2024
Gemma del Pozzo		Resigned 18 Sept 2024
Olayinka Shittu		Resigned 1 Jan 2025
Elisabeth Pritchard		Appointed 8 July 2024 Resigned 18 Sept 2024
Fereshteh Yavari		Appointed 8 July 2024 Resigned 17 June 2025

Organisational Structure



The trustees' report was approved by the board of trustees.

Y. Dearden

.....

Y Dearden

Chair

Dated : 26 October 2025

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Lewisham Donation Hub (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

FJWilde

Frances Wilde FCCA DChA

Warner Wilde Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley
Surrey
GU24 9SF
Date:28/10/2025

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	530,851	-	530,851	113,015	17,162	130,177
Charitable activities	4	-	38,949	38,949	-	73,530	73,530
Total income		530,851	38,949	569,800	113,015	90,692	203,707
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	548,033	55,416	603,449	54,026	71,739	125,765
Total expenditure		548,033	55,416	603,449	54,026	71,739	125,765
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(17,182)	(16,467)	(33,649)	58,989	18,953	77,942
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		58,989	18,953	77,942	-	-	-
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		41,807	2,486	44,293	58,989	18,953	77,942

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

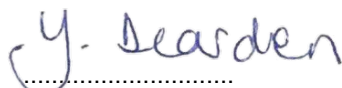
LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		436		654
Current assets					
Debtors	12	3,447		4,214	
Cash at bank and in hand		63,465		98,591	
		<u>66,912</u>		<u>102,805</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(23,055)</u>		<u>(25,517)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>43,857</u>		<u>77,288</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>44,293</u>		<u>77,942</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		2,486		18,953
Unrestricted funds	17		41,807		58,989
			<u>44,293</u>		<u>77,942</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 26 October 2025.



Y Dearden
Trustee

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	20		(35,126)		99,245
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(654)	
Net cash used in investing activities			-		(654)
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(35,126)		98,591
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			98,591		-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			63,465		98,591

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Lewisham Donation Hub is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	3 years straight line
-----------------------	-----------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	81,411	-	81,411	101,618	17,162	118,780
Grants	-	-	-	5,995	-	5,995
Donated goods and services	440,502	-	440,502	-	-	-
Other	8,938	-	8,938	5,402	-	5,402
	<u>530,851</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530,851</u>	<u>113,015</u>	<u>17,162</u>	<u>130,177</u>

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts						
FB Coales Family Trust	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
The Leathersellers Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Corporate donations	2,800	-	2,800	750	-	750
Individual giving	68,611	-	68,611	62,253	-	62,253
Grants	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Transfer from Open Collective	-	-	-	18,615	17,162	35,777
	<u>81,411</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,411</u>	<u>101,618</u>	<u>17,162</u>	<u>118,780</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2024 £
Charitable activities		
Performance related grants	<u>38,949</u>	<u>73,530</u>

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2025 £	Charitable activities 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	119,182	26,459
Depreciation and impairment	218	-
Volunteer travel	10,815	9,991
Administration	2,837	2,035
Host fees	1,402	2,077
Other staff costs	905	3,084
Fixtures and Fittings	219	416
Van hire	120	931
Premises	30,000	-
	<u>165,698</u>	<u>44,993</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)		
Support	436,851	79,362
Governance	900	1,410
	<u>603,449</u>	<u>125,765</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	548,033	54,026
Restricted funds	55,416	71,739
	<u>603,449</u>	<u>125,765</u>

6 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Client service: Food service	318,328	26,201
Client service: General support	118,523	53,161
Governance costs	900	1,410
	<u>437,751</u>	<u>80,772</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>437,751</u>	<u>80,772</u>

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Support costs allocated to activities (Continued)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Governance costs comprise:		
Independent examination	900	1,410
	<u>900</u>	<u>1,410</u>

7 Net movement in funds

The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	900	1,410
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	218	-
	<u>1,118</u>	<u>1,410</u>

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
	5	3
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>

Employment costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	112,372	26,459
Social security costs	4,443	-
Other pension costs	2,367	-
	<u>119,182</u>	<u>26,459</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	68,907	-
	<u>68,907</u>	<u>-</u>

