

Report & Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st August 2024

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Hackney Quest: Trustees Annual Report 2023-24

Reference & Administrative Details

Summary of investment powers	The company has the power to invest its money that is not immediately required for its objects.
Company number	02266475
Charity number	299734
Registered office and operational address	No 1 Poole Road Hackney, London, E9 7AE
Trustees	<p>Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are as follows:</p> <p>Charndee Devgun (Co-chair) James Beresford (Co-chair) Leverne Sinclair Oana Bradulet Charndee Devgun Sophie Hewitt Keeley Williams Rebecca Disu</p> <p>Terence Cronin (Treasurer) resigned 18/09/24 Lorna Taylor resigned 03/02/2024 Juliet Farrall resigned 03/02/2024</p> <p>Gerardo Lopez De La Parra Joined 25/09/2024 Sarah Flambard Joined 25/09/2024 Paul Swannell (Treasurer) Joined 25/09/2024 Samantha Brown Joined 25/09/2024</p>
Bankers	<p>National Westminster Bank plc</p> <p>196 Stoke Newington High Street Stoke Newington London N16 7GA</p>
Independent Examiner	Jacque Driver Ltd Church House 1 Prodigal Square Hackney E8 1FX
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/hackney.quest
Twitter:	https://twitter.com/hackneyquest
Instagram:	HackneyQuest

Structure governance and management

Hackney Quest was incorporated by Memorandum and Articles of Association in 1988 and is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

We can confirm that our Trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commissions published guidance in the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

Board of Trustees

We have a minimum of five trustees; vacancies are advertised to the existing volunteer base and to external agencies. Potential trustees are provided with a detailed job description and invited to attend a Board meeting. Candidates' written applications are considered at the next Board meeting and must have the majority support of the Board. The Board is developing a more formal induction and CPD process to include trustee mentoring, and opportunities to attend *pro bono* training sessions offered by some of the major London law and accountancy firms, and by third sector umbrella organisations, are advertised and participation strongly encouraged.

Trustees are informed of their fundamental legal duties and their broader responsibility to support the effective management of the charity. Information is summarised in a trustee handbook. All trustees are enhanced DBS checked which, alongside a recommended framework of safeguarding training and practice, is key to ensuring that they are fit and proper persons to take responsibility for an organisation that works with young people.

The trustees ensure that major risks, including governance, operational, financial, external and compliance with legal requirements are identified and reviewed on a regular basis and that we have adequate systems in place to mitigate them. The management ensure that policies and procedures covering Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Child Protection, Equal Opportunities, Finances, and a staff handbook and volunteer handbook are in place. These are reviewed, advised upon, and endorsed by the Board annually or as required.

In addition, the trustees ensure that Hackney Quest has access to professional legal and financial advice where appropriate. Meetings are held 4 times per year. Trustees receive a detailed bi-monthly report as well as financial and budgetary reports, to ensure they are able to properly scrutinise the charity's activities. Trustees are also actively encouraged to engage with staff, volunteers and beneficiaries.

Management and key staff

Colette Allen is Hackney Quest's CEO and has been in post for 23 years. Finance and fundraising is the responsibility of Karen Bance. Marisa Linihan is the Volunteer Manager, Janita Halsey is the Youth Manager, Andrew Esiegbe is the Family Support Manager, Luke Billingham is the Wick Award Youth Voice and Education Support Coordinator, Lekan Awoyemi, Sandra Monero, Jean-Guy Sylvestre, Fola David-Joshua and Sophie Jagne are our Senior Youth/Outreach workers, Bella Relph is the Employability and Wellbeing Manager, Lucy Bradley is the Administrator/Hardship Support Co-Ordinator. Our staff have a combined 100 plus years' experience of volunteering with and working for Hackney Quest.

Each and every activity carried out by Hackney Quest is planned in detail and in collaboration with experienced staff and volunteers. Written evaluations are produced and considered by management on a regular basis, with a particular emphasis on any risks, and on outcomes. Each beneficiary's engagement with programmes is recorded, and their achievements reported both internally to staff and trustees – and externally to stakeholders in the form of statistical and/or anonymised returns as appropriate.

Partners, funders and support organisations

BBC Children in Need, Garfield Weston Foundation, Hackney Parochial Charities, Headley Trust, Henry Smith Charity, Jack Petchey Foundation, The John Paul Clarke Family, The London Borough of Hackney, The National Lottery, Pemberton Barnes Trust, Polen Capital, Rijac Properties, SAM Charitable Trust, The Salters Charitable Foundation, Skyway Charity, South Hackney Parochial Charities, Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, Wick Award,

Woodroffe Benton Foundation, Young Hackney, and a number of smaller Worshipful Companies and Charitable Trusts

Plus, the many individuals who give regularly and the many individuals and teams who fundraise for us at events such as the Hackney Half Marathon, as well as corporates who match-fund and staff who give their own time.

