

Company registration number: 01095065

Charity registration number: 265703

# L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Field Sullivan Limited  
9 Hare & Billet Road  
Blackheath  
SE3 0RB

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

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## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Trustees</b>	Julian Allen
	Rosalind Bragg
	Amanda Groves
	Charlotte Hughes
	Lisa Linde
	Alastair Logan
	Adriano Moraes
	Jonathan Robins
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	265703
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	01095065
<b>Registered Office</b>	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
	2nd Floor
	Gatehouse Chambers
	1 Lady Hale Gate
	WC1X 8BS
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Field Sullivan Limited
	9 Hare & Billet Road
	Blackheath
	SE3 0RB

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, have pleasure in presenting their Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and financial statements for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1.1 of the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 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).

#### **Objectives and activities**

LAG's charitable objectives:

To promote and advance education and knowledge of the law in the United Kingdom and secondly to relieve poor persons in the United Kingdom by promoting and assisting with the provision of legal services which would not otherwise be available to them through lack of means.

#### **Vision and mission**

Our vision is access to justice for all.

Our mission is:

- To strengthen the voice of people and communities denied access to justice
- To support frontline charities, lawyers and advisers to deliver access to justice
- To influence law and policy to improve access to justice and create a fair legal system for all

Our values are:

- Social justice
- Human rights
- Excellence in practice
- Partnership and collaboration
- Diversity and inclusion

#### **Strategic plan 2022–25**

For over fifty years, LAG has acted as a respected commentator on legal aid and access to justice issues. The LAG brand is well known within the social justice sector and stands for quality. LAG delivers expert, targeted publications and training to lawyers and advisers working with those most in need, and campaigns for change.

We commenced a new strategy in 2022, aiming to streamline delivery of our high quality resources, to refocus on our campaigning roots and to widen our reach into the access to justice community. This strategy will be refreshed in 2025.

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

Our strategic aims are to:

#### **1. Be an authoritative and influential voice advocating for access to justice.**

We plan to do this by:

- Raising the profile of our access to justice campaigning.
- Contributing well-informed input into policy processes and public debates.
- Building networks and partnerships to support our campaigning.

We plan to:

- Develop and implement a digital strategy to bring our website, publications and resources in line with industry standards.
- Develop and implement a new model of resources and a training strategy which targets both LAG's core audience and the wider access to justice community.
- Strengthen development and commissioning of publications and resources, including establishing an Editorial Board.
- Prepare and implement a marketing strategy, including product costing, to support financial sustainability.

#### **3. Build a sustainable infrastructure to deliver our mission**

We plan to:

- Improve LAG's internal organisation by updating LAG's outdated financial and operational systems and processes, building on the findings of a detailed operational review undertaken in October 2021.
- Build and develop the staff team to deliver the strategic plan, develop a fundraising plan and build effective governance and risk management strategies.

#### **Public benefit**

We have referred to the advice contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and planning our future activities.

Our Objects, set out above, are carried out for the public benefit as follows:

- Our books, magazine, training and online resources are available to all and promoted widely within the access to justice community in the UK.
- Through our publications and training, we build the skills and knowledge of frontline lawyers, charities and advisers to deliver high-quality legal advice.
- Through our policy analysis, network building and campaigning, aim to influence law and policy to improve access to justice.

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

We are pursuing a programme of change to implement our strategic plan and are making good progress. We are seeking further resources to enable us to complete the stream of work.

#### **Strategic aim 1: Be an authoritative and influential voice advocating for access to justice.**

LAG continues to convene, resource and lead campaigns to strengthen the rights of low income and marginalised communities and to support the development of the access to justice sector.

We held a Scarcity of Justice Conference in partnership with Advice Services Alliance to reframe approaches to delivering access to justice and fairness.

We organised a Conference, *Making Right a Reality in Wales* highlighting access to justice issues in Wales. As well as a regular column in *Legal Action* on North Wales and the setting up of a new legal practice, North Wales Community Law.