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	654
At 31 March 2025	654
Depreciation and impairment	
Depreciation charged in the year	218
At 31 March 2025	218
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	436
At 31 March 2024	654

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	110	3,221
Prepayments and accrued income	3,337	993
	3,447	4,214

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		1,314	3,257
Deferred income	14	17,143	-
Trade creditors		2,539	20,850
Other creditors		299	-
Accruals		1,760	1,410
		23,055	25,517

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other deferred income	17,143	-
	<u>17,143</u>	<u>-</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	17,143	-
	<u>17,143</u>	<u>-</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	-	-
Resources deferred in the year	17,143	-
	<u>17,143</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	17,143	-
	<u>17,143</u>	<u>-</u>

15 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	2,367	-
	<u>2,367</u>	<u>-</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
The Trade Desk	3,210	-	(3,210)	-
Lewisham Food Justice Grant	(3)	2,000	(1,997)	-
Lee Charity for William Hatcliffe	7,296	-	(7,296)	-
London Catalyst	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
TNL- Cost of Living Crisis	1,832	-	(1,832)	-
Axis Foundation	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Co-op Local Community Fund	1,118	1,949	(3,067)	-
Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Borough of Sanctuary- Lewisham Council	-	1,500	(14)	1,486
Point North	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Jusaca	-	24,000	(24,000)	-
The Albert Hunt Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Stef & Philips foundation	-	500	(500)	-
Sainsbury's	-	500	(500)	-
Repair, Reuse, Recycle- Lewisham Council	-	1,000	-	1,000
	<u>18,953</u>	<u>38,949</u>	<u>(55,416)</u>	<u>2,486</u>

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
	-	90,692	(71,739)	18,953
	<u>-</u>	<u>90,692</u>	<u>(71,739)</u>	<u>18,953</u>

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
General funds	58,989	530,851	(548,033)	41,807
	<u>58,989</u>	<u>530,851</u>	<u>(548,033)</u>	<u>41,807</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	-	113,015	(54,026)	58,989
	<u>-</u>	<u>113,015</u>	<u>(54,026)</u>	<u>58,989</u>

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	436	-	436
Current assets/(liabilities)	41,371	2,486	43,857
	<u>41,807</u>	<u>2,486</u>	<u>44,293</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	654	-	654
Current assets/(liabilities)	58,335	18,953	77,288
	<u>58,989</u>	<u>18,953</u>	<u>77,942</u>

19 Related party transactions

There was the following related party transactions during the year:
The Jusaca Charitable Trust gave a grant of £41,143 in the year (of which £17,143 was deferred). Carolyn Emanuel is a trustee of both charities.

Steve Smith (who is related to the CEO) is reimbursed for computer upgrade costs carried out for the Charity (£3221.83 during the year).

(2024 - None).

20 Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	2025 £	2024 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(33,649)	77,942
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	218	-
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	767	(4,214)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(19,605)	25,517
Increase in deferred income	17,143	-
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	<u>(35,126)</u>	<u>99,245</u>

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025*

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1202607

Accounts

2023
2024

LEWISHAM DONATION HUB



**Annual Report
and Accounts**





TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Vision, objectives & activities**
- **Chair's report**
- **Our impact and achievements**
- **Treasurer's report**
- **Reference and administration details**
- **Accounts and examiner's report**

powered by community

www.lewishamdonationhub.org

Vision, objectives and activities

“Our vision is of a society where nothing that can be re-used goes to waste; where people do not have to rely on donations to access food and other essential items; where people who find themselves facing hardship receive the support they need; and where everyone can make a home.”

Lewisham Donation Hub was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 3 April 2023.

The objects in the constitution of the CIO are ;

- The prevention or relief of poverty primarily but not exclusively in South East London by providing: grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty
- To promote for the public benefit primarily but not exclusively in South East London the protection and preservation of the environment by working to minimise waste and achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and raw material use through the provision of community resource sharing, re-use and repair initiatives .

The trustees have taken due regard of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and confirm the activities of Lewisham Donation Hub are undertaken for the public benefit.

The first core purpose is carried out through the delivery of support across three core areas: emergency food provision, 'general' support, and provision of white goods/furniture.