Premises

We operate from 1 Poole Road, London, E9 7AE

Message from the Co-Chairs of Trustees

The past year has been one of both challenge and growth for Hackney Quest. As we reflect on 2023-2024, we see the continued impacts of the cost-of-living crisis, which has impacted the daily lives of the young people and families we support. Rising food and energy prices have put pressure on basic needs, leading to increased financial insecurity and stress for many. In response, Hackney Quest has adapted its services, providing practical and emotional support for young people and their community through a range of community-focused programmes.

We have seen the importance of addressing not only immediate hardships but also systemic issues such as school exclusions. Our Positive Youth Engagement Programme has played a critical role in helping young people reintegrate into education and providing them with opportunities to thrive. Through partnerships with local authorities and other organisations, we have made strides in empowering young people to navigate these challenges while developing resilience and confidence.

Hackney Quest's Talking Quest counselling service has continued to expand, offering early mental health intervention and accessible counselling for young people six days a week. The importance of mental health support cannot be overstated, and we are proud to have helped 45 young people through this programme.

This year has also seen the strengthening of our volunteer base, with over 100 dedicated individuals supporting our activities for young people as well as participating in fundraising events. Their efforts have helped make our initiatives, such as the distribution of school supplies and daily meals, possible. By participating they foster positive relationships between young people and their community, which is at the heart of everything we do.

On behalf of the trustees, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Hackney Quest's staff, volunteers, supporters, and partners. Your dedication continues to make a lasting impact on the lives of young people and their families in Hackney.

Charndee Devgun and James Beresford, Co-Chairs of Trustees

Objectives and activities

Our Articles of Association state that Hackney Quest was established to:

A. Educate children and young people, especially but not exclusively through their leisure-time activities, so as to develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities and skills in order to enable them to achieve their full potential and to grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society and thereby make a positive contribution within the community as a whole.

B. Provide or assist in the provision of facilities, training and other opportunities for the recreation and other leisure-time occupation and, further, for education in interpersonal and practical skills, for children and young people who have a need for such facilities by reason of their youth, disablement, poverty or social or economic circumstances and, in particular giving priority to those who are resident in the London Borough of Hackney and who have come to the attention of education, health or police authorities, or other agencies as being in need of support, especially by reason of their history of delinquency or truancy, and in order that such children and young people may achieve these aims in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving their conditions of life, regardless of their ethnic origin, sex, gender, religious affiliation or disability.

Aims and Objectives

- Hackney Quest aims to give **young people, families and members of the community** the practical and emotional support they need to develop and pursue their aspirations and deal positively with life's challenges. We help build confidence, develop new skills, widen perspectives and opportunities, as well as uncover existing strengths and capacities.
- Volunteers provide a diversity of positive role models who will help to promote development of young people, families and the community and support them on their journey to fulfill their potential. We connect people and help provide an environment where we can learn from each other through forging supportive relationships that realise the potential for positive change that lies within us all as individuals, families, and as a community.
- We aim to **give young people a voice in Hackney** and involve them in the strategic direction/governance of Hackney Quest. We encourage them to prepare for the responsibilities, opportunities and expectations of adulthood and citizenship.
- We aim to **support and empower families and our local community** by offering practical and emotional support to promote wellbeing and decrease social isolation.

Financial review

Reserves policy

Hackney Quest has on-going commitments to the users of its service and legal responsibility to the staff it employs. It is therefore considered prudent that Hackney Quest should aim to have a minimum level of free, unrestricted reserves representative of three months' running costs. Our free, unrestricted reserves at the end of the financial year stood at £67k which represents just over 3 months of unrestricted running costs.

This policy will be reviewed by the Trustees and the Fundraising & Finance Manager on an annual basis, or intermediately when any significant changes to the structure of the organisation or its work take place as a matter of course.

Financial results

In 2023-24 Hackney Quest had total income of £530k (£510k in 2022/23) with a bank balance at the end of August 24 of £118k (£130K in 22/23). Total funds ended the year with a balance of £102K (2022/23 £117k) of which £67k was unrestricted (£51k in 22/23). For details see the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and accompanying notes.

Fund-raising by activity

Youth programmes

Our major funders of our positive youth engagement programme were the National Lottery, London Borough of Hackney, SAM Charitable Trust (Rijac), Jack Petchey Foundation and London Youth. Other donors include Polen, John Paul Clarke Family and fundraising through Just Giving.

Volunteers, mentors and employability

Our major funders included Pemberton Barnes, London Youth, SAM Charitable Trust (Rijac), Henry Smiths Charity and South Hackney Parochial Charities.

