Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Limited

(a company limited by guarantee)

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023



Company No. 3346379 (England and Wales) Charity No. 1064404

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees

The following served as company directors and charity trustees during the year:

		Appointed	Resigned
Thomas Quinn	Chair	14.03.2016	
Cindi Van Graan	Treasurer	21.11.22	
Marine Andre	ricusurei	17.05.2021	
Rachel Dabiri		08.11.2021	
Craig Marsden		17.05.2021	
Edward Walker		28.03.2022	
Robert Craig		09.07.2018	12.09.2022
Daniel Barrett		28.03.2022	12.09.2022
Oliver Steeple		14.09.2020	03.03.2023
Catherine Webster		14.09.2020	13.06.2023

All members of the Trustee Board are members of the company and guarantee to contribute to its assets in the event of it being wound up such amounts as may be required not exceeding £1.

The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the company and are not remunerated.

Auditors

Goldwins Limited 75 Maygrove Road West Hampstead London NW6 2EG

Goldwins were re-appointed as auditors at the AGM in November 2022.

Bankers

Unity Bank

Report of the Trustee Board

The Trustees present their Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 11 forms part of this Report. The Financial Statements comply with statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our vision Everyone will be able to access free advice to find a way forward.

Our mission

- To provide the advice people need for the problems they face
- To improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives

Our values

Valuing diversity
Independent and impartial advice
Confidentiality
Free advice
Working with integrity
Challenging discrimination
Promoting equality
Collaboration and partnership work
Accessible high quality advice

Our objectives

Objective [1] To improve people's quality of life by providing effective high quality information, advice and casework services to people in the Borough of Greenwich, and seafarers and their dependents in the UK.

Objective [2] To create Social Value for the community of local people and for seafarers and their dependents in the UK. This includes working with volunteers, training and support, partnership working, campaigning and influencing work and through our role as part of the national Citizens Advice Service.

Activities

-Advice Services

- Provide high quality advice services which make a real difference to our clients.
- Welfare benefits and tax credits advice
- Debt advice and financial capability training
- Other advice areas

-Social Value

- Training and support for volunteers and people on work placements
- Community engagement and local partnerships
- Campaigning and influencing work

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Ltd (GCAB) is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Trustee Board is responsible for its governance and the Chief Executive for its management. The Trustee Board may comprise up to twelve members. A quorum is three members. Trustees are normally recruited through advertising or following a recommendation. Any suitable candidate is interviewed by the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive. If they are considered suitable, references will be taken up. After that they will attend a Board meeting, after which the Board decide whether to appoint them.

Once appointed, a Trustee will be trained over a period of approximately six months. This will include spending time with the Chair, the Treasurer and the Chief Executive, reading a number of documents that are fundamental to an understanding of GCAB, going on any relevant courses, being shown the offices, meeting the staff and sitting in on advice sessions. There is a thorough induction process in place.

The Trustee Board currently meets six times a year. Meetings are attended by the Chief Executive, a minute-taker and a staff representative. Various reports and papers are discussed. These are principally prepared by the Chief Executive, but may be prepared by others, including the Chair and the Treasurer. Decisions on any relevant issue are made by the Board. Ad hoc Board meetings may be convened as required. The AGM takes place before the November Trustee Board meeting annually.

The Trustee Board are responsible for setting pay for key management personnel. Pay for key management personnel will always be discussed and agreed during the confidential section of Trustee Board meetings without any staff present. The Board take into account a range of benchmarks and criteria when setting pay, including the Job Description and role, NJC payscales and salaries for equivalent posts in London.

Statement on public benefit

The section below covering the achievements and performance of the charity sets out the activities carried out for public benefit. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

In the interest of transparency the Trustees make the following observations on the two key principles of public benefit.

Principle 1: there must be an identifiable benefit or benefits

- It must be clear what the benefits are these are set out below.
- The benefits must be related to the aims the Trustees review the activities of the charity against its aims on an ongoing basis and are satisfied that all activities continue to be related to the aims.
- Benefits must be balanced against any detriment or harm no specific issues of detriment or harm have been identified.

