

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Charity No. 291371

Company No. 07355501

Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts

31 August 2023

THE COBDEN CENTRE

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THE COBDEN CENTRE
Trustees Annual Report

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company No. 07355501

Charity No. 291371

Principal Office

The Vinson Building (University of
Buckingham)
Hunter Street
Buckingham
MK18 1EG

Registered Office

The Vinson Building
University of Buckingham
Hunter Street
Buckingham
MK18 1EG

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law.
The following Directors and Trustees served during the year:

D.J. Hannan
M.J. Rangeley

Accountants

Younis Bhatti & Co Ltd
93 Broad Street
Birmingham
B15 1AU

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
No.1 Hatton Garden
London
EC1P 1DU

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purpose of the charity as set out in its governing document is to undertake research into economic and political science and to disseminate the results thereof and to advance the education to the public in economic and political science. The policies adopted in furtherance of these objectives are to raise funds and undertake research and there has been no change in these during the year.

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Trustees Annual Report

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charities Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The charity undertook research and published its findings via its website at www.cobdencentre.org. During the year two volunteers assisted the charity, both of whom are trustees. The value of their work is estimated at £8000.

large charity must provide an explanation of its aims, including details of the issues it seeks to tackle and the changes or differences it seeks to make through its activities...

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the year the charity carried on its work of research in different economic and political science topics and issued the results on the charity's website.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity received donations of £3,400 during the year. Adjustments have been made to correct the balances of debtors, creditors and bank and the resultant balances of £31,484 have been treated as other income of charity.

It is policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained since December 2013 and we anticipate maintaining our reserves throughout the year.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

The trustees, who are also the Directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year were: Mr D J Hannan Mr M J Rangeley Trustees are recruited and appointed as and when necessary. None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The charity is run by the trustees. The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

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

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Trustees Annual Report

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Signed on behalf of the board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.J. Rangeley', written in a cursive style.

M.J. Rangeley

Trustee

18 September 2023

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of THE COBDEN CENTRE

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of THE COBDEN CENTRE for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity 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 financial statements 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.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the 2006 Act ; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements under section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



M Y Bhatti ICAEW

Younis Bhatti & Co Ltd

93 Broad Street

Birmingham

B15 1AU

18 September 2023

THE COBDEN CENTRE
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	4	29,850	29,850	3,400
Other	5	26,992	26,992	31,484
Total		56,842	56,842	34,884
Expenditure on:				
Other	6	50,890	50,890	14,520
Total		50,890	50,890	14,520
Net gains on investments		-	-	-
Net income		5,952	5,952	20,364
Transfers between funds		-	-	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)		5,952	5,952	20,364
Other gains and losses				
Net movement in funds		5,952	5,952	20,364
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		33,470	33,470	13,106
Total funds carried forward		39,422	39,422	33,470

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ended 31 August 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Income	56,842	34,884
Gross income for the year	<u>56,842</u>	<u>34,884</u>
Expenditure	50,890	14,520
Total expenditure for the year	<u>50,890</u>	<u>14,520</u>
Net income before tax for the year	5,952	20,364
Net income for the year	<u><u>5,952</u></u>	<u><u>20,364</u></u>

THE COBDEN CENTRE**Balance Sheet**

at 31 August 2023

Company No. 07355501	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	8	1,350	1,350
Cash at bank and in hand		39,522	33,570
		40,872	34,920
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	9	(1,450)	(1,450)
Net current assets		39,422	33,470
Total assets less current liabilities		39,422	33,470
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		39,422	33,470
Total net assets		39,422	33,470
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	10		
Unrestricted funds	10		
General funds		39,422	33,470
		39,422	33,470
Reserves	10		
Total funds		39,422	33,470

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

For the year ended 31 August 2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the board on 18 September 2023

And signed on its behalf by:



M.J. Rangeley

Trustee

18 September 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Income

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Notes to the Accounts

Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Freehold investment property

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value at each balance sheet date and are not depreciated. All gains or losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise.

Stocks

Stock is included at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Donated items of stock are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Research and development

Expenditure on research and development is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

Leased assets

Where the charity enters into a lease which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a finance lease.