We worked with lived experience groups, campaigning organisations and our network of activist lawyers to develop and deliver our conference programme. We delivered conferences on Education Law, Housing Law, Community Care Law, Migrant Support Law as well as Actions Against the Police, Police Station Updates and Rough Justice.

We worked with a diverse range of organisations including Safer Renting, Museum of Homelessness, Justice Gap, APPEAL, Renters Reform Coalition, Law Centres, Humans For Rights Network, Project 17, Migrants Organise, Fairness Foundation, Reasonable Access, Access Social Care, Age International, Law Commission, Global Black Maternal Health, IPSEA, Communities Empowerment Network, Gypsies and Travellers Movement Wales. Speakers at the Scarcity of Justice Conference included Professor Eldar Shafir, Sir Ernest Ryder, Professor Naomi Creutzfeldt, Lu Thomas.

Our CEO was invited to speak at Brighton University, Housing Law Practitioners Conference and the Sound Delivery Network. We were a member of the Stakeholder Group of the Law Society Reframing Justice Project and our CEO a member of the Advisory Board for the Law Society 20th Century Justice Project.

#### **Strategic aim 2: Deliver high-quality, authoritative and up-to-date legal information.**

A key element of our programme of change is to streamline delivery of our high-quality books, magazine, conferences and training. We have significantly improved delivery of our books, digitised our magazine and have laid the groundwork for improvements to our website.

LAG has 55 current book titles and sold 4,639 copies in 2024; a 14% increase compared to 2023. We published 10 issues of our magazine, *Legal Action*. We delivered 12 training sessions, events and conferences, reaching 840 people.

We continued delivery of our housing project funded by Trust for London. This project develops and delivers accessible training and resources to frontline advice agencies and the wider access to justice community on aspects of housing law. This is a new model of information delivery, ensuring wider dissemination of the valuable information contained in our books including *Discrimination in Housing* and *Domestic Abuse and Housing*.

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

We consulted with housing providers on what training resources they need and to explore new models of information resources.

#### **Strategic aim 3: Build a sustainable Infrastructure to deliver our mission.**

As part of our modernisation programme, we have made changes to governance, internal systems and staffing. We have resolved the structural deficit, achieving a small surplus in 2024.

We have strict oversight of our finances through the Finance Sub-Committee, which meets at least 4 times per year.

We continued to work with our new book distributor, Hobbs, to streamline processes and have developed enhanced monitoring of our stock to reduce storage and wastage and improve the customer experience.

LAG is unable to meet its objectives solely from trading income. We will continue to seek funding to support our modernisation programme and projects targeting the wider access to justice community.

#### **Plans for the future**

LAG plans to develop a new strategic plan for the period 2026-2028. We will continue to streamline delivery of our high quality resources, build on our campaigning roots and widen our reach into the access to justice community.

#### **Financial review**

LAG had income of £505,749 (2023: £423,525) and expenditure of £440,083 (2023: £457,401). LAG incurred an unrestricted surplus of £65,213 (2023: deficit of £43,876) for the year and has a combined total surplus of £65,666 (2023 £33,876) in restricted and unrestricted balances at the year end. Income is primarily trading income from sale of books, magazine, training and conferences with a portion, £85,689, in grant income.

LAG continues to undergo a process of change. We have invested in new staffing to support publications and training which has resulted in an increase in trading income and a reduction in outgoings. Our magazine moved to a digital format in September 2024, thus eliminating print and distribution costs, as well more easily allowing improvement to the product quality and accessibility.

We increased revenue through grant funding from The Nuffield Foundation, Doughty Street Chambers, The National Prob Bono Centre and A & O Sherman to develop our online resources and scope out the potential to develop a digital hub. We received funding from the Law Society to support the publication of the Legal Aid Handbook. We are extremely grateful to all our funders.

As a result of the changes above, LAG saw a surplus for the 2024 year. This was anticipated, as some of the benefits of the cost-cutting measures implemented in late 2023 were realised this financial year.

#### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level that equates to between three and six months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level is necessary to protect against fluctuations in trading income and against drops in grant income.

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

The balance held as unrestricted funds as of 31 December 2024 was £93,437, of which £91,427 are regarded as free reserves, against an actual three month spend of £110,020.

The current level of reserves is therefore just below the minimum 3 month target and the Trustees anticipate that this will improve over 2025 as it executes its strategic plan.

#### **Risk management**

The Trustees continue to review of the key risks to which the charity is currently exposed. Mitigating actions will be implemented to protect the ongoing stability of the charity and allow the organisation to execute its long-term strategic plan.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### **Governing document**

L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited ("LAG") is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity, incorporated on 8 February 1973, company number 01095065, and registered as a charity, number 265703, on 21 June 1973.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

##### **The Trustees**

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Rosalind Bragg (Chair)

Jon Robins (Vice Chair)

Adriano Moraes (Treasurer)

Olumide Adisa (until September 24)

Julian Allen

Katrina Crossley (until December 2024)

Amanda Groves

Charlotte Hughes

Lisa Linde

Alastair Logan



## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Appointment of trustees**

Recruitment to the trustee board is by election and co-option. At the 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM), two Trustees resigned and were re-elected. Five Trustees were co-opted prior to the meeting. The Memorandum and Articles of Association provided for 11 trustees to be elected and 7 to be co-opted. Trustee vacancies are publicly advertised.

#### **Organisational structure and decision making**

LAG is both a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. A board of eight trustees and directors is responsible for the governance and strategic management of the organisation. Board members are elected at an AGM of all members and meet every two months throughout the year.

A staff team of five is managed by LAG's chief executive officer.

All Trustees, who are also directors, give their time freely and none of them received remuneration in the year.

The pay of the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") is reviewed annually, along with staff salaries.

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Trustees' Report**

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 30 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adriano Moraes', is written over a dotted line.

Adriano Moraes  
Trustee

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees (who are also Directors for the purpose of company law) on my examination of the accounts of the L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited  
('the Company')**

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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



Tim Sullivan FCA  
ICAEW

9 Hare & Billet Road  
Blackheath  
SE3 ORB

15/8/2025

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**  
**(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	23,056	75,689	98,745	34,144	32,500	66,644
Charitable activities	4	407,003	-	407,003	356,880	-	356,880
Investment income	5	1	-	1	1	-	1
<b>Total income</b>		<b>430,060</b>	<b>75,689</b>	<b>505,749</b>	<b>391,025</b>	<b>32,500</b>	<b>423,525</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	6	(364,847)	(75,236)	(440,083)	(434,901)	(22,500)	(457,401)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>(364,847)</b>	<b>(75,236)</b>	<b>(440,083)</b>	<b>(434,901)</b>	<b>(22,500)</b>	<b>(457,401)</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>65,213</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>65,666</b>	<b>(43,876)</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>(33,876)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>							
Total funds brought forward		28,224	10,000	38,224	72,100	-	72,100
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>93,437</b>	<b>10,453</b>	<b>103,890</b>	<b>28,224</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>38,224</b>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.  
The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 18.

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

(Registration number: 01095065)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	2,010	2,770
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	13	56,903	47,478
Debtors	14	42,389	33,881
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>120,718</u>	<u>106,297</u>
		220,010	187,656
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>(90,180)</u>	<u>(119,068)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>129,830</u>	<u>68,588</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		131,840	71,358
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	16	(22,190)	(27,374)
<b>Provisions</b>	17	<u>(5,760)</u>	<u>(5,760)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>103,890</u>	<u>38,224</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds		10,453	10,000
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>93,437</u>	<u>28,224</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	18	<u>103,890</u>	<u>38,224</u>

For the financial year ending 31 December 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

**Directors' responsibilities:**

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**(Registration number: 01095065)**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024**