Principle 2: benefit must be to the public or a section of the public

- The beneficiaries must be appropriate to the aims the beneficiaries are people from the Royal Borough of Greenwich and surrounding areas and seafarers and their dependants in the UK.
- Where the benefit is to a section of the public, the opportunity to benefit must not be unreasonably restricted by geographical or other restrictions; or by the ability to pay any fees charged.
- People in poverty must not be excluded from the opportunity to benefit the charity's services are provided free to beneficiaries.
- Any private benefits must be incidental a number of private benefits do necessarily arise from the activities of the charity. In particular, the charity finds it essential to employ and remunerate staff. These private benefits are, however, incidental as they are a necessary by-product of carrying out the charity's aims.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE YEAR 2022-23

In the year 2022-23 GCAB provided high quality advice services to people in the Royal Borough of Greenwich and to seafarers and their families across the United Kingdom. GCAB advice services benefit the local community and seafarers and their dependents in many ways including tackling poverty, reducing debt, preventing homelessness, promoting equality and challenging discrimination.

In 2022-23 GCAB delivered advice to 2,516 unique clients (this is individual people who are counted once only during the year no matter how many times they came for advice) and dealt with 8,365 new issues. £2.5 million in financial outcomes was identified for our clients. This figure includes debt write-offs, benefit and tax credit entitlement (calculated over one year) and lump sums, and charitable grants. 279 cases of homelessness were prevented.

As a member of the National Citizens Advice Service for England and Wales, GCAB must comply with the Citizens Advice Performance Quality Framework which includes continuous checking of quality of advice, a "People Survey", an annual "Leadership Survey", monitoring of client satisfaction and an audit every three years. GCAB has met all required standards and provides high quality advice services.

The services delivered in The Royal Borough of Greenwich are generalist and debt advice services for people living in the Borough, funded by The Royal Borough of Greenwich. During 2022-23 services were provided remotely, primarily by telephone, due to the renovation work on the Old Town Hall. However, in 2022-23 we increased the amount of face-to-face advice that we do at outreach venues.

We are in the process of surrendering the lease on the Old Town Hall. The Royal Borough of Greenwich are renovating Cambridge Barracks for our use. The works on the new offices are likely to be completed in mid 2024 and we are looking forward to having new offices as a base for staff and volunteers and as a place to deliver face-to-face advice to local people.

In 2022-23 GCAB was funded by The Royal Borough of Greenwich to provide a generalist advice service and an unrestricted debt service to people in the borough. GCAB was also funded by The Royal Borough of Greenwich to provide a debt advice service with the aim of preventing homelessness.

GCAB has secured funding from The Royal Borough of Greenwich for four years from April 2023 to provide generalist and debt services for people in the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

GCAB are part of the Greenwich Outreach Advice Hubs project, funded by Greenwich Council. This is a partnership project which started in April 2022 and is now in its second year, providing advice and support at outreach venues across the Borough.

GCAB has a contract with We are Digital to provide debt and money management services to L&Q tenants through the "Pound Advice" project. GCAB also receives funding from Peabody for an advice service for their residents in Charlton.

In September 2022, GCAB began delivering a Crisis Support Project funded by the GLA. This is a pan-London service delivered by the informal partnership of Local Citizens Advice services in London and led by Royal Courts of Justice (RCJ) Citizens Advice.

GCAB runs the The Seafarers' Advice & Information Line (SAIL). This service was set up specifically with the needs of seafarers in mind and is accessible from anywhere in the UK and by people who are at sea. It is principally a telephone advice line, although letter and e-mail advice are also given.

SAIL advisers provide an in-depth casework service for active and retired merchant seafarers, fishers, Royal Navy, Royal Marines and their families. SAIL also provides second tier support on advice issues to other maritime agencies.

