REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 01294090 (England and Wales) REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1146239

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018 FOR BRENT COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE LIMITED

F W Berringer & Co Chartered Accountants Lygon House 50 London Road Bromley Kent BR1 3RA

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

F Dove C M Bottoms (resigned 12.2.2018) T Eaton R Narasinkan (resigned 20.6.2017) S Barrett M Ossei

COMPANY SECRETARY

TRUSTEES

T Eaton

**REGISTERED OFFICE** 

389 High Road Willesden London NW10 2JR

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 01294090 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1146239

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER** 

F W Berringer & Co Chartered Accountants Lygon House 50 London Road Bromley Kent BR1 3RA

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### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** for the year ended 31 March 2018

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2018. The trustees 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).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objectives and aims**

The charity's principal objective and activity is to provide legal advice to the residents of the London Borough of Brent. Its fundamental aims are to provide free legal advice and representation for the people who live or work in Brent and surrounding areas.

This will be achieved by:

- (i) the provision of high quality specialist legal advice in the areas set out in our governing document;
- (ii) encouraging participation in governance of the Law Centre by local residents;
- (iii) improving residents' knowledge of their rights through education and policy work;
- (iv) ensuring a strong and sustainable Law Centre for the people of Brent.

#### **Public benefit**

The Trustees consider that the objectives and aims of the charity describe above, enable it to meet its obligations to the Charity Commission to deliver aid and assistance to the residents of the London Borough of Brent and those working in the area.

### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

#### Charitable activities

Brent Community Law Centre provides free legal advice and representation in housing, employment, community care, asylum and immigration, public law, debt and welfare benefits.

The Law Centre uses volunteers in the provision of its services to assist caseworkers and to help with administration duties.

The Law Centre receives its core funding from the London Borough of Brent's Council via a contract with Citizens Advice Brent, under which the Centre deal with referrals of clients who need specialist legal advice. The centre also provides specialist legal advice to clients referred by other local advice agencies including Ashford Place and Trust for London.

The Law Centre runs a number of projects for local tenants, including those experiencing difficulties with debt, those affected by the cuts to welfare benefit provision and those needing assistance with employment rights and law. These projects are funded by the London Borough of Brent, Garden Court Chambers and the Trust for London respectively.

The Fair Share Trust and the Edward Harvist Trust has also supported the Law Centre by funding a number of different projects and essential items.

### FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to hold 6 months expenditure on unrestricted funds not including fixed assets to allow for unseen contingencies. Currently, this is considered a target to reach.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** for the year ended 31 March 2018

Approved by order of the board of trustees on  $\frac{10/12}{2018}$  and signed on its behalf by:

CIAL.

C M Bottoms - Trustee

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** for the year ended 31 March 2018

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Going concern

The year 2017 started for BCLC with a set of new challenges. Thanks to the will and dedication of the team, volunteers and the management committee, it reflected a clear sense of what people and families in Brent need to reconcile with what they face. Our focus on survival came at the right time as we are convinced and inspired by the people of Brent that the Law Centre was pivotal in their lives as an important resource and support for people and families, young and old in their search for justice in some of their longstanding and stressful challenges. We are convinced that access to justice is most effectively achieved through this integrated approach that combines support to people and families in accessing quality assured legal advice that they respect and trust. In times of crisis, it is also crucial that people and families all over Brent have access to advice services. We took stock of the challenges that Brent people and families face daily and especially the difficulties of migrants and the marginalised go through to be able to reconcile their access to justice in a tighter and more restricted arena. We will continue to represent the great variety of people and families across Brent and defend the variety of their needs and expectations in the legal system and towards policy maker. It's clear that Brent Community Law Centre is motivated to keep the focus on sustainability in 2018! Together with the London Borough of Brent, the Legal Aid Agency, our grant funders, our financial supporters and social partners, we are looking forward to building and continuing our sustainable actions and bring about benefits for the people and families of Brent by concrete actions in 2018.

The Law Centre Incoming Resources amounted to £336,015 (2017 £283,393) of which £43,600 (2017 £14,700) was restricted. Outgoing expenditure on charitable activities during the year was £313,943 (2017 £243,684) of which £43,600 was restricted. Governance costs amounted to £4,750 (2017 £4,750).

This resulted in net incoming resources of  $\pounds 17,322$  against  $\pounds 34,959$  for the previous year. At the year end, restricted funds amounted to  $\pounds$  nil whilst unrestricted funds which were  $\pounds 431,699$  at the previous year's end have increased to a balance of  $\pounds 449,021$ .

### **FUTURE PLANS**

The Law Centre continues to seek additional funding to ensure that the Centre can maintain delivery of high quality legal advice whilst also maintaining a sustainable financial footing.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

#### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The principal activity of the company during the year was to provide legal and other advice services to individuals living or working in the London Borough of Brent. The Law Centre provides advice at its own premises by means of a telephone advice service, drop-in sessions and longer face to face sessions together with outreach services within the community. The practice areas covered are varied but the main ones are housing, homelessness, employment, asylum and immigration, social security and welfare benefits, debt, education, public law and community care.

The company was granted charitable status on 5 March 2012 and commenced its activities as a charity from 1 April 2012.

#### Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are recruited via the Annual General Meeting. Induction and training of board members takes place during the Management Committee meetings.

#### **Organisational structure**

The company is controlled by a Board of Directors (Management Committee) who are independent and receive no remuneration for their involvement. Day-to-day management is delegated to the Coordinator, along with Senior Solicitor Maureen Vincent who oversees the professional standard of work within the Law Centre. Individual areas of law practised are supervised by suitably qualified members of staff.

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRENT COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 01294090)

### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brent Community Law Centre Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2018.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies

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

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

John Cardnell BSc FCA ICAEW F W Berringer & Co Chartered Accountants Lygon House 50 London Road Bromley Kent BR1 3RA

Date: .	
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# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2018

	Ur	nrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2018 Total funds	2017 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies Charitable activities		8,954	-	8,954	7,287
Provision of legal services		262,027	43,600	305,627	256,105
Other trading activities Investment income	2 3	21,406 28	-	21,406 28	19,967 34
Total		292,415	43,600	336,015	283,393
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b> <b>Charitable activities</b> Provision of legal services		270,343	43,600	313,943	243,684
Provision of legal services		270,343	43,000	313,943	243,084
Other		4,750	-	4,750	4,750
Total		275,093	43,600	318,693	248,434
NET INCOME		17,322		17,322	34,959
Other recognised gains/(losses) Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets				-	192,272
Net movement in funds		17,322	<u>.</u>	17,322	227,231
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		431,699	-	431,699	204,468
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		449,021	-	449,021	431,699

The notes form part of these financial statements

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### BALANCE SHEET At 31 March 2018

	U Notes	nrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2018 Total funds £	2017 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	9	494,042		494,042	503,095
CURRENT ASSETS Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	10 11	55,799 84,077 7,666 147,542	7,500	55,799 84,077 15,166 155,042	50,300 84,906 27,091 162,297
<b>CREDITORS</b> Amounts falling due within one year	12	(192,563)	(7,500)	(200,063)	(233,693)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		(45,021)		(45,021)	(71,396)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		449,021	-	449,021	431,699
NET ASSETS		449,021		449,021	431,699
FUNDS Unrestricted funds Restricted funds	13			449,021	431,699
TOTAL FUNDS				449,021	431,699

The notes form part of these financial statements

#### BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED At 31 March 2018

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 10/12/2018 and were signed on its behalf by:

C M Bottoms -Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 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.

### 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

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

Freehold property	- at varying rates on cost
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	- 25% on cost, 20% on cost and over period of lease

#### Stocks

Work in progress is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cost includes all direct expenditure and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

#### Taxation

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

#### Fund accounting

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

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

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

#### Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED for the year ended 31 March 2018

# 2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Other income Other legal fees	2018 £ 308 21,098 21,406	2017 £ 172 19,795 
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Deposit account interest	2018 £ 	2017 £ 34
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation - owned assets Deficit on disposal of fixed asset	2018 £ 15,053	2017 £ 1,996 775

### 5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

### **Trustees'** expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2018 nor for the year ended 31 March 2017 .

### 6. STAFF COSTS

3.

4.

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

	2018	2017
Legal advisors	7	7
Administration	2	2
	9	9

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

### 7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	7,287	-	7,287
Charitable activities	100		
Provision of legal services	241,405	14,700	256,105
Other trading activities	19,967		19,967
Investment income	34	-	34
Page 10			

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED for the year ended 31 March 2018

7.	COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF F	INANCIAL ACTIVITIES Unrestricted funds £	- continued Restricted funds £	Total funds £
	Total	268,693	14,700	283,393
	EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities			
	Provision of legal services	200,987	42,697	243,684
	Other	4,750	-	4,750
	Total	205,737	42,697	248,434
	NET INCOME	62,956	(27,997)	34,959
	Other recognised gains/(losses) Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	192,272		192,272
	Net movement in funds	255,228	(27,997)	227,231
	<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
	Total funds brought forward	176,471	27,997	204,468
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	431,699		431,699

# 8. CLIENTS BANK ACCOUNTS

2018 £	2017 £
5,261	4,255
	<u> </u>
5,261	4,255
	£ 5,261

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED for the year ended 31 March 2018

# 9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

10.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
		Fixtures,	
	Freehold	fittings &	
	property	equipment	Totals
	£	£	£
COST			
At 1 April 2017	500,000	17,589	517,589
Additions	-	6,000	6,000
At 31 March 2018	500,000	23,589	523,589
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2017		14,494	14,494
Charge for year	12,500	2,553	15,053
At 31 March 2018	12,500	17,047	29,547
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2018	487,500	6,542	494,042
At 31 March 2017	500,000	3,095	503,095
STOCKS			
		2018	2017
		£	£
Work-in-progress		55,799	50,300

# 11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018	2017
	£	£
Trade debtors	78,611	75,449
Prepayments	5,466	9,457
	84,077	84,906

# 12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018	2017
	£	£
Trade creditors	46,045	53,211
Social security and other taxes	4,824	4,114
VAT	2,043	10,207
Other creditors	13,350	13,350
Accrued expenses	133,801	152,811
	200,063	233,693

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED for the year ended 31 March 2018

# 13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

		Net novement in	4 21 2 10
	At 1.4.17	funds	At 31.3.18
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	11,699	27,822	39,521
Revaluation reserve	420,000	(10,500)	409,500
	431,699	17,322	449,021
TOTAL FUNDS	431,699	17,322	449,021

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	~	2	~
General fund	292,415	(264,593)	27,822
Revaluation reserve	-	(10,500)	(10,500)
	292,415	(275,093)	17,322
Restricted funds			
Big Lottery Fund	3,600	(3,600)	-
Trust for London	30,000	(30,000)	
Reorganisational fund	10,000	(10,000)	-
	43,600	(43,600)	
TOTAL FUNDS	336,015	(318,693)	17,322
I OTAL FUNDS		(310,093)	11,322

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED for the year ended 31 March 2018

### 13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

### Comparatives for movement in funds

	Net movement in		
	At 1.4.16 £	funds £	At 31.3.17 £
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	(65,257)	76,956	11,699
Revaluation reserve	241,728	178,272	420,000
	176,471	255,228	431,699
Restricted Funds			
Brent Young People's Law Centre	16,431	(16,431)	-
AB Charitable Fund	10,000	(10,000)	-
London Borough of Brent	1,566	(1,566)	7
	27,997	(27,997)	
		<u> </u>	
TOTAL FUNDS	204,468	227,231	431,699

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	268,693	(205,737)	14,000	76,956
Revaluation reserve	<u> </u>		178,272	178,272
	268,693	(205,737)	192,272	255,228
Restricted funds				
Big Lottery Fund	7,200	(7,200)	-	-
Trust for London	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Brent Young People's Law Centre		(16,431)	-	(16,431)
AB Charitable Fund	-	(10,000)		(10,000)
London Borough of Brent	-	(1,566)	-	(1,566)
	14,700	(42,697)		(27,997)
TOTAL FUNDS	283,393	(248,434)	192,272	227,231

Revaluation Fund This fund reflects the revaluation of the property held by the Centre.

Trust for London This fund is towards the salary of an Employment Caseworker.

**Reorganisational Fund** This fund was to employ experts to produce a report on the reorganisation and structure of the Law Centre.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED for the year ended 31 March 2018

# 14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2018.

# DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies Donations	8,954	7,287
Other trading activities		
Other income Other legal fees	308 21,098	172 19,795
	21,406	19,967
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	28	34
Charitable activities Legal Aid & Costs Recovered	124,712	102,384
Grants	180,915	153,721
	305,627	256,105
Total incoming resources	336,015	283,393
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		011 000
Salaries Social security	201,571 6,084	211,882
Pensions	14,184	11,835 10,608
Water rates	201	10,008
Insurance	2,586	2,556
Light and heat	2,382	3,420
Telephone	2,761	2,790
Postage and stationery	2,459	3,512
Sundries	1,535	2,135
Legal costs & disbursements	4,777	31,775
Training	13	2,103
Publications & subscriptions	3,475	3,136
Repairs & maintenance Volunteer & travelling costs	2,961 667	1,059
Computer expenses	2,253	1,193 803
Cleaning	287	194
Legal & professional fees	13,831	(5,796)
Accountancy & bookkeeping	18,585	16,308
Storage	1,049	1,033
Bank charges	228	243
Compensation	17,000	(60,000)
Depreciation of freehold property	12,500	-
Depreciation of fixtures, fittings & equipment	2,554	1,995
Carried forward	313,943	242,909

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

# DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
Charitable activities	-	
Brought forward	313,943	242,909
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		775
	313,943	243,684
Support costs		
Governance costs	1 2 4 0	4 750
Independent examination	4,750	4,750
Total resources expended	318,693	248,434
Net income	17,322	34,959

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