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to charity are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are initially recognised as assets of the charity at their fair value at the inception of the lease or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet date as a finance lease obligation.

Lease payments are apportioned between finance expenses and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance expenses are recognised immediately, unless they are directly attributable to qualifying assets, in which case they are capitalised in accordance with the charity's policy on borrowing costs.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the company has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds.

Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

2 Company status

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

3 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	3,400	3,400
Other	31,484	31,484
Total	34,884	34,884
Expenditure on:		
Other	14,520	14,520
Total	14,520	14,520
Net income	20,364	20,364
Net income before other gains/(losses)	20,364	20,364
Other gains and losses:		
Net movement in funds	20,364	20,364
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total funds brought forward	13,106	13,106
Total funds carried forward	33,470	33,470

4 Income from donations and legacies

Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
£	£	£
29,850	29,850	3,400
<u>29,850</u>	<u>29,850</u>	<u>3,400</u>

5 Other income

Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
£	£	£
26,992	26,992	31,484
<u>26,992</u>	<u>26,992</u>	<u>31,484</u>

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Notes to the Accounts

6 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£
	28,626	28,626	-
Motor and travel costs	-	-	2,931
General administrative costs	1,925	1,925	2,561
Legal and professional costs	20,339	20,339	9,028
	<u>50,890</u>	<u>50,890</u>	<u>14,520</u>

7 Staff costs

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	1,350	1,350
	<u>1,350</u>	<u>1,350</u>

9 Creditors:

amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	1,450	1,450
	<u>1,450</u>	<u>1,450</u>

10 Movement in funds

	At 1 September 2022	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses) £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds:				
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	33,470	56,842	(50,890)	39,422
	<u>33,470</u>	<u>56,842</u>	<u>(50,890)</u>	<u>39,422</u>

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Total £
Net current assets	39,422	39,422
	<u>39,422</u>	<u>39,422</u>

THE COBDEN CENTRE
Notes to the Accounts

12 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash and cash equivalents	33,570	5,952	39,522
	<u>33,570</u>	<u>5,952</u>	<u>39,522</u>
Net debt	<u>33,570</u>	<u>5,952</u>	<u>39,522</u>

13 Related party disclosures

Controlling party

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.

THE COBDEN CENTRE
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	29,850	29,850	3,400
	<u>29,850</u>	<u>29,850</u>	<u>3,400</u>
Other	26,992	26,992	31,484
	<u>26,992</u>	<u>26,992</u>	<u>31,484</u>
Total income and endowments	<u>56,842</u>	<u>56,842</u>	<u>34,884</u>
Expenditure on:			
Other expenditure	28,626	28,626	-
	<u>28,626</u>	<u>28,626</u>	<u>-</u>
Travel and subsistence	-	-	2,931
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,931</u>
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation			
Bank charges	18	18	11
Software, IT support and related costs	-	-	105
Stationery and printing	600	600	2,186
Subscriptions	1,307	1,307	259
	<u>1,925</u>	<u>1,925</u>	<u>2,561</u>
Legal and professional costs			
Accountancy and bookkeeping	1,480	1,480	1,480
Consultancy fees	15,494	15,494	6,000
Management charges	3,365	3,365	1,548
	<u>20,339</u>	<u>20,339</u>	<u>9,028</u>
Total of expenditure of other costs	<u>50,890</u>	<u>50,890</u>	<u>14,520</u>
Total expenditure	<u>50,890</u>	<u>50,890</u>	<u>14,520</u>
Net gains on investments	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net income	<u>5,952</u>	<u>5,952</u>	<u>20,364</u>
Net income before other gains/(losses)	<u>5,952</u>	<u>5,952</u>	<u>20,364</u>
Other Gains	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>5,952</u>	<u>5,952</u>	<u>20,364</u>

THE COBDEN CENTRE

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Reconciliation of funds:

Total funds brought forward	33,470	33,470	13,106
Total funds carried forward	<u>39,422</u>	<u>39,422</u>	<u>33,470</u>