

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07695486 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1143589

**Law for Life: The Foundation for Public
Legal Education
Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

**Law for Life: The Foundation for Public
Legal Education**

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Report of the Trustees	2 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 17
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	18 to 19

**Law for Life: The Foundation for Public
Legal Education**

**Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

TRUSTEES

Ms Margie Butler (resigned 11 May 2017)
Ms Amanda Finlay CBE
Sir Robin Knowles CBE QC
Mr John Seargeant
Mr Michael Smyth CBE QC (Hon) (resigned 28 July 2016)
Mr John Ellis
Dr. Neil Stott
Raymond Sheehy (appointed 11 May 2017)
Vanessa Davies (appointed 11 May 2017)
Professor Dawn Oliver (appointed 11 May 2017)

REGISTERED OFFICE

Tagwright House Westland Place
London
N1 7LP

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER

07695486 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1143589

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Knox Cropper
8/9 Well Court
London
EC4M 9DN

PATRONS

The Rt Hon. Sir Henry Brooke
Professor Dame Hazel Genn DBE QC
The Rt. Hon. Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury

OFFICERS

Chairman
Amanda Finlay

Treasurer
John Ellis

Chief Executive
Lisa Wintersteiger

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2017. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

The Board of Trustees has complied with the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our purposes and activities

Law for Life works to ensure that citizens are equipped with the knowledge, confidence and skills needed to deal with the law-related issues they are likely to encounter in the course of their lives.

Our aims are to secure:

- legal capability for all
- recognition of the value of public legal education
- excellence in the delivery of PLE
- our position as an international centre for PLE.

The charity seeks to achieve excellence in public legal education through information and guidance, research, policy and consultancy; and through education and training.

Law for Life works to build the capacity of other organisations to enable them to deliver effective public legal education. We aim to ensure that public legal education is embedded in the work of many professionals, including educators, lawyers, advisers, and youth and community workers.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Development funding

In July 2013 Law for Life received 5-year development funding from the Baring Foundation and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to help establish Law for Life as a sustainable organisation equipped to lead the development of public legal education in the UK.

This core funding has continued to support key initiatives to stabilise and expand the organisation's funding base.

Information and Guidance

In 2016-17 Law for Life's award-winning website Advicenow provided information and support to over a million people. Advicenow's curated information service brings together 1,600 pieces of public legal information from over 250 UK websites. We expanded our own specialist content, with a focus on people going to court without a lawyer and disability appeals.

Law for Life's Advicenow site recorded 1,064,460 sessions (individual visits to the site) by 806,776 users in 2016-17.

We have increased our reach to vulnerable users with 29% of survey respondents identifying as low income workers, and 46% of survey respondents identifying as disabled. We are also increasing our reach to people who identify as litigants in person or potential litigants in person (75 % of all survey respondents).

We developed multimedia tools and guides including our interactive offering, in particular our Personal Independence Payment tool which helps users assess whether they should appeal a decision, and provides users with a tailored Mandatory Reconsideration Request Letter which sets out their case for them. The tool received over 62,000 users and 7,000 personalised letters were downloaded since it was launched in late May.

We have produced 11 new online resources including help with disability appeals and help for private renters facing eviction or disrepair.

We are poised to launch a new trading element of our charity to develop an e-commerce platform offering premium Advicenow content. After 6 months of development time, our online content is ready. This project will test the feasibility and impact of generating money from site content through offering 6 guides as quality printed products (print on demand) and adding paid for-premium content to 3 guides (making some content paid for, whilst continuing to provide substantial information for free). Income generated will be used to support our service, enable us to create new guides, and enable us to continue to provide information aimed at the most needy groups for free.

Education and Training

In 2016-17 we worked with 65 different community organisations in England and Wales to deliver training, education and information to vulnerable people and over 3,071 beneficiaries directly through structured programming in the last year. We reached justice practitioners from 27 different countries. Our 'in person' education and training provision supported Local Authorities, Community Groups and Trust Funders including Trussel Trust, Newham Adult and Social Care Services, and Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre. Our e-learning courses were completed by 451 learners.

As part of our TDS Charitable Foundation funded project focusing on private renting, Law for Life delivered full day training sessions on ***Dealing with Section 21 evictions and Dealing with disrepair***. Training participants included private renters and organisations that support private renters such as tenants' rights associations and small/medium size charities in London and Birmingham. The training was supported by Allen and Overy solicitors. 70 participants from thirty three different organisations attended.

For the third year running we taught a clinical module at Birkbeck, University of London offering LLB and LLM students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience and in depth understanding of the field of public legal education and legal information provision. The module aims to address legal need arising from lack of awareness of the legal system and sources of assistance, rather than offering individual advice. Community teaching sessions will be delivered in partnership with Hibiscus Initiatives working with Black, minority ethnic and refugee migrant groups who have been released into the community after serving a custodial sentence.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

Research, Policy and Consultancy

During this year we continued to share our research report on how to meet legal needs through public legal education, funded by the Legal Education Foundation and in parallel with Professor Pascoe Pleasence 'Legal Need, Legal Capability and the Role of Public Legal Education'. It has been cited in a number of reports, books and journals this year including 'Introduction to the English Legal System' 2016-2017 (Partington, OUP 2016), Competition and Markets Authority (Law Society 2016), Risk Outlook (Bar Standards Board, 2016), The Action Group on Access to Justice and LawConnect Ontario Canada, Legal Action Group (May 2016), 'Helping people find a way forward, Citizens Advice Impact report 2016.

Law for Life offered our expertise and input into the Civil Court Structure Review undertaken by Lord Justice Briggs, at both interim and final stages. We have been invited to join the ongoing engagement group for the HMCTS and MOJ reform programme, as well as sitting on the Shadow Rules Committee for the Online Court.

We provided consultancy to a number of clients who are influential in raising the profile and importance of PLE. For instance, we assisted the Bar Standards Board to overhaul their public information provision and developing public facing resources such as 'How to Complain about Your Barrister' and 'How to Access a Direct Access Barrister'.

Our international work continues with Icelandic Human Rights Centre and French NGO Avijed to support migrant's rights organisations. Law for Life's CEO joined faculty at the Central European University, Budapest, to teach the Legal Empowerment Leadership course. We reached over 60 organisations and justice advocates via this work across 27 countries. We delivered seminars in Skopje, Budapest and Reykjavik to migrant organisations on how to use PLE to meet access to justice needs.

We opened a public recruitment exercise in order to further strengthen our Board. Our Chair, Michael Smyth CBE retired at the end of his 5 year term and was succeeded by Amanda Finlay CBE who brings a wealth of knowledge of policy developed and national strategy in the justice sector.

