Company Registration No. 06150651 (England and Wales)

Charity No: 1153582

# STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018 FOR CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED





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### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2018. The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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).

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### **Charity name**

Citizens Advice Essex Limited

### Registered company number

06150651 (England and Wales)

### Registered charity number

1153582

### Registered office & operational address

8-12 Crown Street Brentwood Essex CM14 4BA

### **Company Secretary**

Richard McLeod (Appointed 17 January 2018)

### **Trustees & Company Directors**

Richard Armitage

Stella Calkin (Terminated 17 January 2018)
Ian Harris (Terminated 14 March 2018)

Andrew Hunter

Richard McLeod (Terminated 17 January 2018)

Geoffrey Morgan Neil Muir

David Pickles Philip Stepney

Brian Terry (Terminated 14 March 2018)
Janet Woods (Terminated 14 March 2018)

Susan Wilson

John Barber (Appointed 6 September 2017)

### **Independent Examiner**

Mark Goldman FCA
M J Goldman (Chartered Accountants)
MJG Accounts Limited
Hollinwood Business Centre
Albert Street
Oldham
OL8 3QL

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

#### **Bankers**

Unity Trust Bank Nine Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2HB

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### **Governing document**

The Charity was incorporated as a private company limited by guarantee on the 12 March 2007, number 06150651. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association that were accepted by the Board on the 3 October 2008. At an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 29 March 2017 the Trustees passed a special resolution to amend the Articles of Association and these were adopted on 6 April 2017. It registered as a charity, number 1153582, with the Charities Commission on the 29 August 2013.

### Organisation and appointment and training of trustees

Citizens Advice Essex Limited is governed by its Trustee Board, whose composition is detailed at the front of this document. The Directors of the company are also the Trustees for the purposes of charity law. The Trustees carry the ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the Charity and for ensuring that the Charity satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Trustees meet as a minimum quarterly.

The members of the Charity are made up of the individual Local Citizens Advice (LCAs) within the county of Essex. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association each member is entitled to appoint one Trustee to the Trustees board and each trustee shall have one vote at all meetings of the Trustee Board.

The Trustee Board may co-opt up to three Trustees in addition to those appointed by members. Co-opted Trustees shall serve for terms of three years from the date of their appointment and may then be re-appointed.

Trustees therefore are usually exclusively Trustees of the member organisations. As such they are drawn from the various local communities within Essex and have a broad range of skills and backgrounds. Newly appointed Trustees will usually have acted as a Trustee of their member LCA for a number of years prior to appointment, and therefore will have received comprehensive inductions to the role of a Trustee, within their respective LCA.

### Risk management

The Trustees recognise that any major risks to which the Charity is exposed need to be reviewed and systems put in place to mitigate those risks.

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have implemented processes which evaluate the risks associated with the key areas within the operation of the Charity. These include regular review of key risks through Trustees meetings and the monitoring of the processes utilised to manage those risks.

The key risk to the Charity is currently the main funding source from Essex County Council. Should any of the agreements with the council cease and not be renewed, then it would be necessary for the Charity to either cease or look for alternative funding.

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### Aims, objectives, strategies and activities

The Charity's objects are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community of Essex and surrounding areas ("the areas of benefit") by the advancement of education, the protection and preservation of health and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress.

This is achieved by assisting the member LCAs to secure funding from Essex County Council and other county and national level bodies, acting as a conduit to the processing of these funds and to streamline the relationship between the LCAs and funders. Citizens Advice Essex Limited receives funding directly from Essex County Council, currently in regards to two funding sources, and then distributes these between its member LCAs, meaning that Essex County Council only requires one point of contact.

### How our activities deliver public benefit

Citizens Advice Essex Limited aims to meet its charitable objectives by assisting its member LCAs to provide free, confidential, impartial and independent advice and information for the benefit of the community of Essex.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

During the year the Charity continued to assist its member LCAs in the securing and administration of funding from Essex County Council. This income took the form of £9,600 in respect to the provision of Financial Assessment & Benefits Advisors, and £122,000 of funding for service level agreements, with both services provided by member LCAs on behalf of Essex County Council.

The ability for Essex County Council to pay and deal with a single body should not be underestimated as it has allowed the funds to flow more quickly to the member LCAs, with reduced administration.

Also in the year the members chose to introduce funds of £nil (2017:£24,000), which the member LCAs had received for services provided to Pension wise, in order to fund the instigation of an Essex-wide contact centre.

### **Fundraising activities**

Total income for the period was £134,975.

### **Investment activities**

Due to the current size of the charity, all funds are presently held on deposit. The charity does not currently hold any other type of investment.

### **FUTURE PERIODS**

It is the intention of the Trustees that the Charity will continue to operate on the same basis as presently, assisting member LCAs in the administration of funds from Essex County Council. The Trustees have designated funds introduced by the member LCAs previously to fund the instigation of an Essex-wide contact centre. Should other opportunities arise to secure alternative funds from other providers, where the collective bargaining of Citizens Advice Essex Limited can be used, the Trustees will actively follow this route, although at present no such funding has presented itself to the Board.

