# HOUSING JUSTICE ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021



Charity Number: 294666

# THE HOUSING JUSTICE TEAM

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**JACOB** 



**BONNIE** 



**VANESSA** 



**JAMES** 



**MARK** 



**CHARLIE** 



**JENNA** 



**NIGEL** 



**PETER** 



**HADRIAN** 



SIAN



**HAYLEY** 



**ELEANOR** 



**LUCIEN** 



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# **CHAIR'S ADDRESS**

# The Rt Revd Robert Wickham Bishop of Edmonton and Chair of Housing Justice



Covid-19 can never be undone, and we can never go back to the way it was before the pandemic. This is reality. We have all changed through a combination of lockdowns, working patterns, virtual meetings, furlough, closure of shops and so on. For many people, at its most serious, the pandemic has left an empty chair in the home, and for others, the pandemic continues to wreak havoc because of long covid.

This season has been brutal. The world of housing and homelessness has not been immune. But in the midst of such difficulty, we have seen a vision of something different. The *Everybody In* initiative, where Housing Justice played a significant and pivotal role, saved many lives, and gave us a glimpse of life where street homelessness was almost eradicated.

I acknowledge that we have also seen countless numbers of projects close the doors of their communal night shelters, but we have seen significant numbers of doors open for 24 hour accommodation with storage, baths and shower facilities. We have seen people thinking creatively, alongside adequate funds being made available, for the support of some of the most vulnerable people with extreme needs in our communities. Furthermore, we have seen many night shelter volunteers use their talents and time to work in different capacities; running food banks and other food poverty responses.

This period has caused many to renegotiate their time, their energies, their money, and their vision for what makes a wide, kind and bold society. We have literally seen a coming together in a time of isolation, where new social and digital media have enabled new relationships to flourish, and for local communities to work together for the sake of the most isolated. In addition, the amazing team of Housing Justice have done amazing things this past year. It remains hard work but gives us such hope in a time of lament for so many, but they too remain a source of inspiration, for which we are especially grateful.

I am very mindful, especially this year, of the quote which is enshrined in our values and ethos statement at Housing Justice. In the spirit of Jesus's command to love each other, and inspired by the reflections of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, we believe that in order to flourish, every community must realise that not only do the weak need the strong, but also that the strong cannot exist without the weak. The marginalisation of the weak leads to a broken humanity. Our coming together in a time of isolation, to support the most vulnerable in our societies has led, in many ways, to a greater flourishing humanity. Now, we must ensure that we do not forget this season.

Covid-19 can never be undone, and we should never go back to the way it was before the pandemic.

$$+ Rob$$

# **REFLECTION & OUTLOOK**

Kathy Mohan OBE **CEO of Housing Justice** 



The pandemic has impacted every aspect of our work this year and yet, despite that, we have made great strides forward as a charity. I was humbled to be awarded an OBE for services to vulnerable people during the pandemic. This was awarded to me in my capacity as CEO of Housing Justice and is recognition of the work of the whole team at Housing Justice who have worked tirelessly to support the vulnerable people we serve and to protect them from contracting Covid-19. Further, it is recognition of the invaluable role played by the church and community groups that we support in our network, who provide emergency accommodation and other types of support to those experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping across the country. This is challenging in normal times but the pandemic made it even more so and the network responded brilliantly.

I do feel so proud of my team and of the network as maximum effort and flexibility were evident throughout the pandemic. This award shines the light on the work of grassroots faith and community groups and highlights the important role we play in caring for some of the most marginalized members of our communities. We have seen some staff turnover and growth this year with 6 of the current team having joined us during the pandemic. Although they have not met many of their colleagues in the flesh yet, they have settled in extremely quickly and made significant contributions. I attribute this to our strong mission and values and a good structure that makes it easy for staff to understand their role and be impactful.

I am so grateful for the support of our many funders during this year. We are able to directly fund projects from grants and contracts but we do also rely very heavily on our individual donors. This year we held an online event in November for donors to give thanks and offer up prayer together. Donors were able to meet Bishop Rob and the staff team in an informal environment and hear about the work they support.

As I reflect on the last year and look forward to the next, I note that the pandemic has led to some steps forward in terms of provision for those experiencing rough sleeping. People who would have been staying in one of the night shelters in our network, have instead been accommodated in hotels, student accommodation and hostels. They have received intensive support to assist with move on options and immigration status.

We were able to lever in grant from the government to help night shelters transition to alternative, Covid-safe accommodation solutions that gave guests access to private space 24/7. More grant has been made available for 2021/22, which will assist the network further. However, the future is still uncertain for non-UK nationals with no recourse to public funds and meeting their needs will remain a huge challenge in the year ahead.

In a very important move, we will be developing a hosting project at Housing Justice Cymru. We have been successful in obtaining funding from Comic Relief to build provision for people seeking sanctuary and people with no recourse to public funds. We will be working in partnership with Tai Pawb, The Wallich, The Welsh Refugee Council and Oasis Cardiff to provide short- and longer-term accommodation and access to quality immigration advice.

We also want to expand our involvement with increasing the supply of affordable housing, and to that end, we will continue to engage with the Archbishop of Canterbury and York's Commission on Housing and Community, supporting them to enable the development of genuinely affordable housing on Church of England land.

I think that in the past year we have all learned quite a lot about ourselves and what we are capable of, and when I consider how much was achieved in such a challenging year I feel optimistic about what we can do to build on that for the benefit of those we serve in the year ahead.

Almolan

"Housing Justice has made a big, big impact in my life I don't know where I would have been without them to be honest ... When I call Housing Justice the speed at which they do things is really good; they let you know in good time if they can't do it straight away. They involve you in what they are doing on your behalf. I truly appreciate everything they do..."

- Guest in our Hosting Project

# STRATEGIC PLAN AND WORK PLAN

Our Three-Year Strategic Plan was reviewed and refreshed in April 2021. The timetable for review was previously based on the calendar year but it has now been brought in line with the financial year.

Housing Justice mobilises churches and other faith- and community-groups to take action to address homelessness and housing need in the many forms it takes.

#### Specifically, we:

- Support and fund church and community groups to play their part in addressing rough sleeping locally in a safe way. This includes providing emergency accommodation.
- Support church and community groups to develop other local responses to homelessness and housing need.
- Connect people with spare rooms to destitute migrants and support them both as they share a home.
- Support churches to identify ways they can use church assets for the benefit of those who are in housing need or experiencing homelessness.
- Engage in initiatives to prevent repeat homelessness, such as our Citadel project.
- Raise awareness amongst Christians about homelessness and housing need.

#### **Context**

The pandemic of 2020/21 has been a catalyst for change in all aspects of society. Although we remain in the grips of a housing crisis, the pandemic has led to a different range of options and funding routes to effect positive outcomes. This strategy reflects the dynamic environment we are in, laying out the direction of travel whilst enabling flexibility to innovate and respond.

### **STRATEGY 2021 - 2024**

#### We will...

#### Use our voice and:

- Act as a conduit between our network, UK and Welsh governments and sector organisations to further the Christian and community voice and role in response to rough sleeping.
- Seek influence to promote the interests and well-being of those in society who experience homelessness and rough sleeping, including developing and promoting best practice models of emergency accommodation.



- Highlight our Christian distinctiveness by:
  - Engaging with the ongoing work to deliver on the recommendations of the <u>Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Housing and Community</u> where it relates to the mission of Housing Justice.
  - Using our voice to press for change for the benefit of those we serve.
  - Continuing to develop Homeless Sunday so as to create an environment for church debate and church action.
  - Continuing to be a partner in the Remembrance Service at St Martin in the Field.
  - Exploring other opportunities for Christian services that help us and our network to explore our role as a Christian community.

#### We will also...

#### **Develop partnership by:**

Working with other organisations and statutory bodies to tackle homelessness issues that arise during the next three years.

