(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022



Registered charity number – 1059022 Company number - 1982371

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

Introduction from the Chair of Trustees

It has been an eventful year for us; working in an unrelenting environment of ever-present threats to justice and policies that deepen inequality and damage communities further. Day-to-day, our teams have been continuing to deliver vital and free legal support, often where no other option of similar services exist. They are challenged by complex litigation but work to achieve incredible outcomes for local people. We have been consolidating and streamlining remote working practices but also re-integrating face-to-face interactions which are critical for some people in their journey with us.

The Bristol Law Centre's biggest asset is undoubtedly the staff who are driven to achieve real change. Whilst our teams are specialist across broad areas of social welfare law, they are also small in size. Given our biggest challenge is meeting demand, we recognise we must grow in order to reach more people in need. You can read more about our strategy in **Plans for the Future.**

We are grateful to be supported by funders who are responsive to challenges faced by charities like ourselves and our clients. By balancing project funding with core and multi-year funding, we can sustainably deliver specialist and holistic legal casework service to people in need, whilst also thinking creatively and strategically about capacity building to bring justice and fair outcomes to those facing hardship and disadvantage.

As Board of Trustees, we have been delighted with the progress of the Law Centre. Some highlights include:

- Being selected as a host for the Justice First Fellowship, a programme which is key to the sustainability of the social welfare legal sector. We are thrilled to have our third Fellow join our team.
- Meeting our objective of legal aid income maximisation and robust financial planning and management. We are working to build on this in the coming financial year.
- Continuing to work with a significant number of partners across the city and wider region. At the end of 21/22 we secured the legal aid contract for the Housing Court Duty Scheme (with Shelter Bristol). We started on significant development work for the South West for specialist immigration advice, working closely again with Bristol Refugee Rights.
- Best practice and client care being prioritised, deepening our knowledge and sharing our learning. As an example, we published free Toolkits providing guidance for working with young people. We also started more dialogue with mental health providers and funders to ensure our triage work in particular is recognized and supported.
- Recruiting new members to the Board of Trustees who have widened and deepened our skills and networks - and we will recruit again before the end of 2022

I look forward to the coming year, knowing we will continue to support people through difficult times and that we will amplify their voices through the networks we work in. The Board would like to thank the incredibly dedicated staff team, the volunteers and all our funders and donors, old and new.

Oliver Lewis, Chair of Trustees

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

Our Purposes and Activities

The Law Centre provides free legal advice and representation to people who otherwise would not be able to afford access to justice to challenge decisions affecting them. They often experience inequality and poverty. We focus on social welfare law issues such as housing, discrimination, welfare benefits, immigration & asylum, employment and mental health.

The Law Centre's in-house specialist solicitors deal with complex legal issues that transform the lives of the people with whom we work, alleviating poverty and tackling social exclusion.

Our vision is a society where everyone has access to justice.

Our **mission** is to improve the lives of disadvantaged people in Bristol and across the South West through providing access to justice.

Our objectives are

- 1. To secure justice through legal advice and representation;
- 2. To influence public policy;
- 3. To empower local communities to better exercise their rights;
- 4. To aim to be a centre of excellence and receive recognition as such

Our vision, mission and objectives reflect the purposes of the charity set out in the objects contained in its memorandum of association as follows:

- a) The relief of financial hardship and other forms of distress in the designated area through the provision of legal and advisory representation and information services to people who could not otherwise obtain them through lack of means
- b) The advancement of education among people resident or working in the designated area in respect of the law and administration of justice, having regard especially to those areas of law which are particular concern to people experiencing financial hardship or other forms of distress
- c) The advancement of such other charitable purposes as are beneficial to the community for persons' resident or working in the designated area.

In accordance with our objectives, our main activities during the year have been:

- To provide free specialist social welfare law advice and representation in housing & homelessness, employment, discrimination, welfare benefits, immigration & asylum and mental health / Court of Protection.
- Our advice and casework was provided by phone and online in the majority of cases this year –
 with occasional face to face work, home or hospital visits where the client's needs have
 determined it necessary.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

- To provide a free frontline support, triage, referral and signposting service to enquirers who may or may not become advice/casework clients (available by phone or email during 21/22).
- To supplement the work done by staff team through pro bono clinics offering advice on employment, family and civil law matters.
- To provide information, resources, a consultancy service and training to local voluntary advice
 and support agencies, so agency staff are more aware of their clients' legal rights, and can refer
 them to the Law Centre for help where appropriate and that their own capacity is built to
 provide better support for clients in the future.
- To draw on the evidence we collate from our clients' experiences to develop insight into needs and experience, and an understanding of the impact of our work
- To contribute to public policy discussion and reporting on legislation and policy issues which affect people's welfare.
- To train and develop our team of staff and volunteers.