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### Financial position

Incoming resources in the year were £134,975 (2017: £42,085). Of this £131,600 (2017: £13,364) related to project restricted activities.

The deficit of income over expenditure for the year was £10,681 (2017: £9,677 surplus). At 31 March 2018, total reserves were £27,089 (2017: £37,770), of which £24,489 were unrestricted and £2,600 were restricted. Whilst unrestricted funds stood at £24,489 as at 31 March 2018, a designated fund of £21,100 has been set aside by the Trustees towards an Essex-wide contact centre.

### Reserves policy

The Board of Trustees consider that the Charity should hold sufficient unrestricted reserves to be able to operate for a period of 12 months without need to ask for further subscriptions from the member LCAs. In 2017/18 the Charity's operating costs were £16,656, whilst unrestricted reserves were £24,489 as at the 31 March 2018. As such the Charity's Trustees feel that sufficient funding is available for the Charity to continue to operate at its present level.

### **Funds in deficit**

No funds were in deficit at the balance sheet date.

### **Principal funding sources**

The Trustees extend their gratitude to Essex County Council who continue to support the Charity and its members in their operations.

The Charity's members continue to provide additional funding when required to meet operational costs and during the year this totalled £3,375 (2017: £28,721).

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of Citizens Advice Essex Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the method and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

M. /

David Pickles Chair of the Trustees

25m May 2018

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2018 which are set out on pages 7 to 15.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act: or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

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

M Goldman FCA

M J Goldman (Chartered Accountants)

-

MJG Accounts Limited

Hollinwood Business Centre

Albert Street

Oldham

OL8 3QL

25m May 2018

# CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

		Year end	ded 31 March :	2018	Year ended 31 March 2017
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
Income from:		£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	2 3	-	131,600	131,600	13,364
Other	3	3,375	-	3,375	28,721
Total income		3,375	131,600	134,975	42,085
Expenditure on: Charitable activities	4	16,656	129,000	145,656	32,408
Total expenditure		16,656	129,000	145,656	32,408
Net income / (expenditure)		(13,281)	2,600	(10,681)	9,677
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(13,281)	2,600	(10,681)	9,677
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		37,770	-	37,770	28,093
Total funds carried forward		24,489	2,600	27,089	37,770

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2018 Total funds £	2017 Total funds £
Fixed assets	_			222	
Tangible assets	8	902	-	902	-
		902	-	902	-
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		24,797	2,600	27,397	46,303
		24,797	2,600	27,397	46,303
<b>Liabilities</b> Amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,210)	-	(1,210)	(8,533)
Net current assets		23,587	2,600	26,187	37,770
Total assets less current liabilities		24,489	2,600	27,089	37,770
Net assets		24,489	2,600	27,089	37,770
Funds of the Charity: Unrestricted funds:	10				
General funds				3,389	4,670
Designated funds				21,100	33,100
Restricted funds				2,600	-
Total charity funds				27,089	37,770

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

For the year ending 31 March 2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

### Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on ...25th May 2018...... and were signed on its behalf by:

. .

David Pickles
Trustee

**Company Registration Number: 06150651** 

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Citizens Advice Essex Limited meets the definition of a public entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

### Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the Trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The Trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

#### Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements for the charity and include accountant's fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities. The Charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly all expenditure includes VAT as appropriate.

### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which in all cases is estimated to be 5 years from initial acquisition.

### 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.

### **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.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

### **Restricted funds**

Income received for the restricted purposes is included in a separate restricted fund against which appropriate expenditure is allocated.

### **Designated funds**

Designated funds are allocated out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes. The use of such funds is at the Trustees' discretion.

### 2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2018	2017
	£	£
Essex County Council – FABA	9,600	10,000
Essex County Council - ELF	-	3,364
Essex County Council – SLA	122,000	-
	131,600	13,364

The income from charitable activities was £131,600 (2017: £13,364) which was all restricted (2017: £13,364).

### 3. OTHER INCOME

	2017	2017
	£	£
Income from members	3,375	28,721
	3,375	28,721
·		

Income from members represents subscriptions paid by the Charity's member Local Citizens Advice to support the general running costs of the Charity, which in turn supports the activities of the member Local Citizens Advice themselves.

During the prior year the members chose to introduce funds of £24,000, which the member Local Citizens Advice had received for services provided to Pension wise, in order to fund the instigation of an Essex-wide contact centre.

Also during the prior year £2,100 was received from members for bid development support services.

### 4. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2018	Total Funds 2017
	£	£	£	£
General Advisory Services	15,486	129,000	144,486	31,208
Governance Costs	1,170	-	1,170	1,200
	16,656	129,000	145,656	32,408
	<del></del>			
Natural classification of expenditure			2018	2017
			£	£
Provision of FABA			7,000	9,155
Provision of ELF			-	3,364
Provision of SLA			122,000	-
Pensionwise			12,000	-
Support costs			3,000	6,000
.Bid development support costs			98	11,000
Office costs			160	354
Governance costs			1,170	1,200
Other costs			228	1,335
			145,656	32,408

Governance costs relate in their entirety to accountancy fees in respect to the preparation and independent examination of the year end accounts.