### Support those experiencing homeless:

- By working intensively with our network to help them to explore and develop safe and appropriate responses to homeless, with the support of MHCLG and the GLA.
- By continuing to lever in funds to pass out in grant to our network. We will develop our training, support and Quality Mark to reflect the different activities and initiatives the network is engaging in. We will work with our network and with people with experience of using their services to inform future plans.
- By continuing to provide support for destitute migrants in London, informed by the experience of those who have used our services. We aim to build on this experience and knowledge to grow this work in Wales. As the environment for those with No Recourse to Public Funds harshens we will be mindful of our unique place to support them and be creative in our response to their suffering and needs. Currently, we are supported in this work by The Oak Foundation, Trust for London, The Lesley Aldridge Trust and Paul Balcombe Trust.
- By developing our new Citadel model; standing alongside those who have experienced homelessness and helping them to rebuild from a place of strength.
- By exploring partnerships with other organisations around preventing homelessness.

# Work with churches and congregations to meet housing need through the use of church land:

• We will continue to deliver our Faith in Affordable Housing model in Wales, enabling churches to turn church land into high-quality affordable housing and helping churches

to explore other creative ways of addressing housing need. This is currently funded by the Nationwide Foundation.

- We will develop a partnership framework with housing providers in Wales to create a self-financing, sustainable model for delivering genuinely affordable housing on church land in Wales.
- Additionally, we are looking to expand Faith in Affordable Housing into England.



#### **Ensure our charity is well run by:**

- Having strong governance that provides direction and oversight through board meetings and the sub-committee structure. This includes ensuring that the voice of the guest is heard through our Involvement sub-committee.
- Maintaining a tight grip on our cost-effectiveness so that maximum resources are devoted to our core purpose.
- Diversifying our funding base to support our work by exploring new funding sources to build on those we already have.

We continue to have an annual Work Plan for staff that maps out what needs to be done to deliver on the strategic aims. We reported to Board on progress against this work plan through the year. Board have signed off the workplan for 2021/22 and will receive regular updates against it.

# LEADING THE SECTOR

#### Housing Justice (England)

Throughout 2020-21, Housing Justice continued to play an important role in the team of charities, groups and organisations who contribute to supporting a person to move into a more settled housing situation. From the start of the pandemic, Housing Justice was talking to central and regional government about contingency planning in the event of a public health crisis. As it became clear that the virus would present a significant risk to people using winter night shelters, we lobbied civil servants and ministers to prioritise the decant of night shelters in their planning. We played a pivotal role in getting everybody in from the streets to self-contained accommodation and our CEO, Kathy Mohan, received an OBE for services to vulnerable people as a result.

During the summer of 2020, we worked with a range of other services, including night shelters, other charities and various tiers of government to lobby for clear parameters for the upcoming winter night shelter season, as many shelters did not know if they would be able to return to communal settings that winter. Eventually, these efforts culminated in the publication of the *Operating Principles for Winter Night Shelters*, setting out how shelters could operate safely, with advice from Public Health England.

We always believed it would be very difficult for communal sites to re-open in the winter of 2020. As such, we lobbied decision-makers for funding, to help night shelter charities re-provision their services if communal models were deemed unsafe. Using our data from night shelters, we were also able to provide central government with clear evidence, both for what a funding programme might achieve, but also showing what could happen if funding was not made available. When the *Operating Principles* were published on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021, the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government also announced £2m of funding for night shelters to provide Covid-secure accommodation in winter 2020/21. The *Homelessness Winter Transformation Fund* went on to support more than 100 projects, providing more than 700 beds.

We also played a key role in helping the sector to navigate the advice and guidance that was available, holding over 20 webinars with speakers from SAGE, PHE, MHCLG and other services to provide expert advice direct to the small frontline charities and groups in our network. We also published a range of toolkits with template policies and best practice resources to further help projects navigate the exceptional challenge of operating a night shelter during a public health emergency. Throughout the pandemic, Housing Justice aimed to be an advocate for the people who use winter night shelters and those who provide them. In meetings with central, regional and local Government we used the data we collected from projects across England to advocate for resources, regulation and support, and we are pleased to report that we did so successfully.

#### Housing Justice Cymru

Throughout 2020-21, Housing Justice Cymru were selected by Welsh Government to receive support as a sector-leading organisation for faith- and community-groups responding to homelessness in Wales. At the start of the pandemic, Welsh Government called on HJ Cymru to speak at a national online conference, hosted by the Minster of Housing and Local Government. We were asked to speak to local government leaders about the role of the faith and voluntary sector in the pandemic, and talk about how we had successfully shifted our services upstream, in response to the pandemic.

Welsh Government then funded us to host our own national webinar, specifically for the faith and voluntary sector, to provide guidance around providing an effective homelessness service in light of the pandemic and corresponding changes in national homelessness policy. There were a number of high-profile speakers, including the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Julie James MS and the event was very well attended. HJ Cymru also ran a successful communications campaign to update the faith and voluntary sector on new legislation, funding arrangements and examples of best practice.

Additionally, HJ Cymru reworked our Faith in Affordable Housing programme, recognising the significant role it plays in helping to increase the supply of affordable homes in Wales. The new approach has been undertaken in collaboration with the social housing sector and local government, supported by Welsh government, and key bodies such as Community Housing Cymru, Charted Institute of Housing Cymru, Design Commission of Wales, Cadw, and the Royal Town Planning Institute. National events are taking place to help inform churches of the support available to them through this programme.

It has long been an ambition of HJ Cymru to set up a hosting programme in Wales, similar to the successful one we run in London. In 2020, we started leading partners through a bid process to acquire funding for a new national approach to developing accommodation solutions for people seeking sanctuary in Wales. Throughout the 2020-21 year, HJ Cymru has quickly built good working relationships with this sector, and we are now supported by Welsh Government to take a leadership role in this much-needed work with other organisations.

Through our 3 projects, we now work across every local authority area in Wales, collaborating with a wide variety of denominations, community groups and partners from the housing and homelessness sector. To view a full list of our partners, please visit: <a href="https://www.housingjustice.org.uk/about-us/our-partners">www.housingjustice.org.uk/about-us/our-partners</a>.

# **EQUIPPING SHELTERS**

#### Supporting grassroots night shelters in London

The Equipping Shelters project is a combination of a team of 5 and a grant programme we administer to night shelters with funding from the Greater London Authority. The project's aim is to build capacity among non-commissioned, faith and community night shelters, working in London.

The project is now in its 4th year, with an impressive track record of supporting hundreds of people in London every year to move away from rough sleeping to a more settled housing situation.

In March 2020, the Equipping Shelters team supported night shelters in the capital to respond to the outbreak of Covid-19 and the decant of all night shelters into self-contained accommodation. The team provided practical support, including onsite support in shelters where shelter staff were having to self-isolate. Approximately 500 people were moved from shelters to Covid-secure accommodation in the two weeks between 17th March 2020 and 1st April 2020.

The scheme to provide safe harbour by local authorities to all people experiencing homelessness during the pandemic became known as *Everybody In*. Initially, the Equipping Shelters team supported projects to continue offering support to guests in hotel accommodation, through coordinator support and mediating with LAs and commissioned services.

#### In Numbers:

Guests supported to move-on	383
Beds provided by the winter night shelter network	410
Additional nights	2340
Grants applications received	14
Grants awarded	8
Amount of grant awarded	£188,981

In the subsequent months, the team supported night shelters to adapt their services almost entirely to offer Covid-secure accommodation and a significant number of vital emergency beds in the city that has the highest prevalence of rough sleeping in the UK. The team provides a huge spectrum of support from funding to Covid risk assessments, infection control support, budgets etc.

The team worked to broker meetings between local authorities, local Public Health teams and shelter providers to form and build working relationships, leading to significantly improved partnerships between shelter providers and local authorities.

Working with colleagues in Public Health and primary care, the Equipping Shelters team supported projects to access clinical triage for guests and/or to lay a framework to have Covid protocols in place for the beginning of the shelter season.