SAIL is funded by Seafarers Hospital Society, The Seafarers' Charity and Greenwich Hospital and GCAB very much appreciates their support.

All at GCAB greatly appreciate the continued financial support of the Royal Borough of Greenwich, the Seafarers Hospital Society, The Seafarers' Charity, Greenwich Hospital, Peabody, We Are Digital/L&Q, GLA, Citizens Advice and all of our other funders and supporters.

GCAB continues to progress positively and we shall try to meet the needs of seafarers and their dependents and all those in Greenwich who require advice from us. Our aim is to seek appropriate funding to maintain and develop our service over the coming year.

Plans for Future Periods

The GCAB Business Plan for 2023 – 2026 sets out in full the charity's plans for the future including our aims and key objectives for the period, together with activities planned to achieve them. The GCAB Business Plan is reviewed annually.

The GCAB Business Plan states our mission, objectives and activities as set out above.

In 2023-24 we will prioritise developing all advice services to meet demand for advice, which we anticipate will be great due to the current cost of living situation. This will include delivering excellent advice services and meeting all targets; developing a wide base of volunteers through our Volunteer Development Project and setting up expanded face-to-face advice services once we have our new building.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Risk Assessment

The Trustees keep all major risks to the organisation under review. We have a formal risk assessment process in place, the outcomes of which are reported to the Trustees and appropriate action taken.

A risk assessment is undertaken annually using the national Citizens Advice service template. This covers the following categories in detail:

- Finance
- Governance
- Management
- Service Delivery
- Social policy (Research and Campaigning)
- Stakeholder relationships
- Engagement with the wider service
- IT/systems
- Premises
- Information Assurance

The risk assessment includes:

- Identification of risks in each of the categories listed above
- Assessment of gross risk
- A statement to show the controls in place to mitigate the risk
- Assessment of net risk after mitigation
- Action to be taken to decrease the risk.

The risk assessment agreed at the Trustee Board meeting of 16 May 2022 showed one area of concern rated amber which we expect to become yellow or green at the July meeting and the rest rated yellow and green. The risk assessment is reviewed at each Board meeting under confidential business.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held to help the charity operate effectively. The GCAB Trustee Board keeps the reserves policy and the level of reserves held under review. The Trustee Board monitors the level of reserves held throughout the year as part of the normal monitoring and budgetary reporting processes. There is also an annual review of the reserves policy.

When reviewing and monitoring the reserves policy the GCAB Trustee Board ensure that they:

- identify when reserves are drawn on so that they understand the reasons and can consider the corrective action, if any, that needs to be taken;
- identify when reserve levels rise significantly above target so that they understand the reasons and can consider corrective action, if any, that needs to be taken;

- identify where the reserves level is below target, consider whether this is due to short-term circumstance or longer term reasons which might trigger a broader review of finances and reserves;
- regard the ongoing review of the reserves level, target and policy as part of managing the charity;
- ensure the reserves policy continues to be relevant as the charity develops or changes its strategy and activities;
- review the statement on reserves in the trustees' annual report where there have been significant changes in the reserves policy or level of reserves held.

In this way the Trustees are aware of the build up of excess reserves or of reserves being unexpectedly or rapidly depleted.

The GCAB Trustee Board has approved a reserves policy which is based on the findings of the organisational risk assessment, as set out below.

Unrestricted reserves

The trustees believe that the organisation should hold financial reserves in order to ensure that the charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially financially damaging circumstances arising.

The trustees consider that it would be prudent to aim to set aside an amount equivalent to two months' operating expenditure or £100,000, whichever is the greater. This level of reserves is deemed to be an achievable target.

Designated reserves

In addition, unrestricted funds have been designated for the following purposes:

Contractual commitment reserve - a reserve to ensure that the organisation is able to cover contracted payments to staff such as redundancy, provision of locum maternity cover, and the costs of any disciplinary and/or grievance procedures which may arise. At least £20,000 is agreed as a target.