Strategic report:

Key achievements:

- In 2016-17 Law for Life reached 1,038,803 unique users via our information service, of which 47% were disabled. We developed our first interactive tools, helping disabled service users to overturn Personal Independence Payment decision. Since it launched in May last year it has had over 62,000 users and 7,000 individual personalised letters have been downloaded.
- We worked with 65 different community organisations in England and Wales to deliver training, education and information to vulnerable people reaching 3,071 beneficiaries directly. Our 'in person' education and training provision supported Local Authorities, Community Groups and Trust Funders including Trussel Trust, Newham Adult and Social Care Services, and Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre. Our e-learning courses were completed by 451 learners.

Future plans

Looking ahead we will:

- conduct a strategic review with our newly recruited trustees and refresh our strategic plan for the coming 5 years
- continue to work to roll-out our programmes into regional areas
- build on our success in developing multimedia-media resources for vulnerable groups and individuals
- grow the evidence base of what works and where the need is. We will share our findings with the wider public legal education community as well as policy influencers.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should aim to provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

The trustees propose to increase the charity's reserves to the level which is at least equivalent to 3 months' operational expenditure and to do so having regard to its manner of operation and to likely funding streams.

The trustees review on a quarterly basis the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations.

Law for Life had a surplus on unrestricted funds of £12,297 which, when added to brought forward unrestricted reserves, resulted in an overall surplus in unrestricted funds of £19,517. The trustees are confident that sufficient unrestricted funds will be available in the forthcoming year to maintain this position. Restricted funds were fully spent during the year from £8,725 at the end of preceding year.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees confirms that it has identified and reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and has established systems to mitigate these risks.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Law for Life: the Foundation for Public Legal Education is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered under the number 07695486. The company was incorporated and commenced trading on 6 July 2011. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission under number 1143589.

Governance

The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting strategies and policies for the charity and for ensuring that these are implemented.

Management and staffing

Day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive.

Induction and training of new trustees

An induction process has been developed and implemented in 2014, and a skill audit conducted. This forms the basis of any training needs identified for Trustees. New trustees also receive an induction into the organisation including governance training covering different aspects of the trustee role and responsibilities.

Patrons

The charity is very grateful for the support it receives from its patrons (listed below) for their support:

- The Rt Hon. Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury
- The Rt Hon. Sir Henry Brooke
- Dame Professor Dame Hazel Genn DBE QC.

Board of Trustees

The members of the Board of Trustees perform the role of directors in company law and trustees in charity law. Any person who is willing to act as a trustee and who would not be disqualified from acting under the provisions of Article, may be appointed to be a trustee by a decision of the trustees. The trustees are appointed for a term of three years, at the end of which they are eligible for appointment for a second consecutive term of three years. This second term can be extended for a period of up to two years by agreement of the trustees.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Law for Life: The Foundation for Public Legal Education for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

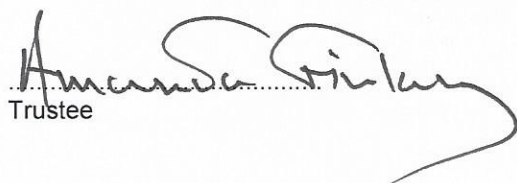
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31 July 2017 and signed on its behalf by:


Trustee

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

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW.

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

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

Basis of the independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)

have not been met; or

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



Richard Billinghamurst FCA
ICAEW
Knox Cropper
8/9 Well Court
London
EC4M 9DN

Date: 03/10/2017

**Law for Life: The Foundation for Public
Legal Education**

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	2017 funds	Total	2016 funds
	Not es	£	£		£		£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM							
Donations and legacies	2	4,224	-		4,224		3,457
Charitable activities	4						
Advancement of public legal education		256,375	17,502		273,877		254,867
Investment income	3	3	-		3		21
Total		260,602	17,502		278,104		258,345
 EXPENDITURE ON							
Charitable activities	5						
Advancement of public legal education		<u>248,305</u>	<u>26,227</u>		<u>274,532</u>		<u>248,924</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		12,297	(8,725)		3,572		9,421
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS							
Total funds brought forward		7,220	8,725		15,945		6,524
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>19,517</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>19,517</u>		<u>15,945</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2017

	Notes	2017 £	2016 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	12	308	725
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	4,141	40,580
Cash at bank		<u>62,307</u>	<u>23,081</u>
		66,448	63,661
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(47,239)	(48,441)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>19,209</u>	<u>15,220</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>19,517</u>	<u>15,945</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>19,517</u>	<u>15,945</u>
FUNDS	17		
Unrestricted funds		19,517	7,220
Restricted funds		<u>-</u>	<u>8,725</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>19,517</u>	<u>15,945</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. These are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently valued at their settlement value.

Income

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

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Office equipment	-	33%	Straight line
Fixtures & fittings	-	33%	Straight line

Taxation

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

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.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Short-term debtors and creditors

Debtors are recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the account can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received. Creditors are recognised when the charity has a present legal or constructive obligation resulting from a past event to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pensions

The company operates a stakeholder pension scheme. If employees choose to join, the company contributes 9% of gross salary. Alternatively, the company contributes 9% of gross salary to an employee's personal pension fund. The pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the funds in respect of the year.

Going concern

The trustees have prepared cash flows and budgets for the next twelve months and consider that the company is able to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business. The trustees have an expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For these reasons, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

Judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty

No judgement (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2017	2016
	£	£
Donations	<u>4,224</u>	<u>3,457</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2017	2016
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>3</u>	<u>21</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2017	2016
		£	£
Contract income	Advancement of public legal education	39,598	95,259
Grants	Advancement of public legal education	<u>234,279</u>	<u>159,608</u>
		<u>273,877</u>	<u>254,867</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Advice Services Alliance	21,398	-
Baring Foundation	20,000	20,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	25,000	35,000
Legal Education Foundation: e-learning	-	5,000
Legal Education Foundation: Online income generation	25,000	-
Legal Education Foundation: Advicenow remodelling	-	41,220
Acces to Justice Foundation	7,532	2,500
The Ministry of Justice	91,848	52,088
John Ellerman Foundation	17,502	-
Trust for London	1,050	-
Other grants	<u>24,949</u>	<u>3,800</u>
	<u>234,279</u>	<u>159,608</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6) £	Support costs (See note 7) £	Totals £
Advancement of public legal education	<u>230,892</u>	<u>43,640</u>	<u>274,532</u>

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2017 £	2016 £
Staff costs	173,067	180,494
Website hosting and support	4,646	5,181
Website system development	22,843	5,688
Professional fees	22,790	23,492
Conferences and seminars	245	-
Irrecoverable VAT	<u>7,301</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>230,892</u>	<u>214,855</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Finance £	Information technology £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Advancement of public legal education	<u>10,618</u>	<u>24,816</u>	<u>3,871</u>	<u>4,335</u>	<u>43,640</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2017 £	2016 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>417</u>	<u>2,126</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2017 nor for the year ended 31 March 2016.