Other funders included Woodroffe Benton Foundation, Salters company, Worshipful Company of Fan Makers, Shoreditch Design, Sedulo Polen Capital, Sherbourne in the Community.

For all funders we had in place a thorough quantitative and qualitative data collection and Views/IYSS reporting systems, collected feedback on successes and challenges and met with the full requirements of the grants and contracts

Wick Award and youth voice

Wick Award again funded our work amplifying youth voices and advocating for young people's needs in Hackney Wick, along with other major donors including HCVS My-Ends (VRU) and LLDC.

Family and education support

We are very thankful to our main funders of these projects Headley Trust, Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, Wick Award, South Hackney Parochial Charities (partially), The London Borough of Hackney, Vintners, The Sackler Trust who have continued to support for many years.

For all funders we had in place a thorough quantitative and qualitative data collection and Views/IYSS reporting systems, collected feedback on successes

Achievements and Performance

Youth Programmes

Our youth programmes continue to be at the heart of Hackney Quest's work, providing opportunities for young people to engage in positive activities that build their confidence, skills, and sense of belonging.

This year, we've engaged over 400 young people through our Positive Youth Engagement Programme, offering a range of activities from after-school sessions to weekend clubs and holiday programmes. Highlights include:

- **Performances and Workshops:** Our young people got creative with music and arts projects, culminating in performances at events like the **Cold Fire Festival**. Many shared how amazing it felt to showcase their talents for the first time!
- **Residentials and Day Trips:** We organised several trips, including visits to cultural sites, sports events, and residential activities, which helped foster teamwork and personal growth among participants.

In collaboration with **Hackney REP**, we've also focused on preventing school exclusions, providing targeted support for young people facing educational challenges, leading to:

- Fewer young people at risk of being excluded from school.
- Better attendance and engagement in educational activities.

Talking Quest: Early Mental Health Intervention

Talking Quest has really stepped up this year, providing accessible counselling and mental health support six days a week. This service has been essential in addressing the mental health needs of young people. Here's what we've achieved:

- We've helped **45** young people with their mental health, tackling issues like anxiety, depression, and the stress brought on by the cost-of-living crisis.
- Our team has formed partnerships with mental health organisations to improve our services and referrals.
- We've made it easier for young people to access help when they need it, creating a supportive environment where they feel safe to talk about their feelings.

Volunteers and Employment Mentoring

Our volunteer network, with over 100 active members, has been crucial in supporting Hackney Quest's activities. Volunteers have contributed to our youth engagement programmes, community support initiatives, and more. This year, we've also expanded our **Youth Leadership Programme**, training **22** young leaders who have taken on roles in our programmes and supported their peers.

Future Plans and Goals

Looking ahead, Hackney Quest is committed to:

1. Expanding programme offerings, with a focus on employability, mental health awareness, and life skills.
2. Strengthening partnerships, particularly with corporate sponsors and education providers.
3. Enhancing support services such as Talking Quest and hardship support.
4. Increasing community engagement to reach more young people and families.
5. Working towards the **London Youth Gold Quality Mark**.
6. Promoting youth leadership through our programmes.
7. Responding to emerging challenges, including the ongoing impacts of the cost-of-living crisis.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Risk Area	Explanation	Mitigation
Funding	<p>Hackney Quest is a charitable organisation reliant on grants and donations. Funds for our core work can sometimes be concentrated around a number of key funding sources.</p> <p>Hackney Quest recognises that funding is one of its organisational resilience risks</p> <p>Hackney Quest operates out of an older building that we do not own therefore exposed to risk of rent increases or possible loss of access to the building as well as large scale repairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversification of funding sources • Financial targets to maintain reserves • Maintenance of volunteer network as a delivery arm (in case of need to cut paid youth workers) • regular monitoring of the rolling twelve months forecast cashflow to ensure that appropriate action can be taken to cut costs if necessary to maintain the charity as a going concern. • Close communication with the building owners – Hackney Joint Estates to identify early sign of risks • Targeted funding applications that include building maintenance/core costs
Organisational resilience to shocks e.g. cost of living crisis	<p>2023-24 saw a continued cost of living crisis with, also affecting staff and volunteers. This may cause cascading effects on the quality of education, mental health and home life experienced by young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular communication with young people, their families and volunteers to understand evolving needs • Group support, mentoring and individual mental health support in place for young people. • Annual staff salary review and regular checks on staff financial wellbeing within Trustee meetings • Financial planning advice offered to staff
People	<p>Hackney Quest is driven by a small group of highly dedicated staff. We need to ensure their workload is sustainable and their wellbeing and job satisfaction is high.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly review staff workloads to ensure that they are reasonable. • Ensure salaries are in line with market benchmarks, tracking inflation. • Increase core-funding to build staff team and better distribute workload, build resilience especially for any unplanned staff absences • Regularly review staff development and opportunities for personal fulfilment through projects and programmes
Data Management and GDPR	<p>We have different database systems for different funders and would work more efficiently if these were streamlined</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding applications to include new systems and implementation • Digitalisation of our administration with approved access.
Health and Safety	<p>Hackney Quest works with volunteers, vulnerable adults and young people facing challenging circumstances within the local community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies for management of operational risks relating to our work are in place and are reviewed annually • All staff and volunteers are trained in relevant policies.
Reputation and marketing	<p>Hackney Quest has a positive reputation within the community and its partners; this is to be maintained and exceeded.</p> <p>As a charity, Hackney Quest depends on its reputation with key funders and the community for its funding and its ability to operate effectively</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people, volunteers and staff trained/ reminded of organisational rules and Ethos. • Clear procedures for communicating with key stakeholders in event of crises, including scenario planning • Execution of key policies and application for quality mark as a way of ensuring internal fitness of policies and as an external marker of confidence • Key messages and guidelines for all staff and trustees communicating about Hackney Quest externally, including social media policy and media policy