The financial statements on pages 11 to 26 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 30 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Adriano Moraes  
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		65,669	(33,876)
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation		1,586	2,863
Investment income		(1)	(1)
		<u>67,254</u>	<u>(31,014)</u>
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	13	(9,425)	24,518
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	14	(8,508)	35,066
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	15	(7,495)	15,506
Increase in provisions	17	-	5,760
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	16	(21,897)	6,309
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>19,929</u>	<u>56,145</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest received		(1)	(1)
Acquisitions of tangible assets		(827)	(1,841)
Net cash flows from investing activities		(828)	(1,842)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Repayment of bank borrowings		(4,680)	3,267
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		14,421	57,570
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		<u>106,297</u>	<u>48,727</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		<u>120,718</u>	<u>106,297</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.



## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

#### **1 Charity status**

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

2nd Floor  
Gatehouse Chambers  
1 Lady Hale Gate  
WC1X 8BS

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 30 June 2025.

#### **2 Accounting policies**

##### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Second edition October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

##### **Basis of preparation**

L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors 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 periods in which the estimate is revised where revisions affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revisions affects both current and future periods.

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

#### **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

In line with LAG's medium-long term strategy, book sales increased by 10% compared to 2023 from £213.8k to £236.1k, and training & events income increased significantly from £9k in 2023 to £49k in 2024. This reflects success in LAG's strategy to streamline and reduce costs, whilst increasing income over time.

Magazine sales dropped slightly as expected with the shift to digital, which whilst saving costs, some loss of subscribers was inevitable due to changing the medium for accessing the magazine. LAG is implementing a marketing strategy in order to increase subscriber numbers over the coming year.

Expenditure dropped further, and is expected to increase again in 2025 as we continue to action LAG's medium-long term strategy with additional resources.

Grant funding increased as the organisation now has a clear view of LAG's strategy over coming years and is in a stable position to target and carry out specific projects.

#### **Income and endowments**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

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 donation received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income from grants are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. These grants tend to be for specific purposes, for example, the writing of a report, and are therefore treated as restricted funds.

Income received for future courses and Legal Action Magazine and CCVLR subscriptions received in advance are deferred until the charity is entitled to these amounts. The amount are realised to the statement of financial activities in the period to which it relates.

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

#### ***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

#### ***Expenditure***

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### ***Support costs***

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### ***Taxation***

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### ***Tangible fixed assets***

Individual fixed assets costing £200 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

#### ***Depreciation and amortisation***

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

<b>Asset class</b>	<b>Depreciation method and rate</b>
Fixtures and fittings	33.33% straightline

## **L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

#### **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

#### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Borrowings**

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

## L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the charity will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Sponsorship	3,200	-	3,200	3,300
Memberships	3,103	-	3,103	5,880
Appeals and donations	6,753	-	6,753	24,964
Grants	10,000	75,689	85,689	32,500
	<u>23,056</u>	<u>75,689</u>	<u>98,745</u>	<u>66,644</u>

## L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Legal action magazine	121,703	121,703	134,042
Book sales	236,142	236,142	213,837
Courses income	49,158	49,158	9,001
	<u>407,003</u>	<u>407,003</u>	<u>356,880</u>

#### 5 Investment Income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

#### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other direct costs		193,497	-	193,497	155,469
Pro Bono work & Royalty Donation		4,183	-	4,183	13,600
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings		1,586	-	1,586	2,863
Website maintenance and development		14,284	-	14,284	17,979
Staff costs	11	20,083	75,236	95,319	120,735
Support costs	7	<u>131,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>131,214</u>	<u>146,755</u>
		<u>364,847</u>	<u>75,236</u>	<u>440,083</u>	<u>457,401</u>

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £131,214 (2023 - £146,755) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 7 for further details.