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

10. STAFF COSTS

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

	2017	2016
Legal information and education	6	6
Office administration	2	2
	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

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

The key management personnel of the charitable company are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charitable company, directly or indirectly, including any trustee of the charitable company. In addition to the trustees of Law for Life, key management personnel includes the Chief Executive. Total employee benefits including employer pension contributions paid to key management personnel in the period amounted to £52,320 (2016: £52,320).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,457	-	3,457
Charitable activities			
Advancement of public legal education	168,647	86,220	254,867
Investment income	21	-	21
Total	172,125	86,220	258,345
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Advancement of public legal education	162,739	86,185	248,924
Total	162,739	86,185	248,924
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	9,386	35	9,421
Transfers between funds	(5,917)	5,917	-
Net movement in funds	3,469	5,952	9,421
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	3,751	2,773	6,524
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	7,220	8,725	15,945

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017	<u>6,379</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2016	5,654
Charge for year	<u>417</u>
At 31 March 2017	<u>6,071</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2017	<u>308</u>
At 31 March 2016	<u>725</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2017 £	2016 £
Other debtors	2,125	30,415
Contracts in arrears	2,016	2,925
Prepayments	<u>-</u>	<u>7,240</u>
	<u>4,141</u>	<u>40,580</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade creditors	3,445	8,248
Social security and other taxes	3,717	-
VAT	-	3,724
Pension costs	2,967	5,857
Accrued expenses	2,830	1,330
Deferred grants and contracts	<u>34,280</u>	<u>29,282</u>
	<u>47,239</u>	<u>48,441</u>

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid within one year:

	Land and buildings	
	2017	2016
	£	£
Expiring:		
Within one year	2,000	17,500
Between one and five years	<u>2,917</u>	<u>2,917</u>
	<u>4,917</u>	<u>20,417</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	2017 funds	Total	2016 funds
	£	£		£		£
Fixed assets	308	-		308		725
Current assets	66,448	-		66,448		63,661
Current liabilities	<u>(47,239)</u>	-		<u>(47,239)</u>		<u>(48,441)</u>
	<u>19,517</u>	-		<u>19,517</u>		<u>15,945</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.16	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.17
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	7,220	12,297	19,517
Restricted funds			
Legal Education Foundation e-learning	3,002	(3,002)	-
Legal Education Foundation - Advicenow remodelling	<u>5,723</u>	<u>(5,723)</u>	-
	8,725	(8,725)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>15,945</u>	<u>3,572</u>	<u>19,517</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	260,602	(248,305)	12,297
Restricted funds			
Legal Education Foundation e-learning	-	(3,002)	(3,002)
Legal Education Foundation - Advicenow remodelling	-	(5,723)	(5,723)
John Ellerman Foundation	17,502	(17,502)	-
	17,502	(26,227)	(8,725)
TOTAL FUNDS	278,104	(274,532)	3,572

Unrestricted funds

We received unrestricted funds from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to establish Law for Life as a sustainable organisation equipped to lead the development of public legal education.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds were received for the following purposes:

- To develop e-learning modules on law-related issues with funding from the Legal Education Foundation.
- To remodel the Advicenow website to make it easier to navigate funded by the Legal Education Foundation.
- To develop the Litigant in Person Strategy, providing a range of services to individuals who may be going to court without the help of a lawyer, funded by The Ministry of Justice. John Ellerman Foundation has awarded a grant to contribute to the salary of the Head of Education and Training.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The former Chairman of Law for Life: the Foundation for Public Legal Education is also the Chair of Community Links, which commissioned Law for Life to develop a Community Champions programme in London Borough of Newham. The Chairman of Law for Life played no part in the delivery of this work and resigned on 28 July 2016.

**Law for Life: The Foundation for Public
Legal Education**

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

	2017 £	2016 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	4,224	3,457
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	3	21
Charitable activities		
Contract income	39,598	95,259
Grants	<u>234,279</u>	<u>159,608</u>
	<u>273,877</u>	<u>254,867</u>
Total incoming resources	278,104	258,345
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	157,397	158,196
Social security	3,287	11,911
Pensions	12,383	10,387
Website hosting and support	4,646	5,181
Website system development	22,843	5,688
Professional fees	22,790	23,492
Conferences and seminars	245	-
Irrecoverable VAT	<u>7,301</u>	<u>-</u>
	230,892	214,855
Support costs		
Management		
Bank charges	120	96
Communications	9,141	869
Miscellaneous costs	53	55
Stationery	906	1,211
Library and subscriptions	<u>398</u>	<u>456</u>
	10,618	2,687
Finance		
Business rates	139	838
Insurance	543	632
IT support & office equipment	2,436	3,453
Office move & refurbishment	2,263	1,416
Rent and services	19,018	16,090
Fixtures and fittings	<u>417</u>	<u>2,126</u>
	24,816	24,555