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of key spokespeople and media training
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Partner/Support Organisations

Hackney Quest recognises that collaboration is essential for delivering impactful services. This year, we have strengthened relationships with key stakeholders, including:

- **Statutory Bodies:** Partnering with the London Borough of Hackney has allowed us to prevent school exclusions and offer better support to young people.
- **Youth Organisations:** Collaborating with organisations like Hackney REP (committed to preventing school exclusions and improving educational experiences for marginalised young people) and Rise Up East (VRO) working in collaboration to reduce youth violence.
- **Corporate and Business Partnerships:** Our partnerships with businesses such as Canada Life, OCS, Polen Capital, and Sedulo have been vital in supporting community initiatives like our community lunches, with OCS and Polen Capital volunteering to assist.

We also receive valuable support from the Felix Project, Skyway Charity, Wickers Charity, ELBA, London Borough of Hackney, HCVS, Diverse Voices, Benevity, Magdalene and Equinix

We thank them for their support.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Trustees are required to prepare an annual report and financial statements for each financial year in accordance with applicable law and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Trustees are also required to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity for the year.

In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which 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 charitable company and hence for taking any reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Guarantees

Members of the board of Trustees of the charitable company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 August 2024 was 8. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charitable company.

Jacque Driver Ltd was the charitable company's independent examiner during the year

Approved by the Trustees on

8/02/25

and signed on their behalf by

James Beresford
JAMES BERESFORD
CO-CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Hackney Quest

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, related notes and are set out on pages 11 to 20

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). The charity is required by company law to prepare accrual based accounts and the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters that I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to any other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report or for the statements that I have made.

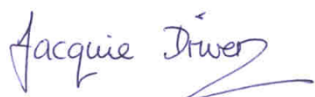
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and Regulation 8 of the Accounts Regulations and the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Jacquie Driver FCA, Jacquie Driver Limited
Office address: Church house, 1 Prodigal Square, Hackney, E8 1FX
Date: 10th February 2025

Hackney Quest

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ending 31 August 2024

		Year to 31st August 2024			Year to 31st August 2023		
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from							
Donations & legacies	2	161,405	137,814	299,219	215,749	101,376	317,125
Income from Charitable activities	3	127,542	94,282	221,824	54,259	122,924	177,183
Other income	4	0	8,672	8,672	0	16,061	16,061
Total income and endowments		<u>288,947</u>	<u>240,768</u>	529,715	<u>270,008</u>	<u>240,361</u>	<u>510,369</u>
Expenditure on							
Expenditure on Raising funds		-	51,750	51,750	0	42,409	42,409
Expenditure on charitable activities		320,063	172,756	492,819	251,888	232,034	483,921
Total expenditure	5	<u>320,063</u>	<u>224,506</u>	544,569	<u>251,888</u>	<u>274,443</u>	<u>526,332</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	6	(31,116)	16,262	(14,854)	18,120	(34,082)	(15,963)
Net Movement in Funds							
Balances at 1 September c/fwd		66,060	51,028	117,088	47,940	85,110	133,050
Balances at 31 August	11	<u>34,944</u>	<u>67,290</u>	102,234	<u>66,060</u>	<u>51,028</u>	<u>117,088</u>