In particular, Lewisham Donation Hub (LDH):

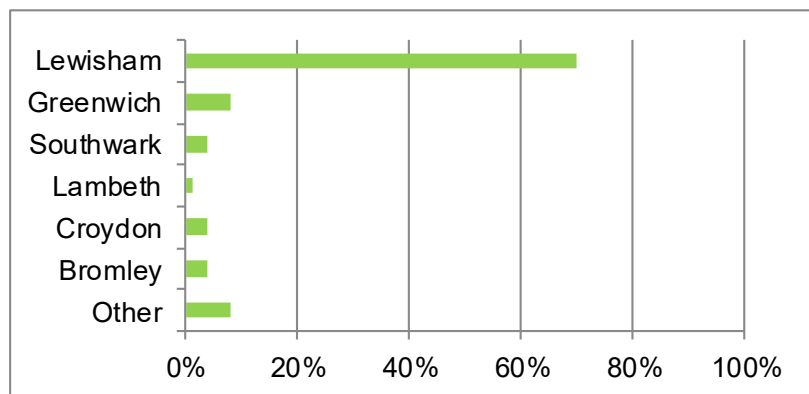
- Provides emergency food and general support in person at the Hub and all free of charge.
- Provides a range of services in one place, reducing the need for visitors to travel to multiple sites and to different organisations. By providing food and other items in person, it enables us to support people in crisis who are struggling to access more complex assessment-based services.
- Provides an array of essential items including household items (homeware, kitchenware), safety tested household electricals, communication devices (laptops, desktops, tablets and phones), clothing, footwear, sanitary products, toiletries, equipment for the homeless, white goods (predominantly fridge/freezers and washing machines), bicycles and scooters, and items for new parents (including prams).
- Uses community monetary donations to purchase essential electricals, food and toiletries for which demand exceeds supply. Essential electricals include kettles, irons, toasters, hair clippers, microwaves and slow cookers.
- Provides, in exceptional circumstances, small grants to individuals for specific purposes such as one-off energy payments or pest control.

The second core purpose is carried out through LDH acting as a one-stop reuse organisation. The activities of LDH are focussed on promoting resource efficiency, underpinned by the waste hierarchy and moving towards a circular economy.

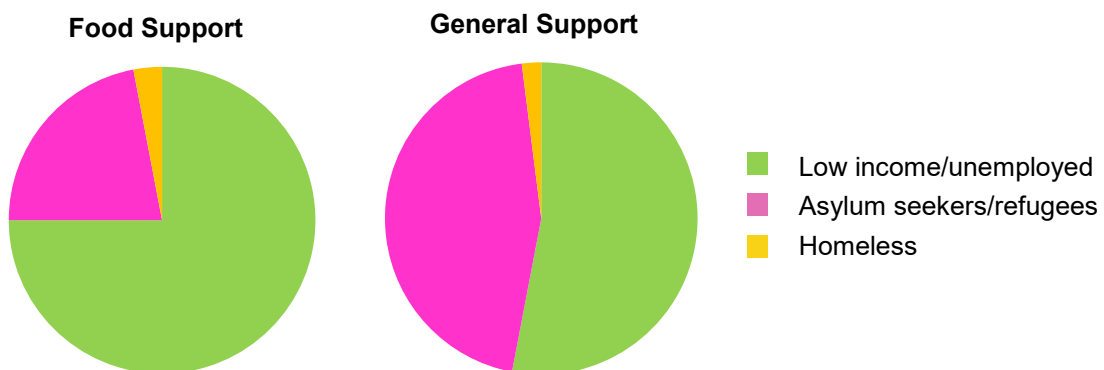
In particular, it:

- Provides an outlet for items from businesses and organisations that are destined for waste disposal, including landfill.
- Offers the community a local alternative to landfill disposal by encouraging re-use.
- Repairs and refurbishes donated items for reuse rather than purchasing them new, including bicycles, mobile phones, washing machines, laptops, TVs and tablets.
- Reduces food, household and commercial waste.
- Educates and changes the behaviour of organisations and the general public.

Our service area primarily covers people living in SE, BR and CR postcode areas.