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

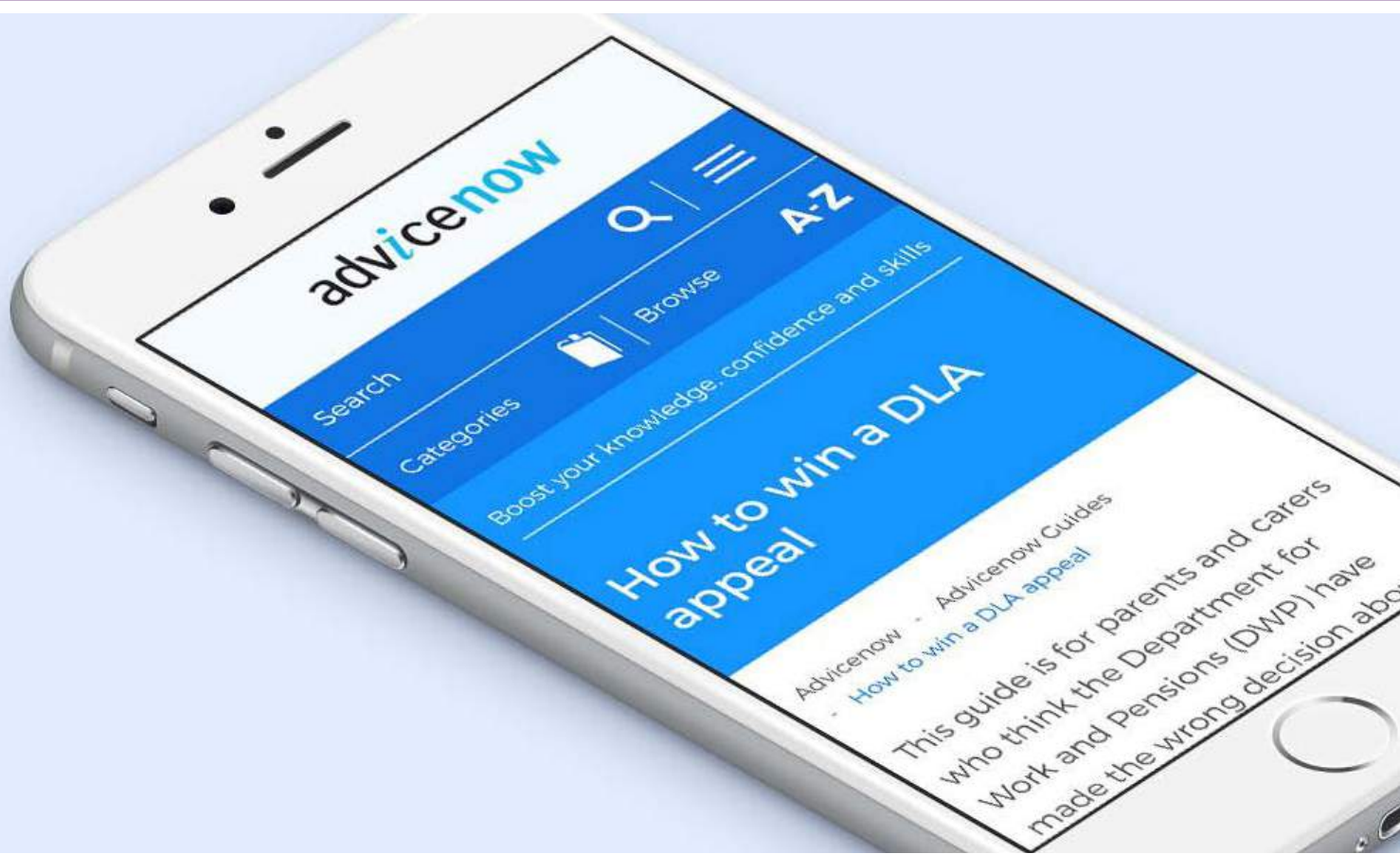
**Law for Life: The Foundation for Public
Legal Education**

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

	2017	2016
	£	£
Information technology		
Travel and subsistence	3,439	2,460
Staff training	432	<u>2,797</u>
	3,871	5,257
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	4,335	<u>1,570</u>
Total resources expended	274,532	248,924
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income	<u>3,572</u>	<u>9,421</u>

Annual Review 2017

6th April 2016 – 5th April 2017



Contents

	page
Welcome from Amanda Finlay CBE, Chair	3
Introduction	5
Who we are and why we are here	5
The difference we make	6
Our projects and services	7
Extending our reach	7
Expanding our influence	13
Looking ahead	14
Financial review	15
Structure, governance and management	15
Statement of financial activities	16
Thanks	17

Law for Life online:



www.advicenow.org.uk
www.lawforlife.org.uk



twitter.com/LfL_Advicenow



www.facebook.com/advicenowlf

Welcome from the Chair



In this, my first year as Chair of Law for Life, I am delighted to see how much progress we have made in helping people acquire the knowledge, skills and confidence that help them to use the law to make their lives better; so that the law becomes a help to them, rather than something that hurts and hinders. And as their awareness of the role of law increases, so too does their ability to start to think ahead and to avoid potential law based problems. Even if it's as simple as keeping copies of important documents or writing down key conversations and who they were with, or keeping your temper, staying calm and planning ahead for how to solve that nasty problem that won't go away. I still turn to our Seven Steps for Solving a Problem as my checklist before a difficult phone call and recommend it to others.

There is also a raised awareness of the importance of PLE in the justice system more generally. The new All Party Parliamentary Group on PLE has held a number of focussed meetings. The Law Society President for this year, Robert Bourns, highlighted the importance of PLE and we have had encouraging meetings with his officers.

At the annual Litigants in Person Support Strategy (LIPSS) Conference in December 2016, one speaker after another referred to the importance of PLE in raising awareness and signposting to online resources and other sources of help. We were delighted to meet with the LIPSS Liaison Judge, Mrs Justice Asplin and her colleague, Mrs Justice Andrews, to discuss the way in which we could help to raise judicial awareness of the resources available online to help LIPs, learning from health care where GPs and consultants and nurses often refer patients to specialist health websites to help them understand and manage their problems. It was helpful for us to find that judges also saw a need to help LIPs with key tasks such as bundles, and key concepts such as evidence

and the importance of timetables and case management. That confirms our feedback from Advicenow users and frontline advisors.

We have been proud to be part of the Litigants in Person Support Strategy, working with our partners: Lawworks, Royal Courts of Justice Advice Bureau, Personal Support Unit, Bar Pro Bono Unit and the Access to Justice Foundation. Ministry of Justice funding has supported this work, but there is still more to be done especially with the development of the Online Court. We have been able to contribute to this directly and also through our membership of the Litigant in Person Engagement Group which provides two way communication between the HMCTS Online Court team and LIP partners.

The Online Court will be the tip of the iceberg in terms of user need and we are keen to see PLE play an important role below the waterline in raising citizens' awareness of their rights and the ways to uphold them and resolve problems without having to go to court. We hope that the Assisted Digital programme will recognise the importance of engaging with the most vulnerable in the places and through the people who already support them and whom they trust: a key recommendation of the Low Commission.

We have demonstrated how well this approach works in much of our training for trusted intermediaries in the community. Notably, this year our law student PLE module for Birkbeck College included practical work in the community through Hibiscus Initiatives who assist women from black, minority ethnic and refugee migrant groups in detention centres, prisons or released into the community. Law students appreciated the chance to learn important new skills and to support people who really needed their help.

(continued)

We know from users of our website that private renters experience many difficulties and a grant from the Tenancy Deposit Foundation enabled us to design a combined project with the aim of developing skills based information on S21 evictions and on repairs, accompanied by training sessions for community volunteers. We were very grateful to Allen and Overy for hosting this in London and in Birmingham. This “information AND education” model will be developed further on other topics.

When I spoke at the National Association of Welfare Rights Advisors Annual Conference, I was delighted to discover that advisors were already using our newly launched Personal Independence Payment (PIP) tool to help their clients understand the DWP tests. The tool generates a letter requesting mandatory reconsideration, and if that is unsuccessful, it will generate the subsequent appeal request. We are planning more integrated tools such as this for the future. It was good to get feedback that the PIP tool was making life easier for professional and voluntary advisors – a significant proportion of our Advicenow users are helping someone else with a problem.