Where night shelters were unable to find suitable Covid-secure buildings with single bedrooms for guests, experts within the Equipping Shelters supported 6 projects to directly access sites through which to run their winter provision, providing approximately 80 bed spaces in a Covid-secure environment.

#### Supporting guests to move beyond rough sleeping

A primary objective for the Equipping Shelters project is to support projects to get the best possible outcomes from the people they offer hospitality to. Some of the ways the team did this in 2020/21 included:

- Co-producing individual case working and move-on plans for guests with shelter staff
- Piloting a new scheme that provides projects with direct access to landlords. A
   "landlord exchange" has been set up to pool contacts from across the network of
   shelters, and the team sends regular emails to the network to update them on new
   properties entering the market via these landlords and a selection of others.

#### **Funding Support**

#### Homelessness Winter Transformation Fund

Together with Homeless Link, we jointly administered the £3.3million *Homelessness Winter Transformation Fund* for 2020/21, to support night shelter projects to provide Covid-safe accommodation in the 2020/21 winter. While the funding itself is outside of the scope of the Equipping Shelters Project, the Catalyst Team was instrumental in all applications to this fund from London based night shelter projects, and support from the Catalyst team helped projects to receive over £830,000 in funding for the season.

Housing Justice did not receive funding from MHCLG to support the *Homelessness Winter Transformation Fund*. However, the previous experience Housing Justice has generally across supporting winter night shelters was vital in the assessment of bids and the support provided to projects.

Peter, representing Housing Justice at an event by NEWWay charity, reflecting upon the challenges and successes of the 2020/21 season.



#### **Winter Transformation Fund Summary**

	Round One (All b	oids)	Round Two (All bids)		
	Bid For	Awarded	Bid For	Awarded	Awarded to WNS Projects (Both Rounds)
London	£1,048,609	£590,522	£807,245	£524,075	£838,987
England (excl. Lon- don)	£3,037,911.64	£1,384,031	£2,783,874.77	£1,185,901	£1,113,202
All	£4,086,520.64	£1,974,553	£3,591,120.47	£1,709,976	£1,952,189

#### **Spring Transitions Fund**

The Spring Transitions Fund was a new fund launched in the spring of 2021 to support winter night shelter projects to transition towards their seasonal closure without returning guests to the street.

The fund provides funding of up to £30,000 to projects for delivery between April - September 2021. We launched the fund on the 8th March 2021. A panel of GLA and Housing Justice representatives met on 26 March 2021 to approve grant agreements, followed by a further meeting in April 2021.



14 organisations applied for a total of £305,692.66. 8 organisations were successful, namely: NEWway Project, Glass Door Charity, Together in Barnet, Forest Churches Emergency Night Shelter, C4WS Homeless Project, The Bromley Homeless Shelter, GrowTH and APAP, being awarded £188,981 in total. This funding is forecast to support 75 individuals to move on in to stable accommodation, provide 61 bed spaces for people who would be rough sleeping and 454 nights of emergency accommodation.



# **BEST PRACTICE AND INNOVATION**

### Helping night shelters to be exceptional for guests

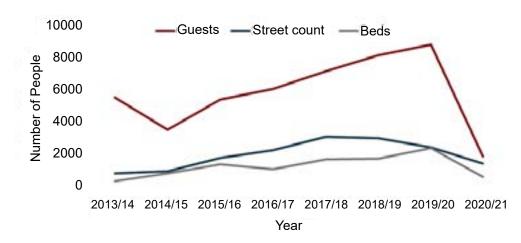
The Best Practice and Innovation Team supports winter night shelters in England to provide the best possible standard of project for people experiencing homelessness. In the year of the Covid-19 pandemic, its work has been more crucial than ever before.

In any other year, the team would have been carrying out Quality Mark Assessments, but with the pandemic ruling out communal night shelters and making travel between projects impossible, the team scaled up production of resources, webinars, one-to-one support for night shelters and improving data collection to better target resources, and to further develop and share best practice.

Over the course of the year, Housing Justice published more than 6 toolkits and guides, and ran more than 20 online events to keep night shelter projects and the wider faith community up to date with the latest government guidance. The team worked intensively with a number of night shelter projects to re-design their services after the government published the *Operating Principles for Winter Night Shelters* in October 2020.

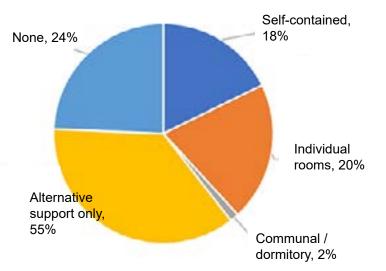
A ground-breaking evaluation of the incredible efforts of night shelters to provide alternatives to communal sleeping arrangements took place across the winter, with results published in the spring. This document will influence future practice of shelters and policy development in central government and can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

An estimated 840 spaces were available across the shelters in England between 31 October 2020 and 31 March 2021. This is a 69% decrease on the 2,611 spaces available in 2019/20. This drop was



less pronounced in London where it is estimated that spaces halved over the same period, however almost all projects entirely changed their services in a matter of weeks, producing a significant number of beds in a safe and Covid-secure setting.

More than half of shelters did not provide accommodation, with 24% not operating at all during the season and just over one third (36%) providing alternative support, such as food provision or supporting those in *Everyone In* provision. It is estimated that around 1,790 people benefited from the alternative support provided by these projects.



Perhaps the most surprising statistic - and the one which pays the greatest tribute to shelter providers - is that across the accommodation provided it is estimated that there were just 12 cases of Covid-19 and 104 guests required to isolate due to contact with people who had Covid-19. When one considers that the peak of night shelter provision was in January 2021 and where infection rates were at this time, this is all the more remarkable.

#### Some recent feedback from night shelters:

"Just a note to thank you for all your assistance in securing our funding for this year's Winter Housing Provision. This funding has made such a difference to the quality and length of service we are now able to offer our guests."

"The regional forums are of immense value to us, especially being in a forum of likeminded organisations trying to achieve the same thing and with the same values."

To learn more about how we support night shelters to offer an exceptional service to guests and work to improve positive move-on rates, please visit www.housingjustice.org.uk.

# **CITADEL - HJ CYMRU**

#### Providing tailored support to prevent homelessness

Citadel was commissioned and launched in both Neath Port Talbot and Swansea as pilots in 2020. Despite Covid-19 concerns, both local authorities have referred 42 people, of which 36 have engaged and been supported weekly. Across Swansea and NPT, 17 referrals have found accommodation since being referred to Citadel. The support has included regular meetings over the phone or in-person by our pool of volunteers. Across the two local authorities, we have 33 active Citadel volunteers and a further 8 Citadel Helpers. Citadel Helpers have been helping with the collection of items from food banks and delivery to the individuals we support. We are always in the process of recruiting new Citadel Volunteers and Helpers so that we can accommodate and support even more referrals.

"It's the little things I need help with, that I shouldn't struggle with but I do. And as long as I've got that help, and I have got that help now, then I can get on with bigger things"

- Charlie, who receives support through Citadel

The pandemic has meant it has been more difficult to use volunteers (some potential applicants have been put off by concerns with Covid-19) and the lockdowns have meant it has been difficult to engage with individuals in the same way we would normally be able to (barriers with face-to-face contact, lack of appropriate places to meet etc – all of which is vital for building relationships, especially for people with chaotic lives). If this hadn't been the case, we think that the number of volunteers involved would have been significantly higher and the capacity to take on more referrals would have thus also been higher across both authorities.

Even during the lockdown period when the cafes were closed, our volunteers maintained telephone, email and text communication. We were able to hold our initial meetings to complete the 'What Matters' information in the WCADA offices of Neath and Port Talbot and in the B&B accommodation lounges in Swansea, which were carried out under an agreed risk assessment. We continued to offer both emotional support, community connection and practical support and advice to all those referred with very positive



feedback from Citadel volunteers, the individuals we support and the local authorities.