Anyone in financial difficulty can access our support, no referrals are required.



Our service is predominantly delivered by volunteers, 400 people-hours per week (over 7 days) provide our support. This is currently delivered by a pool of approximately 200 volunteers.

They undertake a vast range of tasks and activities, including office administration, operations, food management, receiving and sorting donations, bicycle repairs and IT maintenance as well as administrative and emotional support for visitors.

As we look back on our first year as a charity, I am overwhelmed by the generosity of our community and the impact we've made together. This has been a truly momentous year for Lewisham Donation Hub which would not have been possible without the tremendous support received from our local community, other charities, businesses, universities, funders and donors.

I would like to recognise the hard work and dedication of our very first team of employees and of all our volunteers who have worked tirelessly to ensure we provide the best support we possibly can for the most vulnerable people living in south-east London.

Over this year we have also successfully extended the skills and expertise of our Board of Trustees. Our mission has guided every decision and action.

This report outlines our key activities, financial performance, and impact over the past 12 months. It serves as both a celebration of our early successes and a roadmap for our future growth.

At the very beginning of this year on 3rd April 2023, Lewisham Donation Hub gained charitable status. This enabled us to move forward in our ambition to create a more sustainable and effective support service by raising more funding, employing our first core team of staff and expanding our board of trustees.

With grant funding, we employed our first Food Support Co-ordinator and General Support Co-ordinator in November 2023 and our first CEO and Resources and Finance Manager at the beginning of January 2024. These posts are currently offered on a temporary basis and it is our ambition for the next financial year to be able to give our employees more certainty by offering longer term contracts. This will benefit both our employees and the people who come to us for support.

In terms of monetary income, we received nearly £165,000 this financial year which exceeded our business plan ambitions and more than tripled the income received during the previous year. In this coming year, we are aiming to expand our funding base further, through grants, corporate partnerships and individual giving campaigns.

While we celebrate our first-year milestones, we remain acutely aware of both the global climate crisis and the cost-of-living crisis which continues to impact many families, making our work more crucial than ever.

As we move into our second year as a charity, we renew our commitment to being a beacon of hope and practical support for the people living in south-east London. We believe that with a core team of employed staff and a dedicated pool of volunteers, we can maintain the passion and community involvement that has defined our first year while building the professional infrastructure necessary for long-term success and growth.

Yvette Dearden,
Chair of Board of Trustees

Impact and achievements

Thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and donors, our achievements over this past year included:

- Providing support to approximately 36,000 people (when accounting for family size) across 12,000 support instances
- Collecting and distributing over 10,000 items, including clothing, electronic devices and household essentials to families in need, thereby diverting over 80,000kg from landfill. This includes an estimated 39,000Kg of shoes and clothes
- Distributing a staggering 138,000 Felix meals
- Building a network of over 200 regular volunteers who are the backbone of our operations.
- Establishing a dedicated team of volunteers who refurbish/upgrade donated IT enabling us to share 212 desktops, 211 laptops and 69 tablets
- Partnering with 15 local schools and 25 businesses to run successful donation drives.



Income and Funding

Our total income in 2023/24 was £164,458. This consisted of:

- £73,530 restricted grant funding
- £25,995 unrestricted grant funding
- £64,933 individual and corporate one-off and regular donations