Hackney Quest

Balance Sheet

As At 31 August 2024

	Note	31/08/2024 £	31/08/2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	8	500	1,289
Current assets			
Debtors	9	4,988	5,563
Cash at bank and in hand		117,666	129,683
		122,654	135,246
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	20,920	19,447
Net current assets/liabilities		101,734	115,799
Net assets / liabilities	11	102,234	117,088
Funds			
Restricted funds		34,944	66,060
Unrestricted funds - general		67,290	51,028
Total funds	12	102,234	117,088

For the year ending 31 August 2024 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Trustees acknowledge the following responsibilities:

- (i) The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- (ii) The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees on 08/02/25 and signed on their behalf by

Signature:

James Beresford

Name:

JAMES BERESFORD

Role:

CO-CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Hackney Quest

Cash flow statement

For the year to 31st August 2024

	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Net income/(deficit) for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		(14,854)		(15,963)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	789		1,847	
Write off of assets	0		0	
(Increase)/decrease in value of debtors	575		6,213	
Increase in value of creditors	<u>1,473</u>		<u>6,527</u>	
Net cash from operating activities		2,837		14,587
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of fixed assets		0		0
Increase/(decrease) in cash in year		<u>(12,017)</u>		<u>(1,375)</u>
Reconciliation of net debt				
		opening 01/08/2023	cash flow 23/24	closing 31/08/2024
Cash and cash equivalents-				
Current accounts		58,990	7,134	66,124
Deposit accounts		<u>70,693</u>	<u>(19,151)</u>	<u>51,542</u>
		129,683	(12,017)	117,666
Borrowings				
Movements in short term loans		0	0	0
Total		<u>129,683</u>	<u>(12,017)</u>	<u>117,666</u>

Hackney Quest

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 August 2024

1. Accounting Policies

a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006. They follow the recommendations in the 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Hackney Quest was incorporated by Memorandum and Articles of Association in 1988 and is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital (company number 2266475). It is also a registered charity (number 299734). It's registered office is at 1 Poole Road, Hackney, E9 7AE.

The trustees consider that Hackney Quest is a going concern as it has prepared what it considers a viable budget and cashflow for the next twelve months that shows that the current level of unrestricted reserves it is appropriate to support the activities planned for 2023-24 and for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the accounts are prepared based on Hackney Quest being a going concern.

b) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Donated services and facilities are recognised as an incoming resource where the provider of the service has incurred a financial cost. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.

c) Revenue grants are credited to the statement of financial activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless they relate to a specific future period, in which case they are deferred.

d) Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable. Depreciation of fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund. Where a fixed asset is donated to the charity for its own use, it is treated in a similar way to a restricted grant.

e) Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function are allocated to support costs.

These costs are re-allocated on the basis of staff time as:

Fundraising and publicity	15%
Young people's and volunteers' activities	85%

Governance costs include the management of the charitable company's assets, organisational management and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

The costs of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in raising funds for the charitable work.

f) Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life. The depreciation methods in use are as follows:

Equipment, fixtures and fittings	20% of the cost each year
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Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities.

Assets will be reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their recoverable value to be materially lower than their value disclosed in the accounts.

g) Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund together with a fair allocation of governance costs.

h) Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charitable company.

i) Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis, based on the length of the lease.

2. Donations & legacies

	2023-24			2022-23		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Abidemi Ikharia	-	-	-	5,165	-	5,165
BBC Children in Need		15,000	15,000			
Benevity/Equinix	3,000	2,248	5,248	16,970	1,710	18,680
BP			-		1,500	1,500
Canada Life			-	12,000		12,000
Charles French CT			-	3,000		3,000
Compass Wellbeing			-	44,681		44,681
Garfield Weston		15,000	15,000		15,000	15,000
Hackney Parochial Charities	745	25,000	25,745	-	25,000	25,000
HCVS- my ends/The Wickers	16,069	5,250	21,319	29,196	8,525	37,721
Headley Trust	15,000		15,000	45,000	-	45,000
Henry Smith	17,500		17,500			
Homerton College	1,000		1,000			
Jack Petchey	5,599		5,599	2,140		2,140
Kilburn & Strode			-	-	500	500
Kirkland & Ellis			-		5,000	5,000

	2023-24			2022-23		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
London Youth	5,500		5,500	3,932		3,932
Paragon Trust			-		500	500
Pemberton Barnes		25,000	25,000	10,000		10,000
Places for People	1,000		1,000			
Play 4 Change	1,600		1,600			
Polen Capital	8,000		8,000	-	5,000	5,000
RC Watts Foundation			-		1,000	1,000
Rijac Properties/SAM	16,519	800	17,319	7,935		7,935
Roedean			-	1,100	-	1,100
Salters Company	5,000		5,000	5,000		5,000
Sedulo	2,800		2,800			
Sherbourne in the Community	3,000		3,000			
Sir James Roll Charitable Trust			-		1,000	1,000
South Hackney Parochial Charities	460	20,000	20,460	12,000		12,000
Trusthouse	30,000		30,000			
UCL			-	3,200		3,200
Vintners	5,000		5,000			
Woodroffe Benton Foundation	5,000		5,000	5,000		5,000
Worshipful company of Fanmakers	2,500		2,500	-		-
Worshipful Company of Innholders			-		2,000	2,000
Gift aid claimed			-		373	373
Other donations	16,113	29,516	45,629	9,430	34,268	43,698
Total	161,405	137,814	299,219	215,749	101,376	317,125

Details of restricted grants:

Benevity/Equinix. Core costs and to provide support to people struggling financially, this includes advice, community meals, food bank, coffee mornings, vouchers etc
BBC Children in Need. for core costs to help ensure our organisation can continue delivering essential support to children and young people who need it most.

Garfield Weston for core costs to help ensure our organisation can continue delivering essential support to children and young people who need it most.

Hackney Parochial Charities - for core costs to help ensure our organisation can continue delivering essential support to children and young people who need it most.

HCVS/The Wickers- my ends. Part of a consortium of organisations working together to increase the opportunities for young people. HQ role is strategic in supporting the other organisations

Headley Trust. To continue to provide to families and individuals, financial, debt, welfare, benefits advice and make referrals to other services

Henry Smiths. Used towards the Employability, Wellbeing & Mentoring programme which provides young people aged 14-25 with the space and support to gain skills and opportunities that will help them in their move forward.

Jack Petchey. To give recognition awards to individual young people for their hard work and achievements.

London Youth. To provide additional sporting sessions for young people

Pemberton Barnes – to support and develop our young people aged 16-25 and to give them the opportunity to have 1:1 support with trained counsellors allowing them to think through the challenges and finding solutions; encouraging them to feel comfortable talking about their emotions both individually and in groups, while being supported through the signposting process to get any additional support.

Rijac Properties. To provide support for our young people through bursaries, activities and overhead costs

Salters Company. to be used towards the Employability, Wellbeing & Mentoring programme which provides young people aged 14-25 with the space and support to gain skills and opportunities that will help them in their employability as they move forward.

South Hackney Parochial Charities. To support the management and running costs of our adult and youth volunteers

Trusthouse. To support our families with advice and guidance, supporting through issues in education and community support through our foodbanks and hardship support project.

Vintners. To support our community as it faces rising expenses that make daily essentials increasingly difficult to afford. This funding allows us to provide vital resources, such as food, hardship support and essentials.

Woodruffe Benton. Used towards the employability programme which provides young people aged 14-25 with the space and support to gain skills and opportunities that will help them in their employability as they move forward.

3. Charitable activities

	2023-24			2022-23		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government and local authority grants						
London Borough of Hackney	6,396	84,185	90,581	19,759	83,179	102,938
Big/National Lottery (from Dept of Culture, Media & Sport)	77,271	10,097	87,368	-	39,745	39,745
London Councils	2,875		2,875	-	-	-
Wick Award (London Borough of Hackney)	41,000		41,000	34,500	-	34,500
Total from major grants	127,542	94,282	221,824	54,259	122,924	177,183

Details of above grants:

LB Hackney (Young People) £84k- to provide activities/workshops/accreditations for children/young people during daytime, evening and holiday periods

L B Hackney (small grant of £6k) to support the local community via our food bank, community meal, coffee mornings and advice sessions

The National Lottery - The Million Hours fund to 2-yr funding for employing new sessional youth workers, maintaining our Youth Managers position, core costs and to provide open access activities at various sites including Frampton Park Estate.

The National Lottery - We received the Cost of Living to support our community as it faces rising expenses that make daily essentials increasingly difficult to afford. This funding allows us to provide vital resources, such as food, housing assistance, and financial guidance,

Wick Award £41k - To deliver of a range of engagement activities through forums and activities to continue the conversations started through the Community Researcher Programme; Develop a structure for engagement, discussion and decision making by young people locally and other young people to develop approaches, make decisions, arrange events and support capacity building to move the programme forward.

