Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2017 for

LEWISHAM DISABILITY COALITION

Andrew Cross & Co. Plaza Building Lee High Road Lewisham London SE13 5PT

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Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

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 2017. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Lewisham Disability Coalition: a year of changes and service development

We are a disabled people's user led organisation working together to promote a vision of a society where everybody with lived experience of disability, mental health support needs or health conditions

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Strategic aims

-To promote the human rights of disabled people, by challenging societal barriers and all forms of discrimination, so enabling disabled people to gain effective personal and political power, self-determination, full participation and equality within society.

-To be an independent, powerful, all inclusive, non-discriminatory force in empowering, supporting and advising all disabled people in Lewisham.

-To work in cooperation with other organisations and individuals who share our vision and mission in promoting the rights of disabled people.

Significant activities in support of our objectives this year focussed on:

-Promoting independent living through advice, advocacy and support

-Promoting health and wellbeing

-Advancing the social model of disability through consultation, policy and lobbying

-Improved partnership to take forward our objectives

-Consolidating our organisation by consulting our members and broadening our remit to community development and anti poverty work and our area of benefit to Greater London

Public benefit:

Our strategic plan has been developed to ensure we provide public benefit and achieve our objectives as set out in our governing document. Lewisham Disability Coalition's board of trustees regularly monitors and reviews the success of the organisation in delivering outcomes associated with the objectives.

The trustees confirm, in the light of the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, that the activities of the Charity fully meet the public benefit test and that all activities of the charity, described in this report, are undertaken in pursuit of our strategic aims

Volunteers:

A big thank you to all our staff and volunteers for their invaluable work, help and support during the year.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE Charitable activities-Headlines from 2016/17

We were delighted that the culmination of hard work in the previous year was the confirmation on 4 April 2016 that LDC had been awarded the prestigious Advice Quality Standard, after a rigorous external assessment. This assessed both our advice services themselves and our governance, financial management and business processes and was a welcome opportunity to achieve feedback on our improvement journey.

Clients seen: 902 Subjects covered: Welfare benefits Consumer Debt Employment Family

Consumer Debt Employment Family Housing Equality Act (Discrimination) Transport Utilities

Income gained for clients: In excess of £548,647

In February 2017 we moved to a new Customer Relations Mechanism as part of Advice Lewisham. At time of writing this has not been fully customised to enable us to provide detailed data regarding clients' financial outcomes. The figures for "Income Gained" represent approximately 11/12 of our achievement this year.

Austerity, the benefit changes associated with welfare reform and reduced health and social care budgets have had a significant effect on disabled people in Lewisham over recent years. Ensuring a high quality free advice, advocacy and support service continued to be a core and necessary part of our charitable activity. During 2016/17 a condition of our main grants funding was that we work together with other charities in Lewisham, under the Advice Lewisham banner, to develop a joined up offer from February 2017.

With core funding from London Borough of Lewisham's Main Grants Programme, we offered help and support to anyone with a disability or long term health condition and their families, as long as they live, work or study in the borough of Lewisham.

During 2016/17 this included:

-Paper and electronic benefit form filling - principally Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) but also increasingly support with issues like housing benefit online claims and Blue Badge online applications.

-Preparation of submissions to the Social Security and Child Support Tribunal when disabled people's benefits were stopped or changed and they disagreed with the decision, with representation provided on some occasions.

-Advocacy on clients' behalf e.g. to their housing association or other landlord regarding adaptations or repairs.

-Referrals or signposting to other organisations e.g. occupational therapy, social services, Warm Homes Healthy People, community connections.

-Giving general advice to clients on anything from debt to transport, or from leisure to hardship grants.

-Running weekly drop in sessions at our office in Bellingham to end January 2017 (these ceased at the request of our core funder, Lewisham Council) and using these sessions to promote other consultation and engagement opportunities for local partners

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities-

-Providing a Third Party Reporting site for all forms of hate crime and making safeguarding referrals to the Adult Safeguarding board when required.