Development reserve - a reserve to allow the organisation to undertake the development of new projects and areas of work and to conduct full feasibility studies on the advisability of such proposals. At least £5,000 recommended.

Restricted reserves

These funds are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the organisation. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between the bureau's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned.

Financial Position and Available Funds

The statement of financial activities shows a total deficit for the year of £46,706 (2022: a deficit of £30,042). Reserves at 31 March 2023 were £140,857 (2022: £139,789) of unrestricted reserves and £50,821 (2022: £98,595) of restricted funds required to finance ongoing restricted funded programmes and activities. Included in restricted funds are underspent grants which have been agreed to carry forward for ongoing projects.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Trustees are required by company law to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that 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 the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements;
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

Approved by the Trustee Board on 13th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Tom Quinn
Tom Quinn (Oct 1, 2023 22:20 GMT+1)

Tom Quinn
Chair

Independent auditors' report to the members of Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Limited for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the
 appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements
 made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant
 transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anthony Epton (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of

Anthony Epton

Goldwins Limited Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants 75 Maygrove Road West Hampstead London NW6 2EG

2 October 2023

Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Limited Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account) For the year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
	Notes				
Income from	_				
Donations	2	2,215	-	2,215	•
Charitable activities	3				400.000
Bureaux services		-	231,032	231,032	409,836
Debt advice services		48,504	107,000	155,504	169,711
Seafarers advice & information line		-	424,428	424,428	401,363
Other	4	29,327		29,327	
Total income		80,046	762,460	842,506	980,910
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities					
Bureaux services		5,158	301,055	306,213	398,868
Debt advice services		39,865	123,271	163,136	178,427
Seafarers advice & information line		7,041	412,822	419,863	433,657
Total expenditure	5	52,064	837,148	889,212	1,010,952
Net (expenditure)/income for the year					
before transfers		27,982	(74,688)	(46,706)	(30,042)
Transfer Between Funds	15	(26,914)	26,914		
Net movements in funds		1,068	(47,774)	(46,706)	(30,042)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		139,789	98,595	238,384	268,426
Total funds carried forward		140,857	50,821	191,678	238,384

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Limited Balance Sheet As at 31 March 2023

		20	23	20	22
		£	£	£	£
	Notes				
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		•		-
Current assets					
Debtors	11	44,349		83,278	
Cash at bank and in hand	17	284,958		371,261	
·		329,307		454,539	
Liabilities	12	(44 620)		(91 155)	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(11,629)		(81,155)	
Net current assets			317,678		373,384
Net assets excluding pension liability			317,678		373,384
Defined benefit pension scheme liability			(126,000)		(135,000)
Total net assets			191,678		238,384
The funds of the charity	15				
Restricted funds	13		50,821		98,595
Unrestricted funds:			00,021		00,000
Designated funds		25,000		25,000	
General funds		241,857		249,789	
Pension deficit fund		(126,000)		(135,000)	
Total unrestricted funds			140,857_		139,789
Total funds			191,678		238,384

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. In the opinion of the trustees, the Company is entitled to these exemptions as a small company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 13 September, 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Tom Quinn (Oct 1, 2023 22:20 GMT+1)

Chair

Tom Quinn

Company Registration No.3346379

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The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Cindi Van Graan (Oct 1, 2023 23:11 GMT+1) Cindy Van Graan Treasurer

Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Limited Statement of cash flows For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	16 _	(86,303)	(19,149)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(86,303)	(19,149)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	ar _	371,261	390,410
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	17 _	284,958	371,261

1 Accounting policies

a Basis of preparation of financial statements

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) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company 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 or note.

b Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is 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. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

d Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

e Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

g Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company
 in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities
 with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs. Where costs cannot be directly attributed, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with their use of resources.