Working in partnership is intrinsic to the sustainability of our organisation and sector, so we can achieve social impact and change for those we help. In order to achieve greater public benefit, the Law Centre is committed to working in a collaborative way across the voluntary, public, and private sectors. The Law Centre is a member of the Law Centres Network and various local/regional funded partnerships and other alliances and networks.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's Aims and Objectives.

All our charitable activities focus on the provision of legal advice and representation, helping people understand and exercise their legal rights, and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our services are open to the public and free to our clients. We provide legal advice and representation across a wide range of legal areas that impact on people's everyday lives in significant ways. This work is not only of benefit to our individual clients but also to the wider community given the economic and social impact of our work.

The Law Centre therefore provides a public benefit through the provision of high-quality legal advice and representation to people who could not otherwise afford to pay for a legal professional to help them obtain justice in areas of social welfare. In doing so, we ensure vulnerable individuals and communities are aware of their legal rights and can assert them.

The Law Centre is unique in its diversity of funding (including legal aid), areas of law, and specialist level of work. It offers a unique and important service to the citizens of Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset, and in some cases the broader South West region.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

In order to achieve greater public benefit, the Law Centre is committed to working in a collaborative way with our partners across the voluntary, public, and private sectors. The Law Centre is a member of the Law Centres Network and, locally, the Bristol Advice Partnership and ACFA: the Advice Network. It is also a member of the Bristol Pro Bono Network (which it initiated).

Our Values



Achievements and Performance

This year has presented many challenges for local people, resulting in new or continuing hardship. We remain committed to providing legal advice and casework that challenges inequality and helps people move beyond these challenging circumstances.

In the 2021-22 period, we worked on 1142 legal matters for 934 people and handled at least 5000 enquiries.

Assessment & Support

We increased our 'Assessment and Support Team' capacity, which facilitates vital first contact interactions with community members, aiming to understand and unpack the complexities of people's experiences before considering options to help resolve their legal issue/s. The majority of people presenting with legal issues describe the action adversely impacting their mental health and we compassionately support people throughout the process to alleviate some pressures. We were pleased to secure dedicated funding for their vital and skilled work, from a new funder for the Law Centre.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

Immigration

Our Team undertook casework that resulted in 70 people's immigration status being improved, including right to remain and preventing deportation. This includes work on children's cases as part of our Children in Need funded project.

Welfare Benefits

Despite Tribunal delays of 8-9month in listing hearings, we helped reinstate 102 people's benefit entitlement through representation at First Tier and Upper Tribunal. This resulted in a total of £1,064,999.56 worth of financial gain, a huge relief for people stuck in limbo and poverty, who can now focus on their health. Our success rate for benefit appeals has consistently been at 90% + over the years.

Housing

We helped 22 people experiencing housing issues including homelessness or possession proceedings to be housed, re-housed or stay in their home, some of these cases were incredibly complex with protracted proceedings.

As part of the Housing Court Duty Scheme, we offered on-the-day advice to 39 people who would otherwise be facing court alone without any representation.

Discrimination

We are proud to be a partner in the Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service. We help people challenge discrimination and fight for the best outcome for each person. For some, this results in a financial settlement. In the last year we have secured £252,161.26 for 30 people fighting for equality.

Mental Health & Court of Protection

An instrumental part of our work in furthering access to justice is enabling participation in legal process so people can understand and exercise their rights if needed. We support people who are detained in hospital under the Mental Health Act to have a say in their treatment. We represented at Mental Health Tribunal and Hospital Managers Meetings on 52 occasions, and undertook casework for 27 additional patients.

Pro-Bono Legal Advice Clinics

Our weekly pro-bono clinics mean we can offer advice outside of our in-house casework capacity and expertise, on issues that are important to local communities. Through the help of our dedicated volunteers, we were able to offer 359 appointments on family law, employment law and civil dispute issues.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

Client Feedback

We encourage feedback from clients. We collate and analyse findings to help inform our ways of working and service development. Below are the % of clients agreeing with the statements:

Felt heard and understood	94%
The advice given was easy to understand	95%
Understand legal rights better	88%
The Law Centre's service was easy to access	95%
Would recommend to someone else	95%
Levels of stress improved	59%
Confidence improved	45%

In answering the question 'What difference did our help make to you?', we received the following responses:

"I felt unable to cope on my own, your help and support was amazing. I am sure I would not have won my case without you."

"This has helped me in so many ways we are forever thankful! The support allowed us to move on & navigate a difficult system."