## L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### 7 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Support costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Wages and salaries	103,806	103,806	101,033
Telephone	147	147	328
Sundries	5,780	5,780	9,495
Office expenses	8,294	8,294	21,259
Computer software and maintenance	5,139	5,139	4,982
Printing, postage and stationery	214	214	471
Cost of trustee meetings	300	300	-
Independent examination	2,970	2,970	2,200
Legal and professional	34	34	13
Bad debts written off	-	-	2,799
Bank charges	2,790	2,790	2,413
Membership	1,740	1,740	1,762
	<u>131,214</u>	<u>131,214</u>	<u>146,755</u>

#### 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

#### 9 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 10 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

## L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### 11 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	154,418	189,919
Social security costs	10,223	12,848
Pension costs	9,265	10,951
Compensation payments	23,593	6,757
Other staff costs	1,626	1,293
	<u>199,125</u>	<u>221,768</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Administration	2	4
Editorial	1	2
Training & events	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.



**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**12 Tangible fixed assets**

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 January 2024	11,052	11,052
Additions	<u>826</u>	<u>826</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>11,878</u>	<u>11,878</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2024	8,282	8,282
Charge for the year	<u>1,586</u>	<u>1,586</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>9,868</u>	<u>9,868</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 December 2024	<u>2,010</u>	<u>2,010</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,770</u>	<u>2,770</u>

**13 Stock**

	2024 £	2023 £
Stocks	<u>56,903</u>	<u>47,478</u>

**14 Debtors**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	32,324	22,488
Prepayments	8,215	9,484
Accrued income	1,850	690
Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>1,219</u>
	<u>42,389</u>	<u>33,881</u>

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	4,799	4,295
Trade creditors	35,990	39,819
VAT	1,372	1,087
Pension	1,151	1,391
Accruals	13,100	16,811
Deferred income	33,768	55,665
	<u>90,180</u>	<u>119,068</u>

**16 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	<u>22,190</u>	<u>27,374</u>
<b>Bank loan</b>		
Payable within one year	4,799	4,295
Payable after one year	<u>22,190</u>	<u>27,374</u>
	<u>26,989</u>	<u>31,669</u>

**17 Provisions**

	Pension contributions provision £	Total £
At 1 January 2024	<u>(5,760)</u>	<u>(5,760)</u>

Potential repayment to HMRC for over-claimed tax relief on pensions. Ongoing investigating is underway where LAG will work alongside HMRC in identifying if there is an over-claim and how to repay this.

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**18 Funds**

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds	28,224	430,060	(364,847)	93,437
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
The Law Society	10,000	10,000	(9,547)	10,453
Nuffield Foundation	-	15,690	(15,690)	-
Trust for London	-	44,999	(44,999)	-
National Pro Bono Centre	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>75,689</u>	<u>(75,236)</u>	<u>10,453</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>38,224</u>	<u>505,749</u>	<u>(440,083)</u>	<u>103,890</u>
	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>72,100</u>	<u>391,025</u>	<u>(434,901)</u>	<u>28,224</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
The Law Society	-	10,000	-	10,000
Trust for London	<u>-</u>	<u>22,500</u>	<u>(22,500)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>32,500</u>	<u>(22,500)</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>72,100</u>	<u>423,525</u>	<u>(457,401)</u>	<u>38,224</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Trust for London Grant – to support the cost of the development of a comprehensive model of housing training and resources which reach wider audiences.

Law Society Grant – to support costs of publishing the Legal Aid Handbook (2024/25).

Nuffield Foundation – Grant for developing a digital legal knowledge hub for social welfare law.

National Pro Bono Centre – Grant to support the transition and transformation of the Magazine.

**L.A.G. Education and Service Trust Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**19 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,010	-	2,010
Current assets	209,557	10,453	220,010
Current liabilities	(90,180)	-	(90,180)
Creditors over 1 year	(22,190)	-	(22,190)
Provisions	(5,760)	-	(5,760)
Total net assets	<u>93,437</u>	<u>10,453</u>	<u>103,890</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,770	-	2,770
Current assets	177,656	10,000	187,656
Current liabilities	(119,068)	-	(119,068)
Creditors over 1 year	(27,374)	-	(27,374)
Provisions	(5,760)	-	(5,760)
Total net assets	<u>28,224</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>38,224</u>