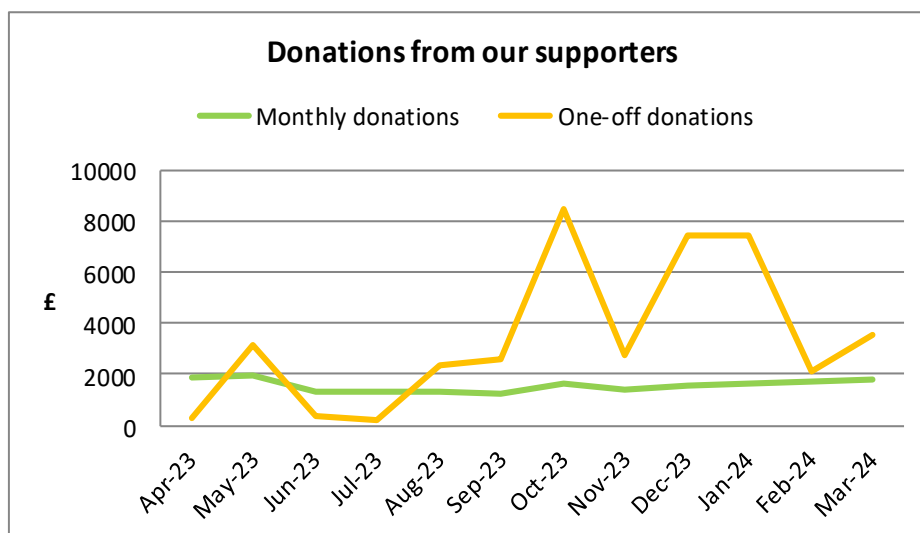
We began the year with funds raised before achieving charitable status consisting of £18,615 donations and £17,162 restricted funding (from The Trade Desk and Fat Face Foundation), which are included in the income and receipts schedule—giving a gross income for annual return of £200,235.

Detailed breakdown of income sources:

	2023/24	2022/23
Total grants received	£99,525	£17,382
Online giving*	£39,504	£18,649
Regular monthly donations from supporters	£18,861	£18,990
Gift aid	£3,273	-
Corporate donations	£1,550	-
Payroll giving and matched funding	£1,745	-
	£164,458	£55,021

*includes Just Giving, Paypal, CAF, Benevity and Easy Fundraising

We received on average £1,572 per month from regular monthly donors. One-off donations peaked following an appeal on Facebook in October, and then again with the launch of our Winter Crisis campaign on Just Giving (which raised £30k).



We received grant funding from The National Lottery Community Fund programme 'Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund', The Lee Charity for William Hatcliffe, London Catalyst and The JUSACA Charitable Trust, enabling LDH to recruit its first employees in November 2023 and then to expand the staff further in January 2024.

The National Lottery Grant also enabled us to make many improvements to our infrastructure and systems, by purchasing large monitors for publicity, ladders, CCTV, walkie-talkies, Wi-Fi antennae, volunteer training and an additional freezer enabling us to increase the number of Felix meals we are able to store.

We also received grants from The Jack Petchey Foundation (for school stationery), Lewisham Food Justice, Axis Foundation and The Co-operative Community Fund (which were used to purchase essential food, toiletries and small electrical appliances). As well as an unrestricted grant from The Indigo Trust.



Expenditure

Our total expenditure for 2023/24 was £101,894.

This consisted of

£33,458 on our Food Support service; we spend £400 a week to ensure we have a constant supply of basic food items. We also purchase toiletries, nappies and period products (at substantially discounted prices via InKind Direct).

£28,875 on our General Support service; using grant funding to purchase essential electricals, cover cost of upgrading computers and laptops, as well as supplementing our supply of shoes (at heavily discounted prices).

£24,397 on employment costs (grant funded)

£5,770 on administration and improvements to our systems

£9,394 on volunteer expenses (Our service is made possible by the dedication of our volunteers many of whom are seeking asylum, and we therefore refund travel costs for anyone in need, who volunteers for a minimum of 4 hours per day).



Reserves Policy

Lewisham Donation Hub operates a risk-based reserves policy to protect the operational requirements of the charity from short-term disruption to ensure that we can continue to provide food and general support to service users. If LDH were suddenly unable to operate, there would be serious problems for the vulnerable and disadvantaged people who rely on the hub.

LDH aims to have reserves to bridge any possible delays in receiving promised grants or managing payment in arrears contracts. This has been defined as a minimum of three months budgeted trading activity. Based on this approach, the reserves level needed to be maintained by the charity is estimated at £30,000. At March 31, 2024, actual unrestricted and free reserves were £67,647