Premises costs by desk space as follows:

Bureaux services	62.2%
Money advice services	36.4%
Governance	0.5%
Support costs	0.9%

Other costs of administration are allocated on a per capita basis as follows:

Bureaux services	33.7%
Money advice services	19.7%
Seafarers' advice & information line	45.9%
Governance	0.2%
Support costs	0.5%

• Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs comprise the salary and overhead costs of the central function.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

Bureaux services	26.1%
Money advice services	14.3%
Seafarers' advice & information line	59.6%

1 Accounting policies (continued)

i Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

j Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer and office equipment

33% straight line basis

Fixtures and fittings

33% straight line basis

k Debtors

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

I Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m Creditors and provisions

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.

n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

o Pension funds

The charitable company operated a defined contribution scheme which was a funded scheme and the assets were held externally of the charity. The company contributed 5.1% of gross pay to the scheme for anyone who transferred from the previous scheme. Stakeholder pension arrangements were also in place for employees not in the NACAB scheme.

From July 2016, the charitable company replaced these pension schemes with an auto enrolment pension scheme offered to all employees to which they make contributions unless they choose to opt out. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charitable company to the scheme. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

2 Income from donations

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
	Donations	2,215		2,215	
	Total income from donations 2023	2,215		2,215	_
	Total income from donations 2022				
3	Income from charitable activities				
	,	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
	Bureaux services			•	
	Bureaux staff & running costs (RB Greenwich) Advice outreach pilot (RB Greenwich) Cost of living advice (GLA/RCJ)	-	200,000 62,500 26,667	200,000 62,500 26,667	200,000
	Advice delivery (CitA) Help to Claim (CitA)		15,000 (73,135)	15,000 (73,135)	205,836
	Outreach work (Clockhouse)				4,000
	Total bureau services 2023	•	231,032	231,032	409,836
	Total bureau services 2022	4,000	405,836		
	Debt advice services Greenwich money advice service (RB Greenwich) Outreach money advice service (RB Greenwich) Outreach money advice service (Peabody) Debt advice service (University of Greenwich) Fees	36,394 12,110	40,000 63,000 4,000 -	40,000 63,000 4,000 36,394 12,110	40,000 63,000 4,000 48,525 14,186
	Total debt advice services 2023	48,504	107,000	155,504	169,711
•	Total debt advice services 2022	62,711	107,000		
	Seafarers' advice & information line Seafarers Hospital Society Greenwich Hospital The Seafarers' Charity Royal Navy/Royal Marines PR (Greenwich Hospital	- - - -	143,614 121,535 143,615 15,664	143,614 121,535 143,615 15,664	148,795 134,985 117,583
	Total seafarers' advice & information line 2023	-	424,428	424,428	401,363
	Total seafarers' advice & information line 2022	_	401,363		
Tot	tal income from charitable activities 2023	48,504	762,460	810,964	980,910
Tot	al income from charitable activities 2022	66,711	914,199		

4 Other income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Compensation	29,327		29,327	
Total other income 2023	29,327		29,327	-
Total other income 2022	· .			

5 Analysis of expenditure

Analysis of expenditure							
	Ch	aritable activitie	es				
	Bureaux services £	Debt advice services £	Seafarers' advice & information line £	Governance £	Support costs £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Salaries	266,724	141,502	339,998	847	8,268	757,339	851,318
Recruitment	200,724	141,302	2,542	047	0,200	2,542	1,052
Finance service	5,874	3,314	9,424	42	84	18,738	16,992
Other staff costs	1,143	665	4,925	8	16	6,757	8,712
Volunteer expenses and training	136	79	-	1	2	218	225
Premises and equipment	14,594	8,471	24,318	108	214	47,705	61.463
Office overheads	6,685	3,906	14,325	50	4,753	29,719	31,177
Project costs	3,125	811	3,182	8	(1,481)	5,645	16,460
Partnerships	-	-	-	-	1,984	1,984	2,500
Indemnity insurance	683	399	933	5	10	2,030	3,120
Marketing and website	359	210	4,508	3	5	5,085	12,577
Audit and compliance				11,450	<u>-</u>	11,450	5,356
	299,323	159,357	404,155	12,522	13,855	889,212	1,010,952
Support costs	4,697	2,747	6,411	-	(13,855)	-	_
Governance costs	2,193	1,032	9,297	(12,522)			
Total expenditure 2023	306,213	163,136	419,863			889,212	1,010,952
Prior year							
Unrestricted direct expenditure	-	50,431	_	2,405	12,978		
Restricted direct expenditure	391,176	124,327	425,012	4,623	-		
Unrestricted support & governance costs allocated	5,852	3,042	6,489	(2,405)	(12,978)		
Restricted support & governance costs allocated	1,840	627	2,156	(4,623)	<u>-</u>		
Total expenditure 2022	398,868	178,427	433,657				