"Your help provided me with support during a very difficult time. I felt I had someone fighting my corner when I receive my PIP it will allow me a greater level of independence."

"I don't think I can overstate the value and impact your input has had on myself being able to successfully navigate this reasonably complex and, at times, highly challenging period of litigation."

"It's had a positive impact on my life and I feel like I have a brighter future."

"Didn't just signpost and say goodbye.... just knowing someone was there and taking you seriously even if they couldn't help was amazing, treating you with respect and integrity... its incredibly rare."

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

Plans for the Future

We are a large law centre, and we help thousands of people a year from diverse backgrounds with various legal needs. We work with numerous partners, we have a diverse funding base and a unique 'offer' for Bristol and beyond. But we have limited hours & funding and we know wish to better meet the needs of more people. We know the demand we see is only a fraction of the need, and we want to help those most disadvantaged.

The country is emerging from the pandemic into a cost of living crisis with deepening poverty and inequality exacerbated by policy. We need to respond to need, and to the complexities of people's lives, to increase capacity at this challenging and every changing time. **Helping the most people get the right help*** must be the basis of our resource and service planning.

We will continue developing a **person-centred approach**; building relationships with communities, clients, funders and partners to enable us to do that. This will support **preventative** work – providing information and advice before crisis wherever possible.

We must be the Law Centre that Bristol and the wider region needs. We hear we need to have greater capacity (not only in the areas of law we already do), and that people (end users and organisations) need to know when they should come to us. We must be sustainable through the:

- way we work
- our staff and volunteer team: their wellbeing, their expertise and development
- our funding (including legal aid contracts who currently run to Aug 2023)
- the quality of our work (advice, casework, triage and signposting/referrals)
- our communications, and reach into communities
- influence we deliver, including on local and national policy
- integration of Equality, Diversity & Inclusion principles internally and for clients

We believe the coming year/s offer clear opportunities for growth and improvement in all of these areas. 2022/23 will be a critical year, and the budget and funding plan we have for the year enables growth. The Board is committed to multi-year strategy work starting in the first half of 22/23 and it is likely by 23/24 we have re-written objectives to better represent the current and future environment.

Looking further ahead we will aim to have increased awareness of our work and brand/service amongst decision makers, funders and all communities. We would like to actively explore with partners new branding and maybe new channels for advice and information - for people to easily understand what we offer and where we offer it across the region.

We will aim to have workers alongside our legal advisors to better support clients and to support incoming referrals and partnership work. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in relation to clients will include wider availability of interpreters and a wider network of referrers and partners, including closer work with mental health services.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

We will listen to all our communities/help seekers and clients to become person centred, working with the person not only their issue - 'what matters to you' rather than 'what is wrong'

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income of £897,436 (2020/21: £1,051,853) and total expenditure of £837,686 (2020/21: £1,028,548) giving an overall surplus for the year of £59,750 (2020/21: surplus of £23,305).

The Balance Sheet shows net assets available to the charity of £929,687 as at 31 March 2022, all of which are held as unrestricted reserves.

Principal funding sources

These are grant income from Bristol City Council and the Three Guineas Trust, income from the Legal Aid Agency, and a variety of other grants including Legal Education Foundation, Ministry of Justice, Children in Need, and The National Lottery Community Fund. In addition, we receive a number of smaller grants and donations.

Investment policy

The objective of the Law Centre's investment policy is to ensure that its assets maintain or, whenever possible, increase their value, and that they are accessible as and when they might be needed.

Reserves policy

The Board of Trustees continues to review the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation. The Law Centre's policy aims to establish unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets at a level equivalent to three month's running costs, which equates to £250,000 as per the budget for 2022/23.

Free reserves which are unrestricted reserves not designated or tied up in fixed assets amount to £251,520 as at 31 March 2022 (see note 16 – cash of £151,516 and other current assets of £100,004).

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity has adequate free reserves at 31 March 2022.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees conducts regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. There is a risk register that is updated and reviewed by the Board regularly. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate these risks.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan that seeks to diversify funding and activities.

The implementation of this plan has continued to contribute to the savings and income generated by the charity.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of transactions and projects.

There are policies in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients and visitors to the Centre. This year we were successful in maintaining the LEXCEL quality standard from the Law Society. This standard covers all areas of work conducted at the Law Centre to ensure a consistent quality of service delivery.

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing document

The Law Centre is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 June 1986 and registered as a charity on 5 November 1996. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is now governed by its Articles of Association (updated October 2018). In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Board of Trustees are directors of the company and also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as the Board of Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one-third of Trustees must retire from office at each annual general meeting, but may stand for re-election. The Board comprises up to 15 people, including up to 3 co-opted members. Members may be elected to the Board of Trustees at the Annual General Meeting of by a decision of the Trustees.