Although Citadel is funded via the Housing Support Grant, allocated by the local authority, Housing Justice Cymru has been successful in obtaining further funding from the Children Society, Coordinated Community Support Programme, The Food Poverty Grant and the Coop Community Fund. This money has allowed us to help the individuals we support

with items for their homes (both large and small), which has helped aid tenancy sustainment for individuals across both authorities.

"To be honest if it wasn't for Citadel then I don't know where I'd be"

We are very pleased with what has been achieved with Citadel during the last year, particularly given the significant restrictions in place due to the pandemic. We also recognise that the set-up phase of Citadel is the most complex phase, due to the heavy workload involved in recruiting, training, DBS checking and assessing volunteers. Once our volunteer base has been built up, the capacity to achieve greater results will increase further. We look forward to seeing the project grow even more in 2021-2022.

"As long as I've got people behind me then I can achieve anything really"

For more information on Citadel, please see <a href="https://www.housingjustice.org.uk/cymru/citadel">www.housingjustice.org.uk/cymru/citadel</a>

# HOSTING

### Finding a welcoming home for migrants in need

Housing Justice Hosting focusses on the concept of hospitality - so integral to so many faith-based responses to homelessness. The project works with people without recourse to public funds, predominantly asylum seekers and people with complicated immigration statuses. Our Hosting team receive referrals from other organisations, who work with migrants and match them with one of our registered host households. In 2020/21, the Hosting project entered its second phase with renewed funding from the Oak Foundation and new funding from Trust for London, as well as from a number of smaller trusts, foundations and individuals. For phase two, the project sets out to improve the quality of support offered to people in the project. It now includes:

- Guaranteed access to high-quality, registered immigration advice through our immigration advice partner, The Cardinal Hume Centre
- Enhanced casework support from the Housing Justice team with an extra member of staff. All guests receive support to progress their case, welfare checks and move-on support
- Strengthened link with grassroots winter night shelter projects, traditionally places with significant numbers of people who have no recourse to public funds, to improve move-on and to offer immigration advice triage
- Rent deposit fund to enable swifter move-on when status is granted
- Destitution Fund payment of £25 per week for essentials

The last year has been the most challenging ever for our Hosting Project, after all, how do you offer your spare room to someone in need if the government says you shouldn't have anyone from out of your household in your house? The challenges for hosts and guests of the various lockdowns have been immense, but despite it all, the hospitality of our hosts has shone brightly, even in the darkest hours. Even in a year of isolation, new bonds have been formed, challenges have been overcome, and some people have been able to move on from the indignity of a life without access to state support.

During the winter, we were able to offer hosting accommodation to 3 guests referred through the winter night shelter pathway. One of these was a lady, who found herself faced with homelessness when the person she had been a live-in carer for, passed away after contracting Covid in hospital. She had been staying at a winter night shelter before



moving in with her hosts. She has been supported by the Cardinal Hume Centre to submit an application to the Home Office and is now awaiting the outcome. The hosts have been loving her cooking skills.

We opened up the Hosting Project to new referrals from January 2021, prioritising referrals from projects within the WNS network to enable a move-on route for guests and free up bed spaces in night shelter projects. We received 15 referral enquiries from 6 WNS projects. 4 were accepted (3 moved into hosting, 1 rejected placement); 1 declined. 10 enquiries didn't reach referral stage due to lack of available hosts. The 3 new guests are progressing well in their placements.

A 12 month limit on a guests' stay has been introduced for new referrals – and we emphasise this point in the Referral Guidance, during matching meetings and in the newly developed Guest Agreement. This limits a stay with one particular host to 12 months, although there may be scope for moving the person to another host household if further hosting is still required.

7 guests were supported to move-on from the project in the first 5 months of Year 1 (Aug-Dec 2020). Before considering new referrals into the project, a review of existing guests was conducted to establish who was eligible for move-on. The initial stages of the pandemic had put a pause on any referrals in or out of the project. 3 internal case reviews were submitted to Cardinal Hume, of which 1 was determined to have no further merit – the guest was given 2 months' notice and supported to leave the project

and stay with friends; 1 was provided with advice that was subsequently passed on to their existing legal representative, resulting in them pursuing the option of initiating a judicial review against the Home Office for the delay. She went on to receive her status in February 2021, is receiving support to return to employment, and has transitioned her hosting relationship to that of a formal lodger. 1 had eligibility for a LTR renewal application & was supported by Cardinal Hume to submit his application in May 2021. He has since moved into his own flat with his partner and their new baby daughter, whilst supporting his family through full-time work.

#### Casework

Casework from the Hosting Manager and Project Officer have been central to moveon from the project in the past year. Move-on's include, 2 guests moving into Section 4 Home Office accommodation, 2 guests moving into Local Authority Private Rented accommodation, 1 guest moving into Local Authority Temporary Accommodation. We have also facilitated 6 new hosting placements for existing guests. The pandemic meant that the personal circumstances of some of our existing hosts had changed (e.g. adult children returning to the family home) and they were no longer able to continue hosting. 10 of our hosts are no longer available to accept new guests. 100% of current guests are receiving casework support from the Hosting Manager and Project Officer.

#### In the past 12 months:

- Advocacy with solicitors (5 guests submitted applications with the Home Office, 2 are close to submitting, 1 has an appeal in progress & has been supported to attend court, 5 guests continue to wait for decisions on their case for more than 1 year).
- 2 guests supported to access gym membership
- 2 guests supported to access free travel with Over 60's Oyster Card
- 3 guests supported to access warm clothing donations
- Over 50% of guests have been supported to access medical treatment including GP appointments, dental care, eye hospital, diabetes support, crisis mental health, emergency hospital support, understanding medical letters
- Information and support have been provided to guests regarding access to Covid vaccinations.
- 4 guests have been given access to email/laptops/smartphone for digital inclusion and connection during lockdown.

- 4 guests have been supported to access ESOL classes
- 2 guests referred to The Bike Project
- 2 guests referred to Breaking Barriers for employment support since receiving status
- 3 guests supported to access volunteering
- 6 female guests attended our International Women's Day online event encouraging positivity and pride.

We have also developed a strength-based wellbeing and support plan for new guests entering the project, to identify what support they are currently receiving and what they would like additional support with whilst being hosted.

- 7 guests supported to move-on from the project in the first 5 months of Year 1
- Total Guests hosted 26
- New Hosting placements 10 (3 new guests, 7 internal moves)
- Guest Move-on 9 (7 positive & stable, 2 positive not stable)
- New Guests 3 (100% from WNS Network)
- Active Hosts 22
- New Hosts 6 (2 hosting, 3 applications in progress, 1 change of circumstance)
- Immigration Advice Referrals 38 (3 internal, 3 new hosting, 32 WNS guest)



# **FAITH IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

#### Transforming surplus church land into affordable homes

The FiAH project in Wales continues to develop as it moves from an organic programme towards a more strategic model as suggested in the Tamsin Stirling's Evaluation report from 2020. FiAH commissioned Mike Owen of Perran Consulting, chair of the Cardiff Community HA board and the former CEO of Merthyr Valley Homes, to produce a report "Scoping a Strategic Partnership" which, following adoption by the trustees of Housing Justice, is in the process of being implemented by FiAH.



The Report identified that HJC is currently working with 36 different organisations developing affordable housing across Wales. The intention is to increase the number of affordable homes built by reducing the number of partners that HJC work with to create a more focused, strategic and manageable programme of National significance.

We have identified the framework partners through an open selection process where partner housing organisations demonstrated with supporting evidence their ability to meet

or exceed a selection criterion that considered: development of affordable housing, financial capacity, the quality of the housing service, commitment to added social value and willingness to work as part of a partnership promoting and marketing faith in affordable housing. The partners have been assigned geographic lots based on their location and to coincide with Welsh Government's proposed regional grant delivery. FiAH will facilitate an open dialogue and knowledge share amongst partners and faith groups, and is moving the project towards a self-financed future.