-Improving our website to promote the disability forms section to enable potential clients to find information that might otherwise have required a phone call or visit to our office and allowing third party referrals from professional agencies such as social services and health practitioners.

We continue to work to ensure best practice and invested significant funds and staff time to ensure that the frontline staff remain up to date with the professional advice they provided to clients.

PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

During 2016/17 we continued to play a leading role in Lewisham Community Connections. Funded by Lewisham Council's Communities that Care fund, the project is a way for vulnerable adults and older people who may be at risk of exclusion to improve their social interactions, wellbeing and independence.

The Community Connections Partnership includes several local charities working closely with Lewisham Council and local health providers. At an operational level it is led by Age UK Lewisham and Southwark with ourselves as one of the delivery partners.

We hosted a Community Facilitator post covered the South East Lewisham wards to November 2016, visiting people in their homes to connect them to local social and community based activities. From November 2017, the focus of our contribution changed to community development work in Central Lewisham.

In addition at a strategic level our Director has worked alongside the Lewisham Connection Project Board to support development and opportunities to address the gaps in local provision and broader issues of community development in adult social care.

In addition, having secured funding from the local assemblies team, we were able to run a monthly coffee morning in Bellingham to address issues of social isolation in the area around our office.

We also secured Lewisham Council Small Art Festival Funding and supported it with Crowdfunding to run disability arts sessions during the summer and a Disability Fun Palace in October, a project we delivered jointly with the Arts Network

ADVANCING THE SOCIAL MODEL OF DISABILITY

A definition of the social model of disability

The social model of disability says that disability is caused by the way society is organised, rather than by a person's impairment or difference. It looks at ways of removing barriers that restrict life choices for disabled people.

In 2016/17 LDC has continued to promote the Social Model of Disability in Lewisham through the activities outlined below.

-We facilitated disabled people's participation in Lewisham Council consultations, particularly around the integration of health and social care, reporting our members' and clients' views to the Healthier Communities Select Committee

-We organised a session for LDC's members in April 2016 to promote the Disabled Go website and enable members to agree priorities for future campaigning alongside organisations such as Transport for All

-We drafted the Equality Analysis Assessment for the Council's Advice Review

-We worked with the local police service to continue to encourage better relations between local disabled people, including hosting disability community safety drop-ins in our Bellingham office

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities--We organised a series of outreach events, with stalls at key borough events including People's Day, Phoenix Diversity Day and our Fun Palace in the Glass Mill Centre

IMPROVED PARTNERSHIP WORK TO SUPPORT LOCAL DISABLED PEOPLE

To address individual hardship we continued worked closely with the Lee Charity of William Hackliffe to assist clients in extreme hardship to purchase essential items such as mattresses, cookers, fridges and small laptops for those with children. London Catalyst enabled us to distribute small funds for things like emergency food, clothes, specialist bedding that could not have been afforded otherwise.

We also continued to refer those in food poverty to the Lewisham Foodbank and Whitefoot and Downham Community Food Project and helped distribute the Big Red Boxes of Christmas goodies collected by the congregation of Kings, a local church. We also worked closely with Groundworks to increase the number of clients in fuel poverty who were able to access advice on staying warm and healthy, particularly during the Winter months.

Our partnership work continues to be an important lever to influencing change locally. During 2016/17 we continued to play a leading role in the Advice Lewisham project board and a new Equality Working Group led by Voluntary Action Lewisham to support the third sector's input into the Councils corporate equality objectives.

We also benefited from the support of local businesses. Chelsea Building Society provided a contribution to the Fun Palace project and numerous small businesses gave in kind support to a client Christmas Party.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position:

The charity's overall funds position at 31 March 2017 demonstrates a lower level of reserves since the prior year. Although, the financial position is less favourable, the unrestricted funds as at 31 March 2017 were still in significant credit.

All historic project that may not have been completed to the satisfaction of the funder has now been written off.