Board members have a range of skills including legal, financial, governance, personnel and management expertise. To ensure the Board maintains an appropriate skills base, periodic skills audits are carried out. Recruitment to the Board is based on interviews and references, following open advertisement.

The officers of the Board of Trustees (Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer) are elected at the Annual General Meeting or at the first meeting after the AGM.

Organisational structure

The Board and its committees — Finance and HR — meet bi-monthly. Operational decisions are delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, who is line managed by the Executive committee that meets at least monthly.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 (continued)

Trustees' Responsibilities

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 charity at the end of the year and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

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

Those who are trustees at the date of the signing of this report confirm that:

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

The Trustees confirm that they have given due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission as required by Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006.

STATEMENT OF MAJOR RISKS FACED AND MITIGATION ACTIONS

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to them.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

anho	6 September 2022

Oliver Lewis (Chair of Trustees)	Date

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Company number: 1982371

Charity number: 1059022

Registered office: 2 Hide Market

West Street Bristol BS2 0BH

Trustees: Dr Oliver Lewis (Chair)

Ruth Richardson (Vice-Chair)

Jonathan Locke Lovibond (Treasurer)

Padma Ramanan Dipika Keen

Vita Fabo-Ellis (resigned 26/10/21) Tara Wolfe (resigned 18/10/21)

Mike Silvey Roger Berry Katie Pritchard

Secretary: John Bowen

Chief Officer: Karen Bowers

Bankers: CAF Bank

25 Kings Hill Avenue

West Malling

Kent ME19 4JQ

Triodos Bank Deanery Road

Bristol BS1 5AS

Independent Auditors:

Burnside

61 Queen Square

Bristol BS1 4JZ

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRISTOL LAW CENTRE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Bristol Law Centre (the "charitable company") for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 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 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members 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 company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

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 charitable company 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 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 charitable company'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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRISTOL LAW CENTRE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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.

OPINIONS 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, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRISTOL LAW CENTRE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 10, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 directors 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

An understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the entity was obtained from management and those charged with governance of the entity, and the audit engagement team was confirmed to have the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify non-compliance with such a framework.

No significant instances of fraud, non-compliance with laws & regulations or other irregularities were communicated to the engagement team by management [, component auditors] or those charged with governance, and no particular audit areas or legislation were identified that gave rise to any significant risks of material misstatement in respect of such irregularities.

Due to the size & nature of the entity its susceptibility to material misstatement resulting from fraud, non-compliance with laws & regulations, or other irregularities is considered to be low, and the audit approach was appropriately planned so as to address this risk.

<u>INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRISTOL LAW CENTRE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)</u>

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 audit report.

10/09/2022

MARK POOLEY (Senior Statutory

Auditor)

For and on behalf of

BURNSIDE

Chartered Accountants

& Statutory Auditor

61 Queen Square Bristol BS1 4JZ DATE:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted <u>Funds</u>	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	Note	***************************************	£	£	£
INCOME FROM: Donations and legacies	3	5,268	-	5,268	11,453
Income from charitable activities: Grants Legal aid & legal fees	4	222,850 317,442	334,628 -	557,478 317,442	839,539 175,918
Investment income Other income		73 17,175	- -	73 17,175 ———	50 24,893
TOTAL INCOME		562,808	334,628	897,436	1,051,853
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	5	503,058	334,628	837,686	1,028,548
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		503,058	334,628	837,686	1,028,548
Net income/(expenditure)		59,750	-	59,750	23,305
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	6	59,750	<u>-</u>	59,750	23,305
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward		869,937 	-	869,937 ———	846,632
Total funds carried forward		929,687	-	929,687	869,937

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains and losses other than those stated above.

The notes on pages 21-33 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2022

AT 31 WARCH 2022		2022	2021
	Notes	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	8	-	_
Tangible assets	9	621,167	628,905
		621,167	628,905

CURRENT ASSETS			
Work in progress	10	204,408	207,429
Debtors	11	70,351	55,852
Cash at bank and in hand		208,516	216,406
		-	-
		483,275	479,687
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(174,755)	(238,655)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		200 520	241.022
NET COMENT ASSETS		308,520	241,032
NET ASSETS		929,687	869,937
		<i>323,007</i>	•
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:			
Restricted	15	-	-
Unrestricted			
General	14	872,687	844,937
Designated	14	57,000	25,000

TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		929,687	869,937
			Maria Company of the

BALANCE SHEET (continued) AT 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act; and
- ii. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

These accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue.