Trustees' consideration of major risks and mitigation strategies

Risk Category	Description	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigation Strategies
Financial Risks				
Funding Shortfalls	Insufficient funding hindering service delivery.	High	Medium	Diversify funding sources, develop robust fundraising strategies, establish a reserve fund.
Donation Fluctuations	Variability in donation volume and type.	Medium	High	Implement donor engagement plan, develop partnerships with businesses, use data analytics for forecasting.
Fraud and Financial Mismanagement	Potential for fraud or mismanagement leading to financial losses and reputational damage.	High	Low	Implement strong financial controls, conduct regular audits, provide training on financial policies.
Operational Risks				
Loss of premises	Planned closure of Place Ladywell premises.	High	High	LDH, and in particular the CEO, is in regular contact with Lewisham Council to address the planned closure of the current premises. The Council is actively searching for new premises for the LDH.
Service Delivery Disruptions	Interruptions due to logistical challenges or staff shortages.	High	Medium	Develop continuity plan, cross-train staff and volunteers, review logistics processes.
Volunteer and Staff Retention	Difficulty in retaining volunteers and staff, impacting service quality.	Medium	High	Implement recognition programs, provide training and development, gather feedback regularly.
Technology Failures	IT infrastructure failures disrupting operations.	Medium	Medium	Invest in robust IT systems, implement disaster recovery plan, train staff on cybersecurity.
Health and Safety Risks				
Workplace Accidents	Accidents within facilities causing injuries.	High	Medium	Conduct health and safety training, enforce safety protocols, perform routine safety audits.
Health Hazards	Exposure to health hazards, such as foodborne illnesses.	High	Low	Adhere to food safety guidelines, inspect food storage areas, implement incident management policies.
Pandemic/Epidemic Risks	Health risks from infectious diseases impacting operations and health.	High	Medium	Develop and implement health protocols, provide PPE, adjust operations to minimize contact and ensure hygiene, monitor public health updates, and adapt to changing guidelines.

Simon Williams, Treasurer

Reference and administration details

Charity's principal address	Unit D, Place Ladywell 261 High Street Lewisham SE13 6AY
Registered charity number	1202607
Founder and CEO	Laurence Smith
Adviser (accountant)	Frances Wilde

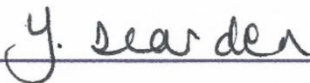
Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity—new trustees are appointed by the Board

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Yvette Dearden	Chair	
Carolyn Emanuel		
Magdalena Sklenkier		
Deborah James		Resigned 25 Oct 2023
Simon Williams	Treasurer	Appointed 25 Oct 2023
Christabel Jay		Appointed 25 Oct 2023
Gemma del Pozzo		Appointed 25 Oct 2023
Olayinka Shittu		Appointed 25 Oct 2023 on sabbatical from 24 March 2024
Humberto Rosales		Resigned 19 Dec 2023

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature		
Name	YVETTE DEARDEN	
Position	CHAIR OF TRUSTEES	
Date	30/10/24	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Lewisham Donation Hub

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/03/2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1202607

Set out on pages

2 pages below

(remember to 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 / 03 / 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:

F J Wilde

Date:

05 / 11 / 2024

Name:

F J WILDE


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

FCCA DCWA

Address:

*4 MARIGOLD DRIVE
BISLEY SURREY
GU24 9SF*



 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Charity Name Lewisham Donation Hub		No (if any) 1202607		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2023	To	Period end date 31/03/2024	

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	61,660	-	-	61,660	-
Grant income	25,995	73,530	-	99,525	-
Gift Aid	3,273	-	-	3,273	-
Transfer in from previous entity	18,615	17,162	-	35,777	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	109,543	90,692	-	200,235	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	109,543	90,692	-	200,235	-
A3 Payments					
Admin	2,721	104	-	2,825	-
Staffing	2,759	21,638	-	24,397	-
Client service : Food support	19,720	13,738	-	33,458	-
Client service : General support	7,104	21,771	-	28,875	-
Host Fees	2,077	-	-	2,077	-
Volunteer travel	7,252	2,142	-	9,394	-
Van hire	138	-	-	138	-
Fixtures & fittings	125	605	-	730	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	41,896	59,998	-	101,894	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	41,896	59,998	-	101,894	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	67,647	30,694	-	98,341	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	67,647	30,694	-	98,341	-

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	MetroBank Community Account	49,771	30,694	-
	Open Collective	17,876	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	67,647	30,694	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		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	Details		-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
	<i>J. Dearden</i>	YVETTE DEARDEN		30/10/24