Principal funding sources

We would like to thank our funders and supporters for their funding and kind donations through the year and for their continuing support in 2017 including:

London Borough of Lewisham Main Grants London Borough of Lewisham Communities that Care London Borough of Lewisham Assembly Funding Lee Charity of William Hackliffe London Catalyst Chelsea Building Society

In addition we utilised funding which had been accrued from the previous year, in particular Big Lottery Fund (Awards for AII) and Advice Services Transition Fund.

Thanks for pro bono support from Paul French of Set Square Surveys who helped us with issues with our tenancy and from Sukhwinder Stubbs who supported us to run a Trustee Horizon Scanning Session.

Reserves policy

The policy is to maintain a level of reserves to the equivalent of three months expenditure. In the event of LDC being awarded no funding at all, LDC could run for three months from the reserves available. This was maintained throughout the period of 2016/17.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

FUTURE PLANS:

A budget as well as a cash flow forecast have been set for 2017/18. The Trustees have improved financial reporting and adopted a new scheme of financial delegation and keep the financial position under close review throughout the year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document The charity is controlled by its governing documents, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure LDC is a user led organisation. That means:

-That the members set the direction of LDC and what it aims to achieve. -That our services and activities aim to meet our members needs. -That the staff and trustees are accountable to the members.

LDC is run by a board of Trustees. Their primary responsibilities are:

1. To be responsible for the proper administration of LDC.

- 2. To take ultimate responsibility for everything that LDC does.
- 3. To act reasonably and prudently in all matters relating to LDC
- 4. To safeguard and protect the assets of LDC.
- 5. To meet their duty to act collectively.
- 6. To act in the best interests of LDC.
- 7. To avoid any conflict between their personal interests and those of LDC

Risk management

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the organisation operates an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable assurance that:

- The charity is operating efficiently and effectively.
- Proper records are maintained and financial information, used within the charity or for publication, is reliable.
- The charity complies with relevant laws and regulations.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS Registered Company number 04508732 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number 1147698

Registered office 111 Randlesdown Rd Catford London SE6 3HB

<u>Report of the Trustees</u> for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DET Trustees Ms C R Bauxer Ms A Douglas		resigned 2.2.2017
Miss L Lye Mr J Perez Sanchez		
Mr Z U H Pirzada		
Mrs P M Raven	Treasurer	
Mr G Ruggiero	-	resigned 24.6.2016
Ms P Shuriah		
Mr P Wanogho	Chair	
Mr A Devon	-	appointed 8.11.2016
Ms D St Claire	-	resigned 6.6.2016
Company Secretary Ms C R Bauxer		
Independent examiner Andrew Cross & Co. Plaza Building Lee High Road Lewisham London SE13 5PT		

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 8 December 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr P Wanogho - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Lewisham Disability Coalition

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017 set out on pages eight to fifteen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

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 accounts 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.

Basis of the 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 statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Charlotte Cross FCCA BSc IMA Association of Chartered Certified Accountants Andrew Cross & Co. Plaza Building Lee High Road Lewisham London SE13 5PT

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	ı	Jnrestricted fund	Restricted funds	2017 Total funds	2016 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies	2	1,275	152,578	153,853	157,088
Investment income	3	122		122	265
Total		1,397	152,578	153,975	157,353
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities					
Core Activities			238,812	238,812	178,012
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		1,397	(86,234)	(84,837)	(20,659)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		944	170,316	171,260	191,919
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		2,341	84,082	86,423	171,260

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet At 31 March 2017

	U	nrestricted fund	Restricted funds	2017 Total funds	2016 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	8	-	6,415	6,415	6,681
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	-	2,315	2,315	32,103
Cash at bank and in hand		2,341	98,804	101,145	170,370
		2,341	101,119	103,460	202,473
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	-	(23,452)	(23,452)	(37,894)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,341	77,667	80,008	164,579
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,341	84,082	86,423	171,260
NET ASSETS		2,341	84,082	86,423	171,260
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				2,341	944
Restricted funds				84,082	170,316
TOTAL FUNDS				86,423	171,260

Balance Sheet - continued At 31 March 2017

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2017.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2017 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8 December 2017 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr P Wanogho - Trustee