#### The framework partners are:

- · Adra and Grŵp Cynefin for the North region.
- Adra, Pobl and Monmouthshire HA for the Mid Wales region.
- · Pobl Group for the South West region.
- CCHa led consortium (First Choice HA, Melin, Newydd & Valleys to Coast) and Monmouthshire HA for the South East region.
- First Choice HA for pan Wales specialty provision.

This work programme is part of an ambitious programme by Housing Justice Cymru. Led by the Archbishop of Wales, it will challenge the faith and the housing sectors to deliver more affordable homes over the next five years, creating distinct areas of work:

- 1. Producing a step change in output for the Faith in Affordable Housing Programme including annual and five-year targets for new rented housing.
- 2. Developing a new Covenant between faith groups and Housing Justice Cymru with protocols and frameworks for developing opportunities.
- 3. Introducing a new framework with committed housing associations to make the most of the opportunities developed through the programme.

The Strategic Partnership was launched at an online event, where we also announced an Expert Panel lead by Right Rev'd John Davies that includes key figures from Cadw, Chartered institute of Housing Wales, Church in Wales, Community Housing Cymru, Design Commission for Wales, Shelter Cymru, Royal Town Planning Institute, Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government Association, who came together over the summer to make recommendations for the FiAH project:

Awareness raising events hosted by FiAH included launching the framework publicly, promoting best practice/sale of assets in areas of high second home ownership, making

a long-term plan, best practice guides for denominations, Charity Commission/Best Value v Best price, commissioning a Section 117 report, trusted surveyors/conveyancing solicitors.

# The existing programme is ongoing and continues to deliver:

- Working actively with the Church in Wales, the United Reform Church, Presbyterian Church of Wales and Baptist Church, and having strategic conversations with the Union of Welsh Independents and the Methodist Church.
- Alongside general needs housing, we are actively working with specialist providers, such as First Choice HA, who



are creating homes for vulnerable people, those with complex needs or those who sit outside of the usual housing requirement spectrum.

Geographical spread of the project to an 'all Wales' level.



Supported living homes completed by Cadwyn HA, next to Pentyrch St Baptist Church, Cardiff

The progress of the FiAH programme is further demonstrated in the table below showing the pipeline of projects at the various stages of the development process.

Stage	No. of Affordable Homes	No. of Sites
Stage 1 Site Identification	N/A	20
Stage 2 Site Feasibility	232	18
Stage 3 Detailed Design & Planning	47	5
Stage 4 Sites Acquired	52	3
Stage 5 Construction	46	4
Stage 6 Handover & Completion	79	8
Total	456	58

**Note**: Stage 1 Site Identification refers to the number of sites only (to quote dwelling numbers may be misleading as data is embryonic).

By April 2022, FiAH will have facilitated the development of 118 homes. A further six sites (equating to 70 homes) are moving towards acquisition and being placed on local authority development programmes with grant already allocated. Beyond the provision of truly affordable and decent homes within existing communities, the developments invest in local community regeneration, use local construction supply chains, address issues of redundant building for churches and the community and some causes allows for the reordering of existing places of worship to provide more flexible worship areas and community space.

As we emerge from the Covid-19 Pandemic, church wardens and property managers are reassessing if and how they use their buildings and land, some places of worship will close, congregations may merge and some will flourish and want to modernise their spaces, FiAH can support these changes whilst providing much needed affordable homes.



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# **GOVERNANCE AND RISKS**

Due to the restrictions on meeting in person because of the pandemic, our trustee meetings, sub-committee meetings and Trustee Away Day have all been conducted using Zoom this year. We have found that this has not impeded our governance; in fact, it has been helpful for trustees who previously would have travelled a long way to attend. When restrictions have been lifted it is likely that we will not return to having all meetings in person, but mix face to face meetings with virtual meetings.

Our Finance and Fundraising Sub-committees have been very active throughout the year and a third sub-committee has been introduced; the Involvement Sub-committee. The purpose of this sub-committee is to bring together relevant people from across the organisation, to develop and oversee an Involvement Strategy for Housing Justice. We are keen to grow the influence of the guests that we serve in our governance.

As our four new trustees settled into their roles, some longer standing trustees felt it was time for them to stand down. In December we said goodbye to Bishop James Langstaff (our former Chairman) and Peter Walters (our longest standing trustee). Mandy Bayton also resigned in March. We are tremendously grateful to them for their wisdom and their loyal service to Housing Justice during their tenure as trustees.

Risk management remains an important aspect of governance at Housing Justice; Trustees consider financial risk in detail every quarter and regularly review the risk map as a whole. The pandemic heightened the need for risk management in terms of the health and safety of guests and staff, and in terms of financial risk.

We have had close engagement with Public Health England and the MHCLG to ensure that appropriate guidance was in place and made available to our network. We have also worked closely with our health and safety adviser for the health and safety of staff.

At the beginning of the financial year we saw a dip in our unrestricted income from donors. Steps were taken to reduce expenditure and to boost our unrestricted income. The position was recovered and we ended the financial year in a comfortable place.

# **FUNDRAISING**

Housing Justice has raised funds in the following ways during the 20/21 year:

#### Grant income from:

- MHCLG
- GLA
- Central and Welsh Government
- Local Authorities in England and Wales
- The Mercers' Company
- Lloyds Insurance Company
- The Oak Foundation
- The Nationwide Foundation
- The Mrs Smith & Mount Trust
- Commonweal
- Lesley Aldridge Trust
- Trust for London
- Homeless Link
- Maureen & Derek Morton Trust
- The Bowley Trust
- Church in Wales
- The Waterloo Foundation
- The Children's Society

- Winning Moves
- Beatrice Laing Trust
- Balcome Trust
- Alma Jean Henry Trust
- · Charity of Mary Catherine Ford Smith
- London Churches Refugee Fund
- Albert Gubay Foundation
- Jean & Hugh Dinan Trust
- Church Homeless Trust

#### • Donations from:

- Individual donors
- · Supporters who have fundraised for us
- Churches & religious orders
- Legacies (Gifts in Wills)
- Our Membership Scheme



# **FUNDRAISING**

In 2020/21 we also worked with a professional bid writer who helped us to get match funding for our Hosting programme, and has also advised us on potential funding sources for our Faith in Affordable Housing project.

In the last financial year, we spent just 4% of our annual income on fundraising and 96% on our charitable activities.

Our Fundraising Sub Committee continued to oversee fundraising activity and compliance for all funding during 2020/21.



#### WINTER HOMELESSNESS TRANSFORMATION FUND

Housing Justice and Homeless Link jointly administered the Homelessness Winter Transformation Fund for 2020/21, which consisted of £3.3million, £2 million of which was provided by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

We distributed grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 to offer much-needed support to the sector and the night shelter charities within our network during the pandemic.

We will be administering the 2021/22 version of the Fund again with Homeless Link.

# **TESTIMONIALS**

What our guests, beneficiaries and supporters say

"I'm short of words for how to say, I'm so grateful to Housing Justice. They saved my life and I am short of words to talk about it"

"Housing Justice have made a big, big impact in my life. I don't know where I'd have been without them"

"HJ and HJC just keep getting better and better. I am so proud to be able to support you in a small way." "We are so grateful for all of the support and resources that Housing Justice provides to the shelter projects and just wanted to say a massive thank you"

"I had just about given up hope before coming here. Thank you Housing Justice."

"I just wanted to say that it was an absolute lifeline to be part of the HJ shelter network and a pleasure to have worked with you on creating a warm, welcoming and respectful environment for shelter guests."

"I would not have survived without Housing Justice ... now my plan is to to volunteer with older people."

"When I call Housing Justice the speed at which they do things is really good... They involve you in what they are doing on your behalf. I truly appreciate everything they do"

"Housing Justice, thank you for your provision which allowed us to move our shelter to a hotel and offer 14 rooms for guests where they could be warm and safe during the winter months and self-isolate if needed. Thank you for guiding us through running a shelter during a pandemic. Your wisdom and resources have been invaluable and we could not have done this without you."