Of the total expenditure in 2023, £52,064 was unrestricted (2022: £65,814) and £837,148 was restricted (2022: £945,138).

6 Net (expenditure)/income for the year before transfers

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals: Equipment	240	720
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT) Audit fees	3.230	3.167
Under accrual in prior year	83	

7 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	680,315	773,749
Social security costs	64,202	61,040
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	12,822	16,529
	<u>757,339</u>	851,318

No employee earned greater than £60,000 during the year (2022: nil).

The total employee benefits including employer National Insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel were £163,461 (2022: £152,911).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

8 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was 21.2 (2022: 27.6).

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

	2023 <u>No</u>	2022 <u>No</u>
Bureaux services	6.8	9.1
Money advice services	4.0	4.5
Seafarers' Advice and Information Line	9.2	10.1
Support and governance	0.2	0.2
	20.2	23.9

9 Taxation

Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux Ltd is exempt from corporation tax liability as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

10	Tangible fixed assets	Computer & office equipment	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
	Cost At 1 April 2022 Disposals	10,407 (2,847)	2,678 	13,085 (2,847)
	At 31 March 2023	7,560	2,678	10,238
	Depreciation At 1 April 2022 Disposals	10,407 (2,847)	2,678	13,085 (2,847)
	At 31 March 2023	7,560	2,678	10,238
	Net book value At 31 March 2023			<u>-</u>
	At 31 March 2022			-
	All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.		•	
11	Debtors		2023 £	2022 £
	Trade debtors Other debtors Prepayments		39,214 3,379 1,756	72,953 5,247 5,078
			44,349	83,278
12	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2022	2022
			2023 £	2022 £
	Trade creditors Accruals Other creditors		4,491 3,876 3,262	67,636 13,324 195
			11,629	81,155

13 Pension scheme

Citizens Advice ('the Principal Employer') operates a defined benefit scheme ('the Plan') in the UK which provides both pensions in retirement and death benefits to members. Pension benefits are related to the members' final salaries at retirement and their length of service at the date they retired or left pensionable service. The Plan closed to future accrual on 31 March 2008. The Plan also contains some money purchase AVCs and protected rights funds, which are not included in these disclosures.

In accordance with the schedule of contributions in force over the 2023/24 accounting year, the contributions to the Plan for the year ending 31 March 2024 are expected to be £2,579,000, which includes £2,279,000 towards the deficit and £300,000 as an allowance for administration expenses and all scheme levies. The 31 March 2022 valuation is currently underway and a new schedule of contributions will be put in place at its completion.

The Plan is a registered scheme under UK legislation. The Plan is subject to the scheme funding requirements outlined in UK legislation. The Plan is governed by the Plan's Trust Deed and Rules dated 4 April 2011. The Trustee is responsible for the operation and the governance of the Plan, including making decisions regarding the Plan's funding investment strategy (although they are required to consult the Principal Employer).

A full actuarial valuation of the Plan was carried out as at 31 March 2023 by a qualified independent actuary, based upon membership data as at 31 March 2022, allowing for assumed membership movements over the period from this date, and any material membership movements significantly different from those assumed (e.g. transfers out).