Mrs P M Raven - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

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

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost 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 resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery

- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

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

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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2017	2016
	£	£
Donations	1,277	679
Grants	152,576	156,409
	153,853	157,088
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:		
	2017	2010
	£	£
London Borough of Lewisham - Main grants & similar	116,249	117,247
Advice Services Transition Fund	-	47
Lee Charity William Hatcliffe	2,812	7,380
London Catalyst	1,000	750
Communities that Care	32,515	30,56
	152,576	156,409
INVESTMENT INCOME		
	2017	201
	£	£
Deposit account interest	122	26
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	2017	201
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,139	2,200
Hire of plant and machinery	2,440	2,41

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2017 nor for the year ended 31 March 2016.

Trustees' expenses

3.

4.

	2017	2016
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	-	254

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2017.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2017	2016
Core charitable activities	6	6

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

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Totai funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies	679	156,409	157,088
Investment income	265	-	265
Total	944	156,409	157,353
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Core Activities	•	178,012	178,012
Total	-	178,012	178,012
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	944	(21,603)	(20,659)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	-	191,919	191,919
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	944	170,316	171,260

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

29,630
1,873
31,503
22,949
2,139
25,088
6,415
6,681

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2017	2016
	£	£
Other debtors	53	1,542
Accrued income	-	30,561
Prepayments	2,262	-
	2,315	32,103

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2017 £	2016 £
Other creditors		- 10,500
Deferred income	21,832	25,834
Accrued expenses	1,620	1,560
	23,452	37,894

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Net movement		
At 1.4.16	in funds	At 31.3.17
£	£	£
944	1,397	2,341
162,976	(85,442)	77,534
350	777	1,127
6,990	(1,569)	5,421
170,316	(86,234)	84,082
171,260	(84,837)	86,423
	At 1.4.16 £ 944 162,976 350 6,990 170,316	At 1.4.16 in funds £ £ 944 1,397 162,976 (85,442) 350 777 6,990 (1,569) 170,316 (86,234)

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

Incoming resources E	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
F	-	-
1,397	-	1,397
116,251	(201,693)	(85,442)
2,812	(2,812)	-
1,000	(223)	777
32,515	(32,515)	-
<u> </u>	(1,569)	(1,569)
152,578	(238,812)	(86,234)
153,975	(238,812)	(84,837)
	resources £ 1,397 116,251 2,812 1,000 32,515 - 152,578	resources expended £ £ 1,397 - 116,251 (201,693) 2,812 (2,812) 1,000 (223) 32,515 (32,515) - (1,569) 152,578 (238,812)

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2017.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	1,277	679
Grants	152,576	156,409
	153,853	157,088
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	122	265
Total incoming resources	153,975	157,353
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Trustees' expenses	-	254
Wages	177,634	123,447
Social security	12,814	-
Hire of plant and machinery	2,440	2,410
Rent and rates	10,654	10,573
	3,785	2,703
Telephone	3,666	3,787
Postage and stationery Sundries	2,556	2,621 256
	- 130	256 105
Volunteers' expenses Office expenses	369	1,032
Staff training & recruitment	2,190	1,032
Cleaning	377	1,041
Meeting & group hall hire	1,065	2,290
Computer expenses	2,716	2,607
Repair and maintenance	818	684
Staff travelling	541	665
Plant and machinery	2,139	2,200
Direct charitable expenditure	9,836	8,080
	233,730	166,147
Support costs		
Finance		
Credit Card charges	12	
Bank charges	453	79
Interest on overdue taxation	1,092	•
Governance costs	1,557	79
Accountancy	2,990	7,035
Subscription	2,990	7,035 980
Carried forward	3,520	8,015
	UJEU	0,013

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	2017	2016
	£	£
Governance costs		
Brought forward	3,520	8,015
Legal and professional fees	-	3,751
AGM costs	5	20
	3,525	11,786
Total resources expended	238,812	178,012
Net expenditure	(84,837)	(20,659)