Approved by the Trustees on 25 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by

...... 10 August 2022 (Jonathan Locke Lovibond – Trustee and Treasurer)

The notes on pages 21-33 form part of these accounts.

[Company no: 1982371]

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 WARCH 2022	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Cash used in operating activities	(7,890)	121,940
Cash flows from investing activities: Purchase of intangible fixed assets Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Cash provided by investing activities	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	(7,890)	121,940 ———
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year	216,406	94,466
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year	208,516	216,406
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operation	ng activities	
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	59,750	23,305
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	7,738	11,074
(Increase)/decrease in work in progress	3,021	(2,904)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(14,499)	33,616
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(63,900)	56,850
	(7,890)	121,940

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Accounting Convention

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 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Bristol Law Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

At 31 March 2022, the Charity had net assets of £929,687 (2021 - £869,938) and had net income for the year of £59,750 (2021 - £23,305). At 31 March 2022, its free reserves were £251,520 (2021 - £216,033), which is just above its free reserves target of holding 3 months running costs (currently £250,000).

The Charity responded to the COVID 19 crisis to ensure that it could continue to operate and provide legal advice and services to its beneficiaries.

During and after lockdown staff worked from home where possible, meeting clients by telephone, Zoom and Teams.

The charity applied for, and secured, emergency COVID 19 funding available to charities.

Budgets and cashflow forecasts have been prepared for the year ended 31 March 2023. The worst-case scenario, budgeting for only confirmed income, shows a forecast deficit that would be funded from the free reserves brought forward at 01 April 2022. The Charity has a number of pending grant applications for 2022/23 and is making further funding applications.

The Charity's management is already working on securing funding for 2023/24.

The Board of Trustees therefore have a reasonable expectation that the Charity will be in operation 12 months from the date of approval of these accounts and remains a going concern. The accounts have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(c) Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- i. Income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.
- ii. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- iii. When donors specify that donations or grants are for a particular restricted purpose, this income is included in income of restricted funds when receivable.
- iv. Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.
- v. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- vi. Investment income is included when receivable.
- vii. Income from charitable trading activities is accounted for when earned.
- viii. Income from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

(d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered.

- (i) Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the statement of financial activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(e) Fund accounting

- (i) Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- (ii) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Board of Trustees for particular purposes.
- (iii) Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

(f) Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are being amortised over two years.

(g) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are being written off over the expected useful life of the asset, using the straight line basis at 25% per annum for all equipment and 2% for the building. Land is not depreciated. Equipment with an individual item value of under £1,000 is written off in the year of purchase.

(h) Work in Progress

Work in Progress relates to legal case work started but not completed at the end of the year. It is valued according to the contract with Legal Aid Agency.

(i) Deferred grants

Grants of a revenue nature are credited to incoming resources in the period in which they are receivable. Grants received in advance for future specific periods are carried forward as deferred income.

(j) Pension costs

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme. The employer contributions made by the charity are treated as an expense and are disclosed in note 7 to the accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

2. PRIOR PERIOD COMPARATIVES

2. PRIOR PERIOD COMPARATIVES	Unrestricte <u>Func</u> £	ls <u>Fund</u>		al funds <u>2021</u> £
INCOME FROM:		_		
Donations and legacies	11,45	3	-	11,453
Income from charitable activities:				
Grants	414,65	•		839,539
Legal aid & legal fees	175,91	8	•	175,918
Investment income	5	0 .	-	90
Other income	24,89	3	-	24,893
			-	
TOTAL INCOME	626,97	3 424,880) 1,(051,853
EXPENDITURE ON:	***************************************		•	
Charitable activities	603,66	8 424,880) 1.(028,548
	*		-	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	603,66	8 424,880)	23,305
	-			
Net income/(expenditure)	23,30	5 -		23,305
Transfers between funds		- -		-
Net income/(expenditure) and net				
movement in funds	23,30	5 -		23,305
	MANAGEMENT CONTRACTOR	_	r	
3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES				
		Restricted	Total	Total
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	5,268	-	5,268	11,453
	5,268		5,268	11,453
			,	-,

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

4. GRANTS RECEIVED

GRANTS RECEIVED				
U	nrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u> 2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£	£	£
Bristol City Council	136,719	-	136,719	136,719
Bristol City Council - Bristol Hate	•		,	,
Crime & Discrimination Service	-	53,943	53,943	65,288
Bristol City Council Resettlement Scho	eme -	, -	-	2,150
Bristol City Council – smaller grants	-	2,026	2,026	,
South Gloucestershire LA	21,711	-	21,711	11,193
European Direct Information Centre	· -	_	· <