The most recent formal actuarial valuation of the Plan was as at 31 March 2019 and revealed a funding deficit of £68,501,000. In the recovery plan agreed following the valuation, the Principal Employer and other participating employers agreed to pay deficit reduction contributions of £2,279,000 per annum with the view to eliminating the deficit by 31 March 2037. The 31 March 2022 valuation is currently underway.

The liabilities of the Plan are based on the current value of expected benefit payment cashflows to members of the Plan over the next 60 or more years. The average duration of the liabilities is approximately 12 years.

The Plan is exposed to actuarial risks such as market (investment) risk, interest rate risk, inflation risk, currency risk and longevity risk.

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

•	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
Fund halanasa at 24 March 2022 are represe	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represe	ented by.			
Current assets	251,189	25,000	53,118	329,307
Current liabilities	(9,332)	-	(2,297)	(11,629)
Defined benefit pension liability	(126,000)		 .	(126,000)
Total net assets at 31 March 2023	115,857_	25,000	50,821	191,678

Movements in funds			···		
	At 1 April	Income and	Expenditure	T	At 31 March 2023
	2022	gains	and losses	Transfers	
•	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds				(0.40)	
RB Greenwich: Bureaux services	•	200,000	(199,657)	(343)	-
CitA Advice delivery		15,000	-	-	15,000
CitA Help to Claim	73,135	(73,135)	-	-	-
RB Greenwich Outreach advice	-	62,500	(73,926)	11,426	-
GLA/RJC CitA Crisis support		26,667	(27,472)	(440)	(1,245)
RB Greenwich: Debt advice services	-	40,000	(46,565)	6,565	-
RB Greenwich outreach debt advice					
services	-	63,000	(72,706)	9,706	-
Mosaic Family Homes: Charlton					
Triangle debt service		4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Seafarers' Advice & Information Line					
The Seafarers' Hospital Society	2,870	143,614	(137,270)	54	9,268
The Seafarers' Charity	11,241	143,615	(137,271)	54	17,639
Greenwich Hospital	11,241	121,535	(137,270)	-	(4,494)
Fishing specialist					
The Seafarers' Hospital Society	54	-	-	(54)	•
The Seafarers' Charity	54	-	-	(54)	-
Greenwich Hospital Royal Navy/Royal					
Marines PR		15,664	(1,011)		14,653
Total restricted funds	98,595	762,460	(837,148)	26,914	50,821
Total Testilotea Tallas			(001,110)		
Unrestricted funds					
Designated Funds					
Contractual commitment	20,000	_	_	_	20,000
Development	5,000	_	_	_	5,000
Development	25,000				25,000
Conoral funda	249,789	80,046	(52,064)	(35,914)	241,857
General funds	•	00,040	(32,004)	9,000	(126,000)
Pension deficit fund	(135,000)			9,000	(120,000)
Total unrestricted funds	139,789	80,046	(52,064)	(26,914)	140,857
Total funds	238,384	842,506	(889,212)		191,678

Transfers between funds

Transfers are made from the general fund to cover deficits on restricted projects.

Transfers are also made from restricted projects to the general fund to reflect their contribution to the defined benefit pension scheme liability..

The Fishing Specialist fund was merged with the Seafarers' Advice & Information Line funds with the agreement of the funders, so the remaining balance was transferred between the two funds.

Purposes of restricted funds

RB Greenwich: Bureaux services and debt services

The core services of Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureau, funded by the Royal Borough of Greenwich (£303,000).

Citizens Advice: Advice support

A grant was awarded by the funder from funds raised by the Guardian Christmas Appeal. The funds will be spent in 2023-2024.

Citizens Advice: Help to Claim

The grant was for the running and staffing costs of the Universal Credit Help to Claim service. The underspend from 2021-2022 was recouped by the funder in the year under review.