"I don't know where I'd be without Housing Justice, to be honest"

# **OUR PARTNERS**

Housing Justice are grateful for the continued support of our Partners, without whom our work for people affected by homelessness would not be possible.









2021-2022.



Thank you for your continued support throughout 2020-2021. We look

forward to continuing this crucial partnership work together throughout















The Mrs Smith

& Mount Trust







LLOYD'S















Homeless













Trust







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# In the last year...



# FiAH Expansion

We have launched a major expansion of our Affordable Homes project, to enable us to achieve a target pipeline of 1,000 affordable homes by 2025.

# The Network

In response to the pandemic, we have supported the 1,000+ churches and community groups in our network to respond to homelessness in new and creative ways. We also published a significant report looking at the experiences of night shelters in Winter 2020/21 and learnings from this extraordinary period.

# Hosting in Wales

After successfully running our Hosting Project in London for over 3 years, we have now received funding to introduce a similar project in Wales. Despite the widespread need, there is a lack of this type of support in Wales for individuals who have no recourse to public funds, so we are delighted to be able to fill this gap and provide crucial support to vulnerable individuals.

# Kathy Receives An OBE



Kathy Mohan, our CEO, has been awarded an OBE for Services to Vulnerable People during Covid-19. Kathy's investiture was in June and Kathy accepted the OBE on behalf of the whole team at Housing Justice.

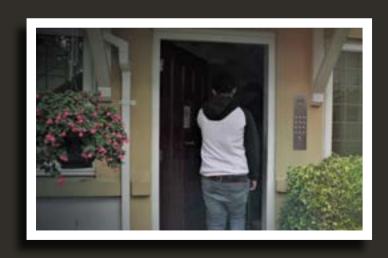
# In the last few years...

# 1,000 churches and community groups



We have helped over 1,000 churches and community groups to respond to homelessness in their local area

# A welcoming home for 70 vulnerable migrants



We developed a hosting project for vulnerable migrants, and have found a home for over 70 guests

# 300 happy residents

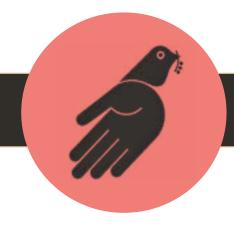


We've helped to transform surplus church assets into genuinely affordable, decent homes for over 300 people

# 98% on our projects



On average, we've spent just 2% of our income on fundraising and 98% on our charitable work



# HOUSING JUSTICE FINANCIAL REVIEW

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 294666** 

# Legal and administrative information

Presidents: His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

Chief Executive: Kathy Mohan OBE

Charity reg. no: 294666 Company reg. no: CE022450

#### Registered address:

Unit 2.11, The Foundry 17 Oval Way London SE11 5RR

#### **Auditor:**

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants
4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire, HP4 2AF

#### **Accountant:**

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd Units 24 & 25 Goodsheds Container Village Hood Road Barry CF62 5QU

#### Bankers:

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc South Kensington Branch 29 Old Brompton Road London SW7 3JE

CCLA Investment Management Ltd (COIF Charity Funds) 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZD

#### Trustees:

Aidan Dwan
Brian O'Doherty
Chrishanti Joanna Shah
Joe Nicholson
Julie Cook
Olawunmi Odunaiya
Richard Drake
Robert Wickham
Sarah Howard-Jones
Sharon McLoughlin



#### **Financial Results**

Details of the organisation's activities for the year are set out in the financial statements on page 50 to 72.

The year ended with a surplus of £492,262 (2020: £69,062). £205,222 of the surplus related to the Spring Transitions Fund which launched in March 2021 but the expenditure occurred in April 2021. The remainder was as a result of a very successful fundraising year, particularly on unrestricted grants which increased from £6,720 to £144,770, once again demonstrating the affinity our supporters have with our work.

As a result, the Charity ended the year with total funds of £1,066,602 (2020: £574,340) of which £543,186 (2020: £297,268) were unrestricted as to use and £523,416 were restricted as to use (2020: £277,072).

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees continue to monitor and update their reserves policy based on an assessment of funds required for current work, development plans and unforeseen circumstances.

Following on from a wider review of the risks the Charity faces, the trustees adopted a new and more appropriate reserves policy in the prior financial period, which gives a range within which the reserves should fall. This balances the need for prudence considering a large proportion of the new funding accessed during the year is on a rolling annual renewal basis. It also ensures that the reserve range is achievable. The lowest that general reserves should now sit at is redundancy liabilities plus four months operating costs including salaries, whilst the higher end of the range is redundancy liabilities plus six months operating costs including salaries.

As of 31 March 2021 this range sat at £294,713 to £350,611. The year-end general reserves of £543,186 sit comfortably above this range, and so the trustees are happy that this level is adequate and appropriate. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and uncertainty over future funding it is also not deemed excessive at this point. The reserve range is now re-calculated on a monthly basis and year to date performance continues to be measured against this criteria.

#### Statement of board of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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 Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the trustees confirm that they are happy that content

of the annual review in pages 4 to 45 of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

### Information provided to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and,
- the trustee has taken all the steps he/she ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

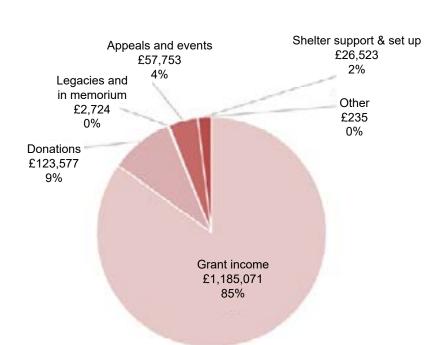
On 8 September 2021 Haines Watts LLP was appointed as Housing Justice's auditors.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 8th September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

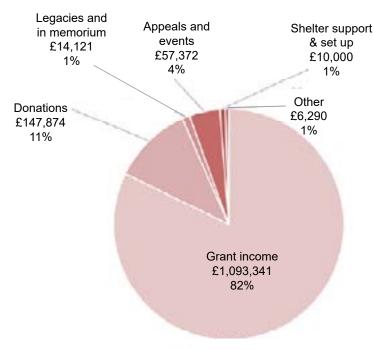
Chrishanti Shah

Trustee

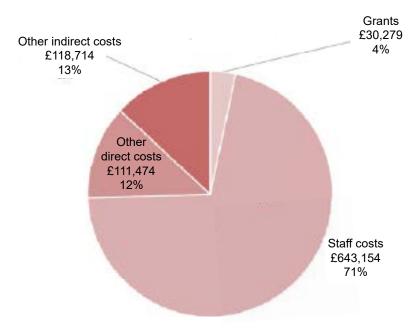
#### Total income 2021



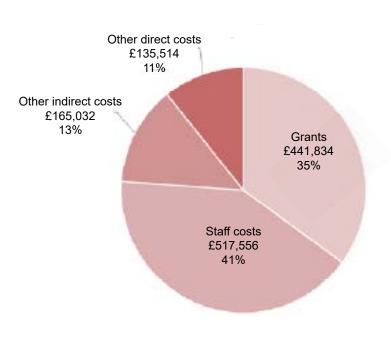
#### Total income 2020



#### **Total expenditure 2021**



#### Total expenditure 2020



# Independent Auditor's Report to the Board of Trustees of Housing Justice

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Housing Justice (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and
  of its incoming resources and application of resources, including 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 Charities Act 2011.

#### 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 directors' 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 company'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 trustees' 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.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charity has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 43 to 44 the trustees 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 the trustees 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.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

The objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud and error; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit

evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error; and to respond appropriately to those risks. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK).

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 obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable
  to the Charity and the sector in which it operates. We determined that the following
  laws and regulations were most significant: The Charities Act 2011, UK GAAP,
  Occupational Health and Safety regulations, the Data Protection Act.
- We obtained an understanding of how the Charity are complying with those legal
  and regulatory frameworks and made enquiries to the management of known or
  suspected instances of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations. We
  corroborated our enquiries through our review of board minutes, other relevant
  meeting minutes and review of correspondence with regulatory bodies where
  appropriate.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the audit team included:
  - o Identifying and assessing the controls management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
  - o Understanding how those charged with governance considered and addressed the potential for override of controls or other inappropriate influence over the financial reporting process;
  - o Challenging assumptions and judgments made by management in its significant accounting estimates and judgments;

- o Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular journal entries posted with unusual account combinations; and
- o Assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations are from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusions.

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 Report of the Auditors.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Howes Watts

Shaun Brownsmith FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Haines Watts Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

4 Claridge Court

Lower Kings Road

Berkhamsted

Hertfordshire HP4 2AF

Date: 06/10/2021

# **Statement of Financial Activities**

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Income from:	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations	2	324,578	1,044,547	1,369,125	1,312,708
Charitable activities	3	26,523	-	26,523	15,330
Investments*		235	-	235	960
Total income		351,336	1,044,547	1,395,883	1,328,998
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4 & 5	31,220	9,692	40,912	26,265
Charitable activities:					
Church & community night shelters	4 & 6	52,442	566,974	619,416	1,074,319
Faith in affordable housing	4 & 6	12,799	107,328	120,127	68,712
Hosting	4 & 6	8,957	114,209	123,166	90,640
Total expenditure		105,418	798,203	903,621	1,259,936
Net income/(expenditure)		245,918	246,344	492,262	69,062
Net movement in funds		245,918	246,344	<u>492,262</u> .	69,062
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds bought forward	12 & 1	3 297,268	277,072	574,340	505,278
Total funds carried forward	12 & 1	3 543,186	523,416	1,066,602	574,340

# **Balance sheet**

As at 31 March 2021

Fixed assets	Notes	£	Total Funds 2021 £	£	Total Funds 2020 £
Tangible assets	9		246		668
Current assets  Debtors and prepayments	10	40,708		119,622	
Cash at bank and in hand	70	1,135,711		506,006	
		1,176,419		625,628	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(110,063)		(51,956)	
Net current assets			1,066,356		573,672
Net assets			1,066,602		574,340
Funds of the charity Restricted funds Unrestricted funds Designated funds	12 & 13		523,416		277,072
General funds	12 & 13	543,186	543,186	297,268	297,268
			1,066,602		574,340

The notes on pages 54-71 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 415A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and FRS 102 Section 1A.

They were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 8 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Chrishanti Shah

Trustee

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

#### For the year ended 31 March 2021

		Total Funds 2021 £		Total Funds 2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities:		2		~
Net income/(expenditure) for period (as per SOFA)		492,262		69,062
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	422		422	
(Increase)/decrease in gift aid due	8,209		(7,005)	
(Increase)/decrease in trade	70.000		(75.440)	
debtors and other debtors	73,200		(75,418)	
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(2,495)		2,288	
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payables	(10,648)		7,342	
Increase/(decrease) in HMRC and other payables	884		5,710	
Increase/(decrease) in grants payables	1,000		(27,013)	
, , , , ,	8,754		(2,861)	
Increase/(decrease) in accruals Increase/(decrease) in deferred revenue	58,117		(13,319)	
increase/(decrease) in deletted revenue			(13,319)	
		137,443		(109,854)
Net cash used in operating activities		629,705		(40,792)
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchase of fixed assets	-		-	
Net cash used in investing activities		-		-
Net cash used in financing activities		-		-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in period		629,705		(40,792)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		506,006		546,798
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	od	1,135,711		505,006

Cash and cash equivalents:

	Funds 2021 £	Funds 2020 £
Cash in hand	1,135,711	506,006
Cash in hand	1,135,711	506,006

**Total** 

Total

The notes on pages 54-71 form part of the financial statements.



# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### 1. Accounting policies

# Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with '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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 March 2021, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2021 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial

statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

#### Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has no impact on this assessment.

#### Legal status

Housing Justice is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is Unit 2.11, The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London, SE11 5RR.

#### **Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 12 of the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

#### Income

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

Donations and membership fees are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when

claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future period, in which case it is deferred.

Legacy income is only recognised when receipt is highly probable, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

#### **Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

#### **Grants payable**

Grants to organisations consists of grants awarded to other charities for night shelter work in London as well as small grants made to destitute migrants. They are recognised as expenditure at the point a legal or constructive obligation to make the grant has been formed – this is normally at the point at which the grant agreement is signed at the start of the season for grants to other charities, and at the point the payment is made for grants to destitute migrants.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised unless funded by restricted funds.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on a straight-line basis. The useful life used is:

Computer equipment 3 years

#### **Operating leases**

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### **Pensions**

Housing Justice operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

#### **Short term investments**

Short term investments include funds that are held on short term deposit for investment purposes with CCLA Investment Management Limited and earn interest only.

#### **Debtors and prepayments**

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

#### **Creditors**

Creditors 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.

#### **Critical estimates and judgements**

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for property, plant and equipment is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

#### **Financial instruments**

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

# 2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Grant income	144,770	1,040,301	1,185,071
Donations	119,401	4,176	123,577
Legacies and in memorium	2,724	-	2,724
Appeals and events	57,683	70	57,753
	324,578	1,044,547	1,369,125
	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Grant income	6,720	1,086,621	1,093,341
Donations	106,304	41,570	147,874
Legacies and in memorium	14,121	-	14,121
Appeals and events	51,125	6,247	57,372
	178,270	1,134,438	1,312,708

#### 3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Shelter support and set up	26,523	-	26,523
	26,523		26,523
	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Shelter support and set up	8,000	2,000	10,000
Training and consultancy Sale of resources	2,189 641	2,500 -	4,689 641
	10,830	4,500	15,330

### 4. Total expenditure

	Grants	Direct staff	Direct other	Indirect staff	Indirect other	Total
	paid	costs	costs	costs	costs	Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	24,722	6,698	4,117	5,375	40,912
Charitable Activities Church & community						
night shelters	5,314	420,578	49,817	62,331	81,376	619,416
Faith in affordable housing		59,119	33,138	12,088	15,782	120,127
Hosting	24,965	47,805	21,821	12,394	16,181	123,166
rioding	24,905	47,605	21,021	12,394	10, 101	123,100
	30,279	552,224	111,474	90,930	118,714	903,621
	Grants paid 2020 £	Direct staff costs 2020 £	Direct other costs 2020	Indirect staff costs 2020 £	Indirect other costs 2020	Total Funds 2020 £
Raising funds	-	11,979	9,422	2,039	2,825	26,265
Charitable Activities Church & community						
night shelters	408,754	326,861	139,770	83,384	115,550	1,074,319
Faith in affordable housing	· ·	51,627	4,362	5,333	7,390	68,712
Hosting	33,080	29,298	11,478	7,035	9,749	90,640
	23,000	_5,_50	,	.,550	3,3	20,0.0
	441,834	419,765	165,032	97,791	135,514	1,259,936

### 4. Total expenditure (continued)

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5. An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

A full list of grants made in the year is available from the registered office address on request.