	2023			2022		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
4. Other income						
Income from hall rentals	-	6,000	6,000	-	5,050	5,050
Income from office rentals			-		7,500	7,500
Administration of Hackney charities		1,825	1,825		2,961	2,961
Bank interest	-	847	847	-	550	550
	-	8,672	8,672	-	16,061	16,061

5a. Total resources expended 2023-24

	Raising funds	Charitable activities	Support costs (incl governance)	2023-24 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (note 6)	31,998	320,606	25,847	378,452
Staff training & expenses	-	-	1,511	1,511
Activities, awards & grants	3,020	46,056	-	49,076
Office costs	3,365	-	16,351	19,716
Accountancy & payroll fees	-	-	4,949	4,949
Volunteers' training and expenses	-	5,284	632	5,916
Premises costs	-	-	47,549	47,549
Depreciation & write-offs	-	-	789	789
Insurance	-	-	4,670	4,670
Facilitator expenses	-	31,407	-	31,407
Bank charges	-	-	535	535
	38,382	403,353	102,833	544,569
Allocation of support costs	13,368	89,465	-102,833	
	51,750	492,819	-	544,569

5a. Total resources expended 2022-23

	Raising funds	Charitable activities	Support costs (incl governance)	2022-23 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (note 6)	31,157	328,445	17,968	377,571
Staff training & expenses	-	-	164	164
Activities, awards & grants	-	64,795	-	64,795
Office costs	-	-	14,597	14,597
Accountancy & payroll fees	-	-	4,560	4,560
Volunteers' training and expenses	-	3,006	-	3,006
Premises costs	-	-	43,047	43,047
Depreciation & write-offs	-	-	1,847	1,847
Insurance	-	-	3,866	3,866
Facilitator expenses	-	12,376	-	12,376
Bank charges	-	-	501	501
	31,157	408,621	86,552	526,330
Allocation of support costs	11,252	75,300	-86,552	
	42,409	483,921	-	526,330

5b. Analysis of charitable activities 2023-24

	Employability	Young People	Wick Award	Family Support	JP Clarke	Total 23-24
Staff costs	72,365	109,495	41,708	97,039	0	320,606
Activities, awards & grants	1,781	20,866	13,750	7,157	2,502	46,056
Volunteers' training and expenses	3,288	492	0	1,505	0	5,284
Facilitator expenses	23,503	434	0	6,360	1,109	31,406
	100,936	131,287	55,458	112,061	3,611	403,352
Allocation of support costs	22,590	29,383	12,412	25,080		89,465
Total costs	123,526	160,669	67,870	137,142	3,611	492,818
Unrestricted costs	39,950	111,772	11,730	9,304	0	172,756
Restricted costs	83,576	48,898	56,140	127,838	3,611	320,063
Total costs	123,526	160,669	67,870	137,142	3,611	492,819

5b. Analysis of charitable activities 2022-23

	Volunteers	Covid 19	Young People	Wick Award	Family Support	JP Clarke	Total 22-23
Staff costs	112,449	0	108,779	52,758	54,459	0	328,445
Activities, awards & grants	5,370	335	22,194	30,181	6,101	614	64,795
Volunteers' training and expenses	1,518	0	281	0	1,208	0	3,006
Facilitator expenses	8,829	0	510	575	1,708	754	12,376
	128,165	335	131,764	83,514	63,476	1,368	408,621
Allocation of support costs	23,717	17	24,383	15,454	11,729		75,300
Total costs	151,882	352	156,146	98,968	75,205	1,368	483,921
Unrestricted costs	64,571	-	0	24,882	5,958	-	232,034
Restricted costs	87,311	352	19,524	74,086	69,247	1,368	251,888
Total costs	151,882	352	156,146	98,968	75,205	1,368	483,921

6. Net incoming resources

	2024 £	2023 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	789	1,847
Trustees' meeting reimbursements	-	-
Independent examination fees (£1100) plus preparation of annual accounts fees	2,200	2,200
Operating lease rentals on property	30,304	26,362

6. Staff costs and numbers

2024 £	2023 £
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Staff costs, paid through the payroll, were as follows:

Salaries and wages	344,151	344,320
Employers NI (net of employment allowance)	26,374	25,391
Employers Pension Costs	7,926	7,860
	378,452	377,571

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

Total staff numbers employed during the year, and paid through the payroll (including the hourly paid), averaged 13.6 (15 in 2022/23)

The average monthly number of employees (full-time equivalent) during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Employability	1.41	2.39
Young People	2.81	2.86
Wick	0.82	0.85
Family Support	1.95	1.15
Support	0.56	0.41
Raising funds	0.56	0.57
	8.11	8.23

The key management role for the day-to-day management of Hackney Quest was fulfilled by the Director, Colette Allen, who received total employee emoluments of £47,824 (£48,378 in 2022-23) including pension. The trustees were responsible for the strategic direction of the trust and none of these received any remuneration for their services.

As is detailed in the trustees report, volunteers make an invaluable contribution to the work of Hackney Quest in such areas as the Youth Entrepreneur Project, to mentoring, homework club and others. In 2023-24 there were a total of about 79 adult volunteers.

7. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment including IT	
	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
COST		
Opening balance	23,292	24,568
Additions in year	-	-
Disposals	0	(1,276)
Closing balance	23,292	23,292
DEPRECIATION		
Opening balance	22,003	21,432
Charge for the year	789	1,847
Disposals	0	(1,276)
Closing balance	22,792	22,003
NET BOOK VALUE		
Closing balance	500	1,289
Opening balance	1,289	3,136

All tangible fixed assets are used to fulfil the charity's objects

9. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	4,988	4,563
Accrued income	-	1,000
	4,988	5,563

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Taxation & social security	7,564	7,956
Accruals	2,800	2,260
Funds held on behalf of other charities	8,615	7,395
Sundry creditors	1,941	1,836
	20,920	19,447

Note re: Funds held on behalf of other charities

Grants totalling £23,766 (£35,555 in 22/23) have been received on behalf of Account Hackney and Hackney REP with expenditure on their behalf of £20,722 (£25,199 in 22/23). Apart from admin fees of £1,825 (£2961 in 22/23), this income and expenditure has not been shown in these accounts as Hackney Quest has not had management control of these funds. Hackney Quest has acted on the instructions of these organisations regarding payments. There was a balance of funds remaining at 31/8/24 of £8,615 (£7395 at 31/8/23).

HackneyREP is consortium of 13 volunteer sector organisations who came together to tackle the issue of school exclusions in Hackney. There is no lead organisation in the consortium, however Hackney Quest, being one of the larger organisations, was in a position to co-apply for funding and be the lead organisation in holding and distributing the funding as per the contract with Clarion and Allen & Overy. Any distribution of funding is agreed by all members of the consortium and in-line with funding guidelines.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	Restricted funds	General funds	Total funds	Restricted funds	General funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	0	500	500	0	1,289	1,289
Net current assets	34,944	66,790	101,734	66,060	49,739	115,799
Net assets at 31 August	34,944	67,290	102,234	66,060	51,028	117,088

12. Movement in funds 23-24

	Balance at 31st August 2023	Incoming resources 2023-24	Outgoing resources 2023-24	Transfers 2023-24	Balance at 31st August 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
JP Clarke Fund		16,309	0	(3,611)	12,698
Employability, wellbeing & mentoring		25,765	62,836	(76,604)	11,997
Young People		5,782	36,687	(42,469)	0
Family Support & hardship		12,500	98,424	(102,239)	8,685
Wick Project		0	49,115	(49,115)	0
		60,356	247,061	(274,037)	33,380
Parts of restricted grants to cover core costs		5,704	41,885	(46,025)	1,564
Total restricted funds		66,060	288,946	(320,062)	34,944
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		51,028	240,768	(224,506)	67,290
Total funds		117,088	529,715	(544,568)	102,234

12. Movement in funds 22-23

	Balance at 31st August 2022	Incoming resources 2022-23	Outgoing resources 2022-23	Transfers 2022-23	Balance at 31st August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Activities funds (fixed assets)					
Fixed assets purchased from restricted income from Big Lottery		1,058	(1,058)		0
Total restricted attributed to fixed assets		1,058	0	(1,058)	0
Other restricted income					
JP Clarke Fund		17,677	0	(1,368)	16,309
Covid-19		4,619	0	(352)	0
Adult & Youth Volunteering		16,366	84,341	(74,942)	25,765
Young People		0	24,094	(18,312)	5,782
Family Support costs including salaries		0	73,382	(65,149)	12,500
Wick Project		6,720	64,366	(71,086)	0
		45,382	246,183	(231,209)	60,356
Parts of restricted grants to cover core costs		1,500	23,825	(19,621)	5,704
Total restricted funds excluding fixed assets		46,882	270,008	(250,830)	66,060
Total restricted funds		47,940	270,008	(251,888)	66,060
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		85,110	240,361	(274,443)	51,028
Total funds		133,050	510,370	(526,331)	117,088

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted income funds all refer to restricted gifts given towards various charitable activities. As can be seen above some of these funds also cover a proportion of the core costs as specified in the application documents.

13. Operating lease commitments

The charitable company had total future minimum payments under non-cancellable operating leases expiring as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Expiring in 0-1 years	-	-
Expiring in 1-2 years	-	-
Expiring in 2-5 years	31,056	31,056

The premises at 1 Poole Road are rented by Hackney Quest. A new lease was signed on the 13th July 2023 to run for 5 years at an annual rent of £30k.

On the 13th of April 2022 a lease of £1056 per annum was taken out on a photocopier for 5 years.

14. Related parties

Sophie Hewitt received £190 towards her out of pocket expenses incurred in her role as a counsellor. None of the other trustees or related parties received any remuneration or any other benefits in 2023/24 (2022/23 nil). Travel expenses of £75 were paid for one trustee to attend trustee meetings (£25 in 22/23)