This year we launched a recruitment exercise to strengthen our Board and we were delighted to appoint three new Trustees who bring a wealth of experience and expertise in the worlds of education, law and health support in the community: Vanessa Davies, Professor Dawn Oliver, and Raymond Sheehy. Their appointments took effect from 11 May 2017. At the same time we said goodbye to Margie Butler who has contributed so much to Law for Life over the past four years, bringing her experience as chief executive of the Mary Ward Legal Centre and more recently as Chief Executive of Camden CAB. We wish her well for the future and will miss her wise counsel.

As always we are indebted to the continued support of our patrons, funders, partners, clients and users.

Amanda Finlay CBE

Introduction

Who we are and why we are here

Law for Life works to ensure that citizens are equipped with the knowledge, confidence and skills needed to deal with the law-related issues they are likely to encounter in the course of their lives.

Our aims are to achieve:

- legal capability for all
- recognition of the value of public legal education
- excellence in the delivery of PLE.

We do this through community-based education and training, research and policy, and through our award-winning Advicenow website which provides easy-to-use information on rights and the law for the public.

“I stumbled on this website from google and I am so glad I did. Provides such an amazing information and instilled back confidence into me – making me realise that I can achieve the best irrespective of how daunting the process could be without having to pay any solicitors fees. It’s such an amazing service which should be funded and I hope you keep getting funding. A service that cuts across gender, race, nationality, beliefs or background. Thank you for such an amazing work put in by a background team we users may never meet”

Advicenow user

Law for Life also works to build the capacity of other organisations to enable them to deliver effective public legal education and information. We aim to ensure that public legal education is embedded in the work of many professionals, including educators, lawyers, advisers, and youth and community workers.

Understanding the need for public legal education

We do this because we know from research that there are strong correlations between susceptibility to legal problems and the presence of disability, single parenthood, welfare recipients, unemployment, and minority ethnic grouping. The people who are at greater risk of experiencing legal problems often have low levels of legal capability: a double whammy.

We also know from the work of the Low Commission and our own experience in delivering training in the community that information, education and advice are most effective when they are delivered by those who are already supporting the vulnerable and understand their special needs. More generally it is also important to provide PLE in the places where people access services already: in libraries, job centres, GP surgeries and one o’ clock clubs and children’s centres. We know from those who work on the front line, such as law centres and advice centres, that word of mouth is a powerful tool in a lot of communities and that training trusted intermediaries, such as community workers, advice champions and volunteers, is an effective way of reaching out to many more people.

Most people lack effective knowledge of legal rights and processes, and many people misinterpret or misunderstand their rights. In particular, individuals often fail to recognise the legal dimension of problems. A recent survey suggests that only 11% of legal issues are accurately characterised as legal. People may ascribe the problem they are experiencing to bad luck, prejudice, or just the way things are. In addition, they are hindered in finding digital solutions because they struggle to frame their problem in a way that enables them to search for what they need: or rather search terms do not align with the everyday experience of people's lives and how they describe their problem.

Alongside major gaps in knowledge there are broader gaps in capability and – crucially – confidence that individuals need when faced with legal issues. These three areas of knowledge, skills and confidence form what has become known as legal capability. Legal capability is a key indicator for the effective use of legal services. People with low levels of legal capability are less likely to act, and less likely to sort things out effectively alone. We know that low levels of capability aren't limited to the most vulnerable, but we do know that they are the people who are most likely to have most problems.

The resources on our website, Advicenow, and our training courses and e-learning, are designed to build knowledge, skills and confidence in both individuals and in those who may be helping someone else – either as a trusted intermediary or as a family member or friend. As we reach out into more communities, we learn more of what people need and which groups need particular help. We aim to work in partnership with other to reach these most vulnerable members of society.

We are also learning from our international work and the innovations that we are seeing elsewhere where people have never had advice and support from lawyers. Just as some countries are leapfrogging to mobile phones or solar power, so developing countries are going straight to PLE in order to inform and educate many more people.

The difference we make:

- In 2016–17 the Advicenow website provided information and support to **1,064,460** people.
- We developed our first interactive tool, helping disabled service users to overturn a Personal Independence Payment decision. Since it launched in May last year the tool has had over **62,000** users and **7,000** individual personalised letters have been downloaded.
- We worked with **65** different community organisations in England and Wales to deliver training, education and information to vulnerable people reaching **3071** beneficiaries directly. Our 'in person' education and training provision supported Local Authorities, Community Groups and Trust Funders. **93%** of training participants rated our training excellent or good.
- Our international work continues with Icelandic Human Rights Centre and French NGO Avijed to support migrant's rights organisations. Via our international teaching and consultancy services we reached over **60** justice organisations from **27** countries.

Our projects and services

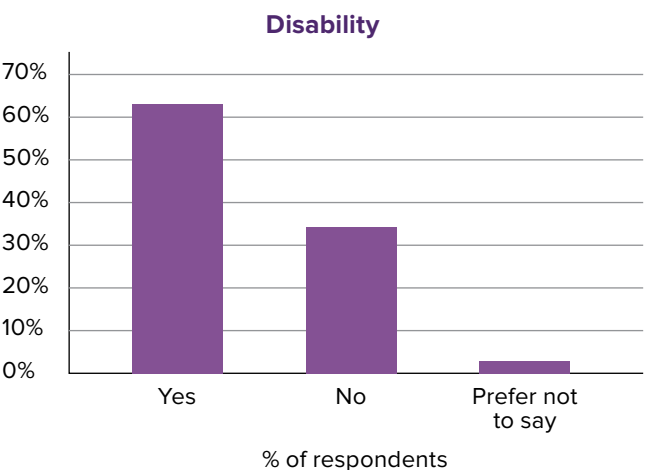
Extending our reach

Legal Information Services: Advicenow

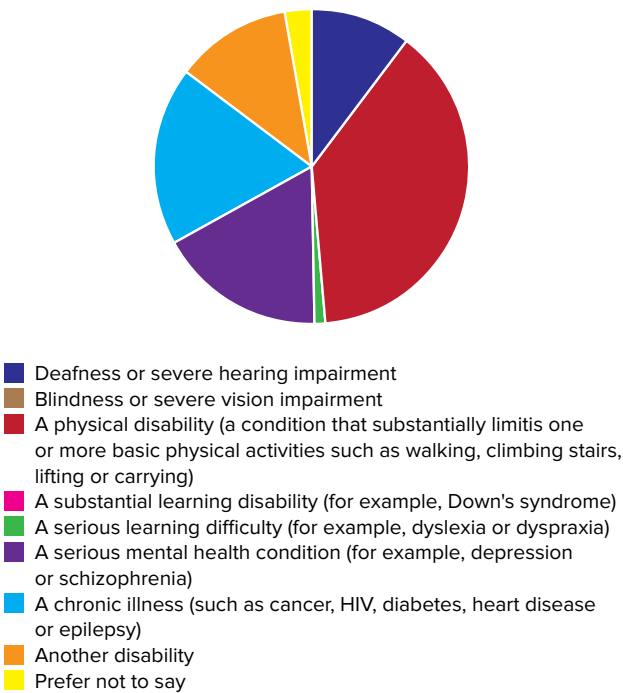
In 2016–17 Law for Life’s award-winning website Advicenow provided information and support to over a million people. Advicenow’s curated information service brings together 1,600 pieces of public legal information from over 250 UK websites. Every piece is reviewed against our inclusion criteria. We expanded our own specialist content, with a focus on people going to court without a lawyer and disability appeals. Law for Life’s Advicenow site recorded 1,064,460 sessions (individual visits to the site) by 806,776 users in 2016–17.

We are particularly delighted that we have increased our reach to vulnerable users.

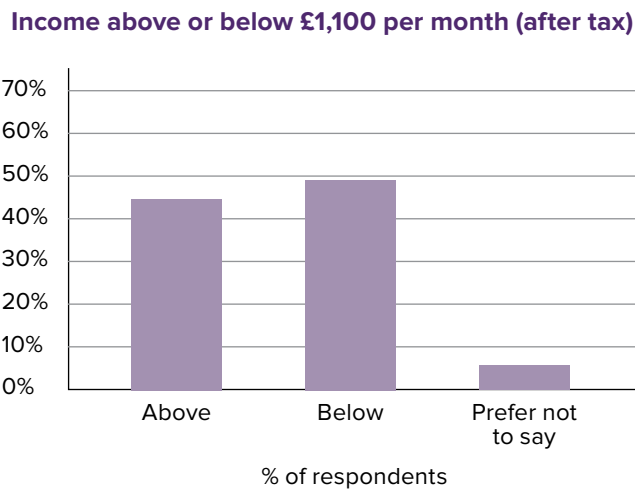
46% of survey respondents identifying as disabled.



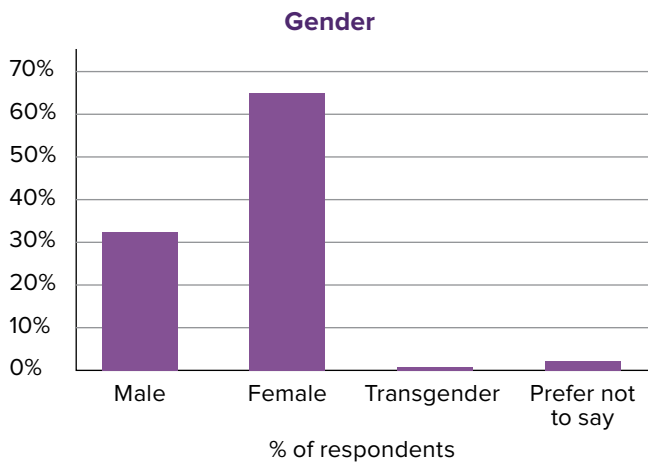
Type of disability



48% identifying as having a household income of below £1,100 per month after tax and **29%** of survey respondents identifying as low income workers.



Over **60%** of our users are women.



We have continued to build Advicenow's presence on both Facebook and Twitter. The number of referrals to Advicenow from social media increased by **95%** since last year.

"I am very grateful that you have this site and the information on it. It was paramount in turning my despair to hope."

Advicenow user

We developed our interactive offering, in particular our Personal Independence Payment tool which helps users assess whether they should appeal a decision, and provides users with a tailored Mandatory Reconsideration Request Letter which sets out their case for them. This has been extremely popular, with over 62,000 users and 7,000 personalised letters downloaded since it was launched in late May. We have subsequently secured further funding to produce a similar tool for families with disabled children which will be launched in the coming year.

What users say about the tool:

"Thank you so much for the tool I used for PIP, I have won my case!"

Advicenow user

"Thank you so much for making this stressful process so easy and accessible! I am so impressed, I was prepared for a few days of research and planning in order to start an appeal but your website and tools are so useful and efficient that after a couple of hours, I am ready to go post my letter. Thank you!!!"

Advicenow user

Advicenow guides

We have produced 11 new resources, including 'How to win a PIP Appeal' which fast became one of our most popular guides, receiving 129,955 page views, 'How to win a DLA appeal' which was published in September and received 17,203 page views by the end of the financial year.



We also added 'Know-hows' on international divorce and getting help with court fees in response to increased user queries on the subject.

We have updated and improved ten of our existing guides including, crucially, our Help directory and the ever-popular guide to dealing with Tax Credit Overpayments (72,379 page views).

We are also increasing our reach to people who identify as litigants in person or potential litigants in person (75% of all survey respondents) and to those who are helping someone else to cope. Just under 10% of our survey respondents say they are using Advicenow to help someone else to deal with a problem but are not an adviser.

We worked with our partners in the Litigant in Person Support Strategy to improve the design and content of the Going to Court section to make it easier for users to find the help available.



The Litigant in Person Support Strategy

We continued to receive feedback from large numbers of Advicenow website users. We replied to 509 requests for information and advice on a legal topic area this year.

Is there anything you really like about the Advicenow website? Please tell us about it.

Information Needed Heard Excellent Far
 Service Stressed Straight Forward Answers
 Confidence Court Hearing Simple Video
 Advice Fact Clear Situation
 Easy to
 Understand User Friendly
 PIP Recommend Look Broken
 Easy to Navigate Format Form Word Section
 Letter

We asked our users what they really liked about the Advicenow site:

“Everything. The very fact that you’re there, and your website is really informative and easily navigable. Have downloaded several of your pdf’s on divorce and related topics. Above all – overwhelming gratitude that you exist, and that there IS someone to help ordinary people begin to find their way through minefields. Thank you.”

Education and training programmes

In 2016–17 we reached over 3071 beneficiaries through our education programmes. We worked with 65 different community organisations in England and Wales to deliver training, education and information to vulnerable people and we reached justice practitioners from 27 different countries. Our e-learning courses were completed by 451 learners.

Our community-based education and training has expanded and focused more directly on intermediaries and trusted helpers by building their knowledge, skills and confidence through innovative and interactive curricula around housing, welfare, and employment issues. We reached 123 trusted intermediaries through targeted training on private renting issues. Intermediaries include local authority staff, volunteers based at tenants associations, support workers based at refugee and migrant groups, organisations supporting people with disabilities and LGBT groups.



Rather than focusing on teaching the technical detail of the law, we emphasise developing a general skill set that enables people to prevent and deal with legal issues as they arise. With laws and regulations often changing rapidly, it is these skills that are most important.

Our training courses can be delivered consecutively in order to improve the broader knowledge, skills and confidence needed to deal with everyday law-related issues or as independent courses addressing a specific legal need or the skills needed to deal with a particular legal problem.

“I am armed with the knowledge and skills, and developed the confidence to inform clients in despair, and guide them to find alternatives.”

Training participant

Just renting



In July 2016 we delivered a four-day “Just Renting” course for Advice4Renters and with the support of the Big Lottery Local Sustainability Fund. This training was developed to help improve the sustainability of Advice4Renters’ housing advice services through public legal education of volunteers, local people and non-advice staff. We also wanted to encourage early intervention in order to prevent escalation of housing issues and costly crisis interventions.

The curriculum aims to help learners become more knowledgeable about the legal frameworks for renting in the private sector, to identify problems and frame questions in order to enable further decision making, to find and use reliable and accessible sources of legal information, and to support others to develop the skills and capabilities to deal with law-related issues in the private rental sector.

More help for private renters



We continued our focus on private renting issues as part of our TDS Charitable Foundation funded project.

We delivered full day workshops on ‘Dealing with Section 21 evictions’ and ‘Dealing with disrepair’. Participants included private renters themselves and organisations that support private renters such as tenants’ rights associations and small/medium size charities in London and Birmingham. Seventy participants from thirty three different organisations attended.

We were immensely grateful for the pro bono help provided by Allen & Overy’s Lucy Grey to strengthen our community education delivery:

“It was stimulating to be part of a group discussing tenancy issues from a different angle to my usual commercial work. Allen & Overy is always interested in being part of legal innovations, so it was great to see Law for Life’s public legal education model in action.”

**Lucy Grey, Senior Associate,
Allen & Overy**

“I appreciate the passion and professionalism of the trainers and the additional support of the lawyer in the training session. Law for Life benefits the wider society in relaying the range of legal issues related to private renting in an understandable and practical way that empowers people to navigate through the complexities of law. “

Participant

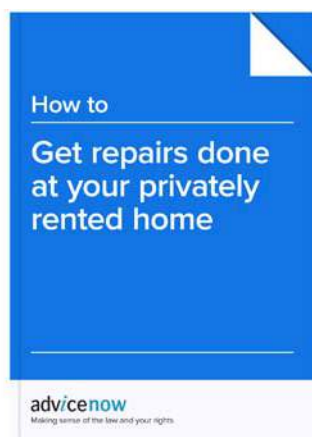
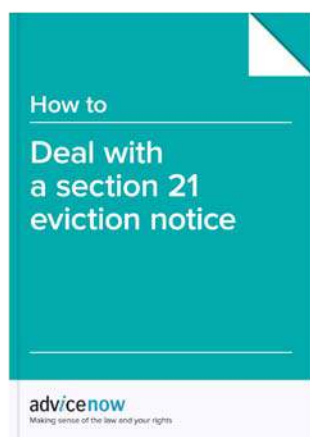
Linking and embedding community teaching with updateable online resources that provide more detailed information about rights and duties is a cost effective mechanism for reaching more people. Our training was complemented by two dedicated Guides in print and digital format; allowing us to distribute them to training participants and to other organisations, including the Trussell Trust’s food banks across London. Community based work with trusted intermediaries shows every sign of being an effective and scalable mechanism for reaching those groups who are least likely to be able to access justice effectively and should grow levels of knowledge and skill among individuals in vulnerable groups and those who support them.

www.advicenow.org.uk/help-private-renters

93% of training participants rated our training excellent or good. In addition, we measured the following positive outcomes:

- ✓ **99%** of participants said that our training helped them to understand basic legal issues in relation to section 21 evictions/ disrepair
- ✓ **99%** of participants said that our training helped them to understand basic legal issues in relation to section 21 evictions/ disrepair
- ✓ **87%** of participants stated that they understood their legal rights and obligations in regards to section 21 evictions/disrepair as a result of our training
- ✓ **82%** of participants were able to identify at least two different sources of advice and legal help available after our training,
- ✓ **92%** felt “Fairly or very confident” that they knew when they needed to get expert help to deal with a law related issue in private renting, and
- ✓ **66%** felt “Fairly or very confident” that they would be able to negotiate with landlords to get repairs done

We’ve continued to expand our housing rights education with the help of Trust for London, working with their grantees and other relevant community groups who work with private renters in London.



“I really benefited from the day and hope to use the knowledge gained in my new job as an information and advice worker for Age UK. I feel lucky to be aware of your organisation and the resources that you produce which are invaluable. “

Participant



Birkbeck School of Law Clinical Public Legal Education Module



For the third year running we taught an accredited clinical PLE module at Birkbeck College, University of London offering LLB and LLM students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience and in depth understanding of the field of public legal education and legal information provision.

Clinical programming is becoming a significant part of legal education in various ways across the United Kingdom. Now more than ever, there is an expectation on the part of students and potential employers that students have, at the very least, access to legal practical training while at law school. This module aims to meet the challenges of a changing legal sector, in which public legal education is an emerging discipline.

The module gives students the opportunity to co-facilitate community outreach, education and empowerment seminars under the supervision of Law for Life's staff.

This year featured guest lectures from Professor Lois Gander, QC from the University of Alberta, and for the first time this year, community teaching was delivered at Hibiscus Initiatives who assist women from black, minority ethnic and refugee migrant groups in detention centres, prisons or released into the community.

With support from Law for Life's Head of education and training, students delivered a PLE workshop for Hibiscus Initiatives' staff,

volunteers and clients. They focused on some basic legal concepts such as the difference between civil and criminal law, civil/criminal courts structure and dealing with court fines.

“Working with Law for Life has been an extremely pleasant experience for us at Hibiscus. The partnership was very fruitful and positive for both our clients and staff.”

Anta Brachou, Community Project Coordinator, Hibiscus Initiatives



“Something that would help any aspiring lawyer in training. Would think it to be a necessity in all Qualifying Law Degrees while the change in the structure of becoming a lawyer happens”

PLE Clinical Module student, Birkbeck College School of Law

Expanding our influence

Research, Policy Development and Consultancy

During this year we continued to share our research report on how to meet legal needs through public legal education, funded by the Legal Education Foundation and in parallel with Professor Pascoe Pleasence: ‘Legal Need, Legal Capability and the Role of Public Legal Education’. It has been cited in a number of reports, books and journals this year including: ‘Introduction to the English Legal System’ 2016–2017 (Partington, OUP 2016), Competition and Markets Authority (Law Society, 2016), Risk Outlook (Bar Standards Board, 2016), The Action Group on Access to Justice and LawConnect Ontario Canada, Legal Action Group (May 2016), ‘Helping people find a way forward’, Citizens Advice Impact report 2016.

Law for Life offered expertise and input into the Civil Court Structure Review [www.lawforlife.org.uk/law-for-life-projects/civil-courts-structure-review-interim-report-law-life-response] undertaken by Lord Justice Briggs, at both interim and final stages [www.judiciary.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/CCSR-interim-report-dec-15-final-31.pdf]. We have been invited to join the ongoing engagement group for the HMCTS and MOJ reform programme, as well as sitting on the Shadow Rules Committee for the Online Court.

We welcome the emphasis on the ‘assisted digital’ elements of the online court to ensure assistance is available to those who are digitally excluded, or who struggle as a consequence of health, poverty or literacy needs. The design of the system needs to be cognisant of patterns of legal capability and also needs to understand problem characterisations, how they link to effective and early action, the role of confidence, and the patterns of behaviour we see in legal needs studies around problem resolution.

These issues should be front and centre in the thinking behind the design of an online court.

It is also important to recognise that the online court is just the tip of an iceberg and that most of the iceberg, below the waterline, comprises important recognition of legal problems and the accessing of information about possible solutions and sources of help and informed decisions about what to do. This is the lobby to the Online Court (or the Online Pre Court) and it will be vital for it to be developed in tandem so that problems can be tackled as early as possible, avoiding the risk of overloading the Online Court itself with issues that could have been resolved sooner.

We provided consultancy to a number of clients who are influential in raising the profile and importance of PLE. For instance, we assisted the Bar Standards Board to overhaul their public information provision and developing public facing resources such as 'How to Complain about Your Barrister' and 'How to Access a Direct Access Barrister' [www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/media/29109/bsb_how_to_make_a_complaint.pdf]. This was a very welcome recognition by one of the legal regulators of the importance of the statutory objective in the Legal Services Act 2007 about public understanding of the law in relation to their own interface with the public.

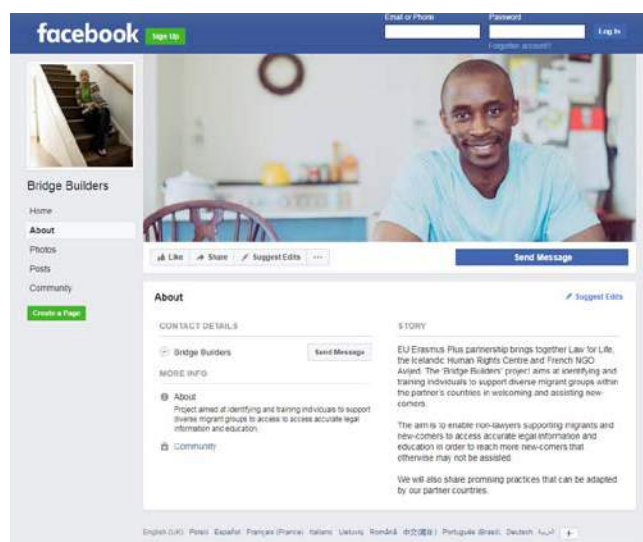
Our international work continues with Icelandic Human Rights Centre and French NGO Avijed to support migrant's rights organisations. Law for Life's CEO joined faculty at the Central European University, Budapest, to teach the Legal Empowerment Leadership course. We reached over 60 organisations and justice advocates via this work across 27 countries. We delivered seminars in Skopje, Budapest and Reykjavik to migrant organisations on how to use PLE to meet access to justice needs.

We opened a public recruitment exercise in order to further strengthen our Board. Our Chair, Michael Smyth CBE retired at the end of his 5 year term and was succeeded by Amanda Finlay CBE who brings a wealth of knowledge of policy developed and national strategy in the justice sector.

Looking ahead...

We will:

- conduct a strategic review with our newly recruited trustees and refresh our strategic plan for the coming 5 years.
- continue to work to roll-out our programmes into regional areas.
- build on our success in developing multimedia information resources for vulnerable groups and individuals.
- grow the evidence base of what works and where the need is. We will share our findings with the wider public legal education community as well as policy influencers.



Financial review

The Board of Trustees is pleased to present their Annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2017.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005. The Board of Trustees has complied with the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission when reviewing the charity's aims and its objectives and in planning our future activities.

Structure, governance and management

Law for Life: the Foundation for Public Legal Education is a company limited by guarantee governed by its memorandum and articles of association and registered under the number 07695486. The company was incorporated and commenced trading on 6 July 2011. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission under number 1143589.

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting strategies and policies for the charity and for ensuring that these are implemented.

The members of the Board of Trustees perform the role of directors in company law and trustees in charity law. Those who served during the year were:

Margie Butler

08.10.2013 – 11.05.2017

Amanda Finlay CBE

27.03.2012 – Present

Sir Robin Knowles CBE QC

27.03.2012 – Present

John Seargeant

06.07.2011 – Present

Michael Smyth CBE QC (Hon)

06.07.2011 – 28.07.2016

John Ellis

26.02.2015 – Present

Dr. Neil Stott

10.09.2015 – Present

Our staff

Clare Shirtcliff

Dada Felja (joined 25.07.2016)

Lisa Wintersteiger

Mary Marvel

Mihaela Rosca

Rebecca Munro

Rob Campbell

Tara Mulqueen (left July 2016)

Theresa Harris

Law for Life: The Foundation for Public Legal Education

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2017 Total funds £	2016 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	4,224	–	4,224	3,457
Charitable activities				
Advancement of public legal education	256,375	17,502	273,877	254,867
Investment income	3	–	3	21
Total	260,602	17,502	278,104	258,345
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Advancement of public legal education	248,305	26,227	274,532	248,924
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	12,297	(8,725)	3,572	9,421
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	7,220	8,725	15,945	6,524
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	19,517	–	19,517	15,945

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	308	725
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	4,141	40,580
Cash at bank	62,307	23,081
	66,448	63,661
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year	(47,239)	(48,441)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	19,209	15,220
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	19,517	15,945
NET ASSETS	15,517	15,945
FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds	19,517	7,220
Restricted funds	–	8,725
TOTAL FUNDS	19,517	15,945

Statement by the directors of Law for Life

These accounts are a summary of information extracted from the annual accounts and certain information relating to both the statement of financial activities and the balance sheet.

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

The independent examiner has issued an unmodified report on the full financial statements.

For further information, the full annual accounts and the directors' annual report should be consulted.

Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who supported the work of Law for Life during 2016–2017 through grants and the donation of their valuable time.

Founding patrons

The charity is very grateful for the support it receives from its patrons listed below:

The Rt Hon. Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury
The Rt Hon. Sir Henry Brooke
Dame Professor Dame Hazel Genn DBE QC

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