### 5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or benefits for the year ended 31 March 2018, nor for the year ended 31 March 2017.

### Trustees' expenses

There were trustees' expenses paid during the year ended 31 March 2018 totaling £60 (2017: £60), to one trustee in respect of travel costs.

### 6. STAFF COSTS

There were no staff employed during the period.

### 7. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REMUNERATION

The Independent Examiners' Remuneration paid in the year to 31 March 2018 was £1,170.

8.	FIXED ASSETS				omputer uipment £	Total £
	Cost As at 1 April 2017 Additions				- 984	- 984
	As at 31 March 2018				984	984
	<b>Depreciation</b> As at 1 April 2017 Charge for the year				- 82	- 82
	As at 31 March 2018				82	82
	Net book value As at 31 March 2018				902	902
	As at 31 March 2017				-	-
9.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLI Accruals and deferred income	ING DUE WI	THIN ONE YEA	AR -	2018 £ 1,210	2017 £ 8,543 8,543
10	. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS					-
		At 1 April 2017 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2018 £
1	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	£	£	<u>.</u>	£	£
	General fund Designated fund	4,670 33,100	3,375 -	(4,656) (12,000)	-	3,389 21,100
		37,770	3,375	(16,656)		24,489
1	RESTRICTED FUNDS Essex County Council – FABA Essex County Council – SLA	-	9,600 122,000	(7,000) (122,000)		2,600
		-	131,600	(129,000)	-	2,600
	TOTAL FUNDS	37,770	134,975	(145,656)	-	27,089

### 11. PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

### Essex County Council – FABA (Financial Assessment & Benefit Advisor)

The purpose of this funding is for the Charity's member organisations to provide home visiting services for Essex County Council (Benefits Services) to ensure that referred clients are helped to claim the relevant benefits to which they are entitled.

### Essex County Council - ELF (Essential Living Fund)

This is funding to cover the administration, by the Charity's members, of the AllPay cards system on behalf of Essex County Council.

### **Essex County Council – SLA (Service Level Agreement)**

This is funding to support the member Local Citizens Advice with regards to the continues provision of free, independent, impartial advice and information to residents within the Essex County Council area.

### 12. PURPOSES OF DESIGNATED FUNDS

### **Contact Centre**

The Trustees have designated funds introduced by the member Local Citizens Advice to fund the instigation of an Essex-wide contact centre.

### 13. LEGAL STATUS OF CHARITY

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The number of members as at the 31 March 2018 was 8.

### 14. CONTROL

The charity is controlled by its Trustees/Directors.

### 15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

Each of the Trustees who served during the year represented the following member Local Citizens Advice:

Richard Armitage

Uttlesford

Stella Calkin

Basildon, Billericay & Wickford

Ian Harris

Chelmsford

Andrew Hunter

Basildon, Billericay & Wickford

Richard McLeod

Brentwood

Geoffrey Morgan

Brentwood

Neil Muir

Rochford & Rayleigh

David Pickles
Philip Stepney

Maldon Southend Castle Point

Brian Terry Janet Woods

Epping, Loughton & Waltham Abbey

Susan Wilson

Braintree, Halstead & Witham

John Barber

Harlow

Details of the monies passed, during the year, by Citizens Advice Essex Limited to each member Local Citizens Advice is disclosed in the individual accounts for each member, which are publically available.

### 16. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income from: Charitable activities Other	- 28,721	13,364 -	13,364 28,721
Total income	28,721	13,364	42,085
Expenditure on: Charitable activities	19,889	12,519	32,408
Total expenditure	19,889	12,519	32,408
Net income / (expenditure)	8,832	845	9,677
Transfers between funds	3,845	(3,845)	-
Net movement in funds	12,677	(3,000)	9,677
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	25,093	3,000	28,093
Total funds carried forward	37,770	-	37,770

### CITIZENS ADVICE ESSEX LIMITED DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	2018	2017
INCOMING RESOURCES	£	£
Incoming resources from charitable		
activities	104 600	10.064
General Advisory Services	131,600	13,364
Income from members	3,375	28,721
Total incoming resources	134,975	42,085
RESOURCES EXPENDED	·	
Charitable activities		
Provision of FABA	7,000	9,155
Provision of ELF	, -	3,364
Provision of SLA	122,000	•
Pension wise	12,000	-
Charity administration	-	246
Website and software	-	540
Insurance	111	108
Travel and subsistence	60	60
Legal and professional	13	13
Management support	3,000	6,000
Subscriptions	50 82	50
Depreciation Bank charges	62 72	53
Bid development support services	98	11,000
Webchat	-	619
	144,486	31,208
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	1,170	1,200
	1,170	1,200
Total resources expended	145,656	34,208
Net (expenditure)/income	(10,681)	9,677

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements