Company registration number: 02114435 Charity registration number: 1135396

### CITIZENS ADVICE NEWCASTLE LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2019



### Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 7
Independent Auditors' Report	8 to 10
Statement of Financial Activities	11 to 12
Balance Sheet	13
Statement of Cash Flows	14
Notes to the Financial Statements	15 to 26

#### **Reference and Administrative Details**

Trustees C Hall

I Mackintosh S Jaidka C M Purdon N S Ahmad A Carver K Reed I R Harris A L Crawley

R A Chadeyron (appointed 9 July 2018) C C Irving (appointed 12 November 2018) J Y Chan (Resigned 10 September 2018) S M Steele (Resigned 28 November 2018) A Bellamy (Resigned 10 September 2018)

Secretary S Alexander

Key Management Personnel S Alexander, Chief Executive

T Armstrong, Head of Advice Services C Iredale, Head of Customer Services

G Dryden, Business Manager

Principal Office 4th Floor City Library

Charles Avison Building 33 New Bridge Street Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE1 8AX

The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.

Company Registration Number 02114435

**Charity Registration Number** 1135396

Auditor MHA Tait Walker

Chartered Accountant & Statutory Auditor

Bulman House Regent Centre Gosforth

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE3 3LS

Bankers Unity Trust Bank plc

4 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2JB

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2019.

#### Structure, governance and management

#### Nature of governing document

Citizens Advice Newcastle is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee. The charity was originally formed in September 1939, and incorporated as a not-for-profit limited charity on 23 March 1987, All references to the "Charity" or "Company" refer to the Charitable Company. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which set out the objects and powers of the Charitable Company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association state that the Company's main objectives are "the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress." This is achieved through the provision of free, confidential, impartial and independent advice and information for the benefit of the community, and by influencing the development of social policies which ensure individuals do not suffer through a lack of knowledge, or an inability to express their needs effectively.

The Charity, originally formed in September 1939, is organised so that the members meet regularly to manage its affairs. The Chief Executive, who is also Company Secretary, is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Charity, together with the staff management team. The workforce comprises a combination of paid staff and volunteers, and they provide all the Charity's services and activities.

#### Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The directors of the Company are also Charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the Company's Articles are known as members of the Trustee Board. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Trustee Board are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next General Meeting.

The Trustee Board seeks to ensure that the needs of the Charity's clients are appropriately reflected and met through the diversity of the Trustee Board, which includes members with local charitable and voluntary agency knowledge, sound business skills, professional experience and knowledge of working with statutory agencies. Trustees are drawn from a cross section of cultural and experience backgrounds, and include members with disabilities.

#### **Trustees' Report**

#### Induction and training of trustees

All new Trustees are provided with an induction which:

- informs them about their roles, responsibilities and liabilities;
- inform them about the current work of the Charity; the business and development plans; financial and staffing resources; service quality standards and performance, and project funding requirements.
- enables them to identify and utilise the particular knowledge, skills and experience which their particular contribution brings to the Trustee board;
- identifies any further information, training or support they might require to fulfil their roles.

#### **Organisational structure**

The activities of the Charitable Company are overseen by the Board of Trustees (see page 1) and the Company Secretary. The trustees receive no remuneration for their services, and no trustees were reimbursed for any expenses incurred in the year.

All the trustees, as listed on page 1, have undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards any deficit arising in the event of the Charitable Company being wound up. This guarantee applies during the period of membership and extends one year after membership ceases.

New members of the board are elected by the Board or by the members of the Charity in a general meeting. New members are encouraged to attend regular Board meetings to ensure that they are fully informed about the objectives and current activities of the Charity. Each trustee is encouraged and supported to regularly review and update their trustee skills and knowledge so that they are fully aware of their responsibilities as a trustee of the Charity.

#### Major risks and management of those risks

The directors / trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, and safeguarding the assets of the Charity. They have assessed the major risks which the Charity is exposed to and have put in place mitigation to remove those risks, in particular those relating to its operations and finance.

The Trustees have appointed one Board member to be their "Risk Champion" and he has compiled a specific Risk Register which he maintains. He provides an update report on this Register for all Trustees to consider at each Board meeting.

#### Objectives and activities

#### Objects and aims

Citizens Advice Newcastle is established for the purpose of benefiting the community of the Metropolitan District of Newcastle upon Tyne and the wider North East region. The Charity achieves this by advancing the education of the public in matters relating to mental, physical and social welfare, and by relieving poverty and distress.

Citizens Advice Newcastle provides free, confidential, impartial and independent advice and information for the benefit of the community, The Charity provides advice to everyone, regardless of age, race, gender, sexuality or disability.

The Charity continues to employ skilled and experienced staff in order to supply advice services to clients face-to-face, by telephone, e-mail and webchat. The Charity has not made any material changes to these policies in the last year.

To obtain necessary funding, applications were made to various local, regional and national providers of community finance.

#### **Trustees' Report**

#### Fundraising disclosures

The charity is required to report how it deals with fundraising from the public. The charity does not use a professional fundraiser or commercial participator to raise funds. Any monies raised direct from the public follows all guidelines set out by the Charity Commission and UK law in every respect. We respect the privacy and contact preferences of all public donors.

#### **Public benefit**

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

#### Achievements and performance

The main objective of the Charity is the provision of free, impartial and independent advice to people who live, work or study in Newcastle upon Tyne, and to improve the policies and practices which affect their lives.

We helped 11,877 people in Newcastle to find a way forward, for over 30,000 problems.

The Charity continued to operate from a prime city centre location, the City Library. The reception area and client interview spaces have been much improved thanks to the generous donation of seats and tables from Newcastle Building Society who are great supporters of our work.

We also ran some outreach advice sessions at community venues in partnership with other charities. This included advice for young people, and for members of the Roma community. Continued funding was successfully maintained for core research and campaigning work, which is now regarded as a real strength in our service, recognised at regional and national levels. As a Living Wage Employer, we continue to encourage others to sign up to the scheme, and this work has resulted in significant pay rises for local employees.

Most of the advice is provided by over 50 specially trained volunteers, who are well supported by the staff team. This year has seen a lot of additional work generated by the continued roll-out of Universal Credit. Newcastle was the first city where the new benefit was introduced for all eligible clients but there are still significant numbers of people needing help to claim the benefit. In 2019 – 20 we will have funding from the Department of Work and Pensions to set up a specific Help to Claim service which will be a significant improvement. We will continue to liaise closely with staff at the local Job Centres, Newcastle City Council, housing providers and other agencies to help clients through the claims process. During the year we were awarded funds from the Junior Lawyer Division North East, which we used to purchase new computer tablets and mobile phones. These enable our volunteer advisors to help clients access and understand their Universal Credit Journal, and then liaise with DWP and HMRC in a three-way conversation to resolve problems as quickly as possible.

We are now seeing increasing numbers of clients in very serious poverty, unable to buy food or heat their homes. The last year saw almost daily requests for food bank vouchers. Fuel poverty problems have also continued over the last year, so our fuel crisis hardship fund has been very well used. It is provided via our excellent partnership with Northern Powergrid enabling us to award one-off, small hardship payments for clients who have no fuel in their homes because they have no money for their pre-payment meters.

We continued to work in a number of very successful partnerships with other agencies including the Wise Group, Streetwise North East and Mental Health Concern to deliver specific advice projects for their key client groups. We also worked closely with the Law School at Northumbria University to host 36 third year law students on placement with us as part of the final year of their course."

#### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Financial review**

The overall surplus for the year is £37,073 (2018 - deficit £7,229) with a surplus of £2,465 relating to restricted activities and a surplus of £34,608 relating to unrestricted activities. The memorandum of association does not provide for any distribution to members. The trustees consider the reserves position to be satisfactory.

It is the policy of the Charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves of the Charity, at a level which provides sufficient funds to cover management, administration and support costs.

Further detail is given under the Reserves Policy heading below.

#### Policy on reserves

The trustees believe that the Charity should hold financial reserves in order to ensure that the Charity can continue to operate and meet the needs of clients in the event of unforeseen and potentially damaging financial circumstances.

The trust operates with only limited financial resources.

The calculation of free reserves is based on the definition included in the charity statement of recommended practice (SORP), which provides recommendations for accounting and reporting for charities. The trustees have examined the requirements of the charitable company to hold free reserves - those reserves not invested in tangible fixed assets, excluding long term liabilities, or designated for a particular purpose. This exercise considered both the normal requirements for working capital and the loss of income of a hypothetical but reasonable reduction in the scale of operations. Resulting from this, the trustees considered it would be appropriate to hold the equivalent of three months' unrestricted running costs. Thus considering the next 12 months expenditure of circa £600k, 3 months free reserves would equate to approximately £150k.

As 31st March 2019, free reserves were £231,674. They have designated reserves accordingly, but continue to balance the ongoing pressures placed upon those free reserves, by the demand for ongoing services, against future obligations. Therefore the trustees recognise that in the medium and longer term that the charity will need to continue to generate surpluses in order to be in a position to meet those future obligations. Furthermore, the need for the charity's services continue to grow and therefore the demand on future free reserves will also be greater, hence the charity continues to require future funding and the support of its funding partners.

Restricted funds are restricted by the donor or funder and cannot be used for the general purposes of the Charity. Their existence, and the sums of money therein, do not imply that there has been an under spend, but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between the Charity's financial year and the funding year of the project concerned. Details of these can be found in note 18 to the financial statements. This reserves policy is monitored and reviewed by the trustees annually.

### **Trustees' Report**

#### Investment policy and objectives

The trustees are committed to retaining a prudent amount of reserves within the Charity's funds. However, most of these funds are spent in the short term, so there are few funds available for long term investment. Having considered the options available, the Trustee Board decided to invest monies in a high interest account.

#### **Key Management Personnel**

The board, who give their time freely and no trustees received remuneration in the year, have considered who the Key Management Personnel (KMP) of the charity, as noted in the Reference and Administration section. Together with the board, these KMP are those in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the activities of the charity on a day to day basis. The pay of the KMP is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The trustees benchmark against pay levels of other charities and similar organisations within the sector and the region. Pay levels are set using this information together with the budget and forecast information, ensuring that the charity can afford any proposed increases. The board then agree any uplift to remuneration.

#### Plans for future periods

#### Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Movement in fixed assets are shown in the notes to the accounts.

The Charity's assets are held in order to facilitate the giving of free impartial advice and their estimated value is not materially different from that shown on the balance sheet. The trustees believe that the Charity's assets are available and adequate to fulfil the obligations of the Charity.

#### **Trustees' Report**

#### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- · make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

#### Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

#### Reappointment of auditor

Moed

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of MHA Tait Walker as auditors of the charity is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

K Reed Trustee

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Citizens Advice Newcastle Limited

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Citizens Advice Newcastle Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2019, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that
  may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis
  of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements
  are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Citizens Advice Newcastle Limited

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- · the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- · certain disclosures of trustees remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 7], the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Citizens Advice Newcastle Limited

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Simon Brown BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of MHA Tait Walker Chartered Accountant & Statutory Auditor

Bulman House Regent Centre Gosforth

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE3 3LS

Date: 14.11.19

MHA Tait Walker is a trading name of Tait Walker LLP.

# Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2019 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments	from:				
Donations and legacies	3	36,148	134,426	170,574	98,315
Charitable activities	4	116,700	396,907	513,607	514,702
Other trading activities	5	4,000	138	4,138	1,245
Total Income		156,848	531,471	688,319	614,262
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	(125,874)	(525,372)	(651,246)	(621,491)
Total Expenditure		(125,874)	(525,372)	(651,246)	(621,491)
Net income/(expenditure)		30,974	6,099	37,073	(7,229)
Transfers between funds		3,634	(3,634)		
Net movement in funds		34,608	2,465	37,073	(7,229)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		255,007	737	255,744	262,973
Total funds carried forward	18	289,615	3,202	292,817	255,744

# Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2019 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

**Comparative Statement of Financial Activities** 

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2018
	Note	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	26,224	72,091	98,315
Charitable activities	4	117,157	397,545	514,702
Other trading activities	5	1,205	40	1,245
Total income		144,586_	469,676	614,262
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	(157,108)	(464,383)	(621,491)
Total expenditure		(157,108)	(464,383)	(621,491)
Net (expenditure)/income		(12,522)	5,293	(7,229)
Transfers between funds		5,006	(5,006)	
Net movement in funds		(7,516)	287	(7,229)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		262,523	450	262,973
Total funds carried forward	18	255,007	737	255,744

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## (Registration number: 02114435) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	4,513	941
Current assets			
Debtors	14	7,255	40,156
Cash at bank and in hand		319,863	260,488
		327,118	300,644
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(38,814)	(45,841)
Net current assets		288,304	254,803
Net assets		292,817	255,744
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		3,202	737
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		289,615	255,007
Total funds	18	292,817	255,744

The financial statements on pages 11 to 26 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on  $...ll_{i}...ll_{i}...ll_{i}$  and signed on their behalf by:

K Reed

Trustee

Verbley Trustee

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		37,073	(7,229)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items Depreciation Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets		1,916 529	314 15,459
•		39,518	8,544
Working capital adjustments Decrease in debtors Increase/(decrease) in creditors Decrease in deferred income	14 15	32,901 12,399 (19,426)	8,601 (49,968) (3,620)
Net cash flows from operating activities		65,392	(36,443)
Cash flows from investing activities Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	(6,017)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		59,375	(36,443)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		260,488	296,931
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		319,863	260,488

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is: 4th Floor City Library, Charles Avison Building, 33 New Bridge Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8AX.

#### 2 Accounting policies

#### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements have been prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Citizens Advice Newcastle Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### Going concern

The trustees have prepared budgets and a forecast which gives them adequate comfort that the charity is a going concern. Therefore, the trustees are of the view that the charity has sufficient resources for at least the next 12 months (from the date of approving the financial statements). As a result the charity's financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

#### Summary of disclosure exemptions

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS102:

(a) Disclosures in respect of financial instruments have not been presented

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Estimation uncertainty and judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported.

Management have approved depreciation, prepayments, accruals and other cut-off adjustments. Whilst management believe that these estimates and judgements are accurate, there is every liklihood that these will not be exact.

These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Income and endowments

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

#### **Donations and legacies**

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

#### **Deferred income**

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- -The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- -The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

#### Charitable activities

Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses:

Assets which are individually less than £1,000 are not typically capitalised.

#### **Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

#### **Asset class**

Fixtures. fittings and equipment Computer equipment

### Depreciation method and rate

25% reducing balance 25% straight line

#### Trade debtors

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

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### Leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expenses in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

#### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds			
	General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Donations from individuals	6,813	-	6,813	3,164
Grants from other charities	29,335	134,426	163,761	95,151
	36,148	134,426	170,574	98,315

#### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds			
		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	funds	2019	2018
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	116,700	396,907	513,607	514,702

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General	Restricted funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
Other income from other trading activities	4,000	£ 138	£ 4,138	1,245
6 Expenditure on charitable activ	ities			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted	Total	Total
	General £	funds £	2019 £	2018 £
Generalist Advice Support Costs	69,310 56,564	341,518 183,854	410,828 240,418	409,733 211,757
Support Costs	125,874	525,372	651,246	621,490
	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Generalist Advice	410,828	217,793	628,621	601,172
Governance Costs	410,828	22,625 240,418	22,625 651,246	20,318 621,490

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 7 Analysis of governance and support costs

#### Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Direct charitable £	Governance costs £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Staff costs	118,032	10,055	128,087	122,792
Premises	57,405	2,344	59,749	40,084
Communications and IT	7,189	•	7,189	8,512
Staff and volunteer	5,253	654	5,907	7,103
Depreciation	1,766	150	1,916	-
Office costs	26,360	5,316	31,676	27,399
Audit fees	-	3,815	3,815	3,972
Legal and professional	1,788	291	2,079	1,895
	217,793	22,625	240,418	211,757

#### 8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

•	2019	2018
	£	£
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	529	15,459
Depreciation of fixed assets	1,916_	314

#### 9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

During the year 1 (2018: 1) trustee was reimbursed expenses totalling £163 (2018: £28).

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	461,461	442,762
Social security costs	35,985	36,198
Pension costs	11,667	10,266
	509,113	489,226

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2019	2018
	No	No
Employees	21_	22

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £111,133 (2018 - £111,888).

#### 11 Auditors' remuneration

	2019 £	2018 £
Audit of the financial statements	3,815	3,972

#### 12 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

To rangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost At 1 April 2018	3,890	-	3,890
Additions Disposals	(3,890)	6,017	6,017 (3,890)
At 31 March 2019		6,017	6,017
Depreciation At 1 April 2018 Charge for the year Eliminated on disposals	2,949 412 (3,361)	- 1,504 	2,949 1,916 (3,361)
At 31 March 2019		1,504	1,504
Net book value			
At 31 March 2019	_	4,513	4,513
At 31 March 2018	941		941
14 Debtors		2019	2018
Toods debtess		£	£
Trade debtors Prepayments		5,340 1,915	27,756 958
Accrued income Other debtors	_	- -	1,184 10,258
		7,255	40,156

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019 £	2018 £
Other creditors	12,547	-
Accruals	8,684	8,832
Deferred income	17,583	37,009
	38,814	45,841
	2019 £	2018 £
Deferred income at 1 April 2018	37,009	<b>4</b> 0,629
Resources deferred in the period	17,583	37,009
Amounts released from previous periods	(37,009)	(40,629)
Deferred income at year end	17,583	37,009

#### 16 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

The total value of future minimum lease payments was as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Within one year	5,487	5,487
In two to five years	4,401	9,889
	9,888	15,376

#### 17 Pension and other schemes

#### **Defined contribution pension scheme**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £11,668 (2018 - £10,266).

Contributions totalling £2,546 (2018 - £Nil) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 18 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Incoming resources	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
Unrestricted funds					
General General funds	194,007	156,848	(125,874)	3,634	228,615
Designated  Designated - service curtailment	61,000	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del> _		61,000
Total Unrestricted funds	255,007	156,848	(125,874)	3,634	289,615
Restricted funds SKINT Money Advice Service Brunswick Wise Group Project	-	16,825 313,458 540 42,635	(19,589) (302,154) (2,276) (39,572)	2,764 (11,304) 1,736	- - - 3,063
Millfield House Powergrid Care	737	34,917 80,007	(35,971) (88,316)	1,054 7,572	-
NPG Hardship Energy Best Deal Mental Health Concern	- - -	14,713 1,100 10,420	(14,574) (1,100) (5,190)	- (5,230)	139 - -
Northern Gas Networks Help to Claim Action for Children	- - -	4,789 9,067 3,000	(4,691) (9,430) (2,509)	(98) 363 (491)	- - -
Total restricted funds	737	531,471	(525,372)	(3,634)	3,202
Total funds	255,744	688,319	(651,246)	-	292,817

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 18 Funds (continued)

#### **Unrestricted Funds**

#### Designated - service curtailment

In accordance with the Charities Commission's guidance, the trustees have provided for staff redundancy costs in the event that the charity's operations needed to cease. Whilst this is not part of the future plans that trustees have for the charity, it is prudent to earmark against these potential costs.

#### **Restricted Funds**

#### Millfield House

Funding to employ a research and campaigns officer.

#### **Money Advice Service**

This is funding from National Citizen Advice to continue face to face debt advice.

#### Brunswick

This fund is to provide advice sessions to the Roma community funded by the Children's Society based at Brunswick Methodist Church.

#### SKINT

This fund is to provide a weekly advice session for people using the Kitchen, many of them homeless or vulnerable, funded by the Sherburn House Charity.

#### **Mental Health Concern**

This fund is to provide support to mental health service users.

#### **Powergrid Care**

This fund is to provide vulnerable individuals with support in the event of power cuts.

#### **Wise Group Project**

This fund is to provide unemployed individuals with advice and support.

#### **Energy Best Deal**

This fund is to provide individuals with energy advice.

#### **Northern Gas Networks**

This fund is to provide support to vulnerable individuals who require additional support.

#### **NPG Hardship**

This is to fund a project to help vulnerable customers, particularly those affected by fuel poverty, on all aspects of home energy, including best energy deals and fuel efficiencies. Project to be extended to support patients at the chest clinic of the Royal Victoria Infirmary for whom efficient and affordable home energy is essential for their health.

#### Help To Claim

This is to fund a new project, from April 2019, helping people with Universal Credit claims. Service provided as a sub-contract with Citizens Advice, as part of a national service funded by the Department of Work and Pensions.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

#### 18 Funds (continued)

#### **Action for Children**

This is to fund a small outreach project, one advice session a week, in the West End of Newcastle. Works with families, particularly members of the Roma community.

#### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

19 Analysis of het assets between	en iunus			
	Unrestric	ted funds		
	General £	Designated £	Restricted funds	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	4,513	-	-	4,513
Net current assets/(liabilities)	224,102	61,000	3,202	288,304
Total net assets	228,615	61,000	3,202	292,817
	Unrestric	ted funds		
	General £	Designated £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2018 £
Tangible fixed assets	941	-	-	941
Net current assets/(liabilities)	193,066	61,000	737	254,803
Total net assets	194,007	61,000	737	255,744
20 Analysis of net funds				
		At 1 April 2018 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2019 £
Cash at bank and in hand		260,488	59,375	319,863
Net debt		260,488	59,375	319,863
		At 1 April 2017 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2018 £
Cash at bank and in hand		296,931	(36,443)	260,488
Net debt		296,931	(36,443)	260,488

#### 21 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.