	Total	Total
	costs	costs
Indirect costs is broken down as follows:	2021	2020
	£	£
Indirect staff costs	90,930	97,791
Other staff and HR costs	8,528	19,116
Finance and admin costs	40,333	49,576
Premises costs	28,406	20,653
Communication and database costs	6,060	14,969
IT costs	21,355	18,010
Governance costs	14,032	13,190
	209,644	233,305
Governance costs includes:	Total	Total
	costs	costs
	2021	2020
	£	£
Statutory audit	3,402	3,240
Trustee expenses	260	654
Insurance	7,180	6,999
Other	2,730	2,297
	13,572	13,190

# 5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	<b>Funds</b>
	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£
Direct salaries	16,168	8,554	24,722
Direct other costs	6,666	32	6,698
Indirect costs	8,386	1,106	9,492
	31,220	9,692	40,912
	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Restricted Funds 2020	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Direct salaries	11,979	-	11,979
Direct other costs	9,422	-	9,422
Indirect costs	4,864	-	4,864
	26,265		26,265

# 6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021
Church and community night shelters	£	£	£
Grants	-	5,314	5,314
Direct salaries	2,838	417,740	420,578
Direct other costs	106	49,711	49,817
Indirect costs	49,498	94,209	143,707
	52,442	566,974	619,416
Faith in affordable housing			
Direct salaries	-	59,119	59,119
Direct other costs	-	33,138	33,138
Indirect costs	12,799	15,071	27,870
	12,799	107,328	120,127
Hosting			
Grants	-	24,965	24,965
Direct salaries	125	47,680	47,805
Direct other costs	-	21,821	21,821
Indirect costs	8,832	19,743	28,575
	8,957	114,209	123,166
	74,198	788,511	862,709

# 6. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Restricted Funds 2020	Total Funds 2020
Church and community night shelters	£	£	£
Grants	-	408,754	408,754
Direct salaries	-	326,861	326,861
Direct other costs	-	139,770	139,770
Indirect costs	121,577	77,357	198,934
	121,577	952,742	1,074,319
Faith in affordable housing			
Direct salaries	_	51,627	51,627
Direct other costs	-	4,362	4,362
Indirect costs	2,351	10,372	12,723
	2,351	66,361	68,712
Hosting			
Grants	-	33,080	33,080
Direct salaries	-	29,298	29,298
Direct other costs	-	11,478	11,478
Indirect costs	13,377	3,407	16,784
	13,377	77,263	90,640
	137,305	1,096,366	1,233,671

#### 7. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs 2021	Total costs 2020 £
Gross salaries Employer's national insurance Employer's pension	569,910 54,977 18,267	459,170 42,882 15,504
	643,154	517,556

The average headcount during the period was 16 persons (2020: 15 persons).

One employee received employee benefits of between £60,000 and £69,999 (2020: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £184,783 (2020: £150,295).

#### 8. Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £18,267 (2020: £15,504).

Contributions totalling £1,548 (2020: £870) were outstanding at year end.

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

### 9. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	1,266_	1,266
At 31 March 2021	1,266	1,266
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2020	598	598
Charge for year	422	422
At 31 March 2021	1,020	1,020
Net book value		
At 1 April	668	668
At 31 March 2021	246	246

### 10. Debtors and prepayments

	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Gift aid due	1,306	9,515
Rent deposit	2,315	8,179
Trade debtors	19,095	69,302
Accrued income	13,038	30,167
Prepayments	4,954	2,459
	40,708	119,622

### 11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Tr. Groundre, arricante family due within	ir one your	
	Total	Total
	funds	funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest free loan	5,000	5,000
Accounts payable	7,626	18,274
HMRC payable	15,580	14,649
Grants payable to other organisations	1,000	-
Other creditors	3,961	4,008
Accruals	13,254	4,500
Deferred revenue	63,642	5,525
	110,063	51,956
Deferred revenue is made up as follows:		
	Total	Total
	funds	funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance brought forward	5,525	18,844
Released as income in period	(5,525)	(18,844)
Deferred in period	63,642	5,525
Balance carried forward	63,642	5,525

#### 12. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forwar	Income for the period	Expenditure in the period	Transfer between funds	Balance carried forward
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	297,268	351,336	(105,418)		543,186
Restricted funds					
Faith in affordable	44.624	02.025	(404.040)		500
housing - Wales	11,631	92,925	(104,048)	-	508
Church & community night	40.005	040.500	(450 445)		70.000
shelters - England	12,905	212,500	(152,415)	-	72,990
Church & community night	440.070	440.400	(440.070)	_	444.070
shelters - Wales	112,373	119,469	(119,870)	31,951	111,972
Equipping shelters	52,740	244,888	(301,344)	31,931	28,235
GLA - Spring Transitions Fund	-	205,222	-	-	205,222
GLA - Winter Programme Fund	32,956	-	(1,005)	(31,951)	-
Night shelters and hosting for					
women	30,668	-	-	_	30,668
No recourse to public funds	7,580	14,532	(22,112)		, -
Destitute migrant subsistence	8,450	12,450	(17,815)	_	3,085
HJ Cymru	4,050	31,870	(8,943)	_	26,977
Hosting project London	-	110,691	(70,651)	_	40,040
Other	3,719	-	-	-	3,719
Restricted funds	277,072	1,044,547	(798,203)		523,416
Total funds	574,340	1,395,883	(903,621)		1,066,602
		.,000,000			-,,

#### 12. Analysis of charity funds (continued)

The Faith in Affordable Housing - Wales fund includes donations from the Nationwide Foundation to support a new project to promote affordable housing with Wales.

The Church and Community Night Shelters fund contains donations for supporting night shelters within England and Wales respectively, apart from those marked as for work with women in shelters. This consists of a mix of funds from statutory bodies, trusts and public fundraising.

The Equipping Shelters funds relate to an amount received from the Greater London Authority to help equip night shelters across London, including through grant funding.

The Spring Transitions Programme funds relate to an amount received from the Greater London Authority to provide micro-grants to shelter networks across London during Spring 2021 – the grants were paid out in April 2021.

The Winter Programme funds relate to an amount received from the Greater London Authority to provide micro-grants to night shelters across London.

The Night Shelters and Hosting for Women funds relate to an amount received from the Archdiocese of Birmingham as the result of a sale of premises previously used to provide shelter to vulnerable women. The proceeds are therefore restricted to work Housing Justice carries out with female beneficiaries.

The No Recourse to Public Funds pot includes donations and grants for supporting homeless individuals with no recourse to public funds.

The Destitute Migrant Subsistence funds includes donations and grants to provide subsistence allowances to destitute migrants within the UK.

The HJ Cymru pot includes donations and grants for supporting Housing Justice Cymru's work throughout Wales.

Other funds are to be used for work in North West England.

# 12. Analysis of charity funds (continued)

	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance
	brought	for the	in the	between	carried
	forward	period	period	funds	forward
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	270,778	190,060	(163,570)		297,268
Restricted funds					
Faith in affordable					
housing - Wales	9,741	68,440	(66,550)	-	11,631
Church & community night					10.004
shelters - England	-	177,722	(164,818)	-	12,904
Church & community night					440.070
shelters - Wales	47,599	187,957	(123,183)	-	112,373
Ethical Landlords Association	143	-	(143)	-	-
Equipping shelters	86,932	600,000	(634,192)	-	52,740
More Than Shelters	-	50,000	(17,044)	-	32,956
Night shelters and hosting for					
women	30,668	-	-	-	30,668
No recourse to public funds	36,686	16,905	(46,011)	-	7,580
Destitute migrant subsistence	10,930	28,600	(31,080)	-	8,450
HJ Cymru	8,082	9,314	(13,345)	-	4,051
Other	3,719	-	-	-	3,719
Restricted funds					
	234,500	1,138,938	(1,096,366)		277,072
Total funds	·		, , , ,		•
	505,278	1,328,998	(1,259,936)		574,340

# 13. Analysis of net funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors	246	-	246
	589,361	587,058	1,176,419
	(46,421)	(63,642)	(110,063)
	543,186	523,416	1,066,602
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors	668	-	668
	343,031	282,597	625,628
	(46,431)	(5,525)	(51,956)
	297,268	277,072	574,340

#### 14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2020: £NIL). 2 members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses of £260 in 2021 (2020: 3 members - £654).

### 15. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions carried out with related parties (2020: £NIL).

#### 16. Other financial commitments

At 31 March 2021, the Charity had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land and Buildings 2021	Office Equipment 2021	Land and Buildings 2020	Office Equipment 2020
	£	£	£	£
Operating lease due: Within one year	9,260	-	8,488	2,093
Within two to five years	-	-	-	-
	9,260		8,488	2,093