RB Greenwich: Outreach advice

The Royal Borough of Greenwich has funded the roll-out of advice hubs across the borough to offer residents free advice at weekly drop-in sessions. To run the scheme, Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureaux is partnered by Greenwich Housing Rights and Plumstead Community Law Centre.

GLA/RCJ Citizens Advice: Crisis support

The Greater London Authority has made funds available via the lead partner, the Royal Courts of Justice Citizens Advice, for the delivery of information, advice and other support to extend outreach, using a mix of channels (telephone, remote, face to face, outreach) as part of the of the cost of living crisis prevention project for vulnerable Londoners.

Seafarers' Hospital Society/ Greenwich Hospital/The Seafarers' Charity: Seafarers' Advice & Information Line The three funders jointly provide funds for the provision of a telephone advice line for the relief of seafarers and their families who are in need. Two of the funders have agreed to the funds being carried forward to use in the year following the year under review. Seafarers' Hospital Society has recouped part of the underspend within the year under review.

Greenwich Hospital: Royal Navy/Royal Marines publicity

Greenwich Hospital has set aside part of the its contribution to the SAIL grant to undertake comms and publicity to raise awareness of SAIL, specifically to the Royal Navy and Royal Marine communities.

Purposes of designated funds

Contractual commitments

A reserve to ensure that the organisation is able to cover contracted payments to staff such as redundancy, provision of locum maternity cover, and the costs of any disciplinary and/or grievance procedures which may arise.

Development

Funds to allow the organisation to undertake the development of new projects and areas of work and to conduct full feasibility studies on the advisability of such proposals.

16 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the reporting period		
(as per the statement of financial activities)	(46,706)	(30,042)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	38,929	(19,400)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(78,526)	30,293
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	(86,303)	(19,149)
17 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	284,958	371,261
	284,958	371,261

18 Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

		Equipment	
		2023	2022
	,	£	£
Less than 1 year		240	480
1 - 5 years			240
	_	240	720

19 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Each member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the charity being wound up.

20 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2023 (2022: none).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

21 Previous reporting period information

21a Analysis of net assets between funds of previous reporting period

Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds	Total funds £
Current assets	258,002	25,000	171,537	454,539
Current liabilities	(8,213)	-	(72,942)	(81,155)
Defined benefit pension asset / (liability)	(135,000)	-		(135,000)
Total net assets at 31 March 2022	114,789	25,000	98,595	238,384

21b Details of movements in funds during the previous reporting period

	At 1 April	Income	Expenditure		At 31
	2021	and gains	and losses	Transfers	March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
RB Greenwich: Bureaux services	31,427	200,000	(250,128)	. 18,701	-
CitA Help to Claim	-	205,836	(132,126)	(575)	73,135
Big Lottery: Covid support	10,408	- .	(10,763)	355	-
RB Greenwich: Debt advice services					
	1,701	40,000	(45,977)	4,276	-
services	10,560	63,000	(74,977)	1,417	-
Mosaic Family Homes: Charlton Triangle	•	•	, , ,		
debt service	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Seafarers' Advice & Information Line					
The Seafarers' Hospital Society	3,921	126,614	(127,665)	· -	2,870
Greenwich Hospital	3,921	134,985	(127,665)	_	11,241
The Seafarers' Charity	37,934	100,973	(127,666)	-	11,241
Fishing specialist		,	(,,		
The Seafarers' Hospital Society	(40)	22,180	(22,086)	_	54
The Seafarers' Charity	5,528	16,611	(22,085)	_	54
The Sealarers Chanty	- 3,320	10,011	(22,000)		
Total restricted funds	105,360	914,199	(945,138)	24,174	98,595
Unrestricted funds					
Designated Funds					
Contractual commitment	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Development	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
·	25,000	-			25,000
General funds	282,066	66,711	(65,814)	(33,174)	249,789
Pension deficit fund	(144,000)	-	-	9,000	(135,000)
Total unrestricted funds	163,066	66,711	(65,814)	(24,174)	139,789
Total funds	268,426	980,910	(1,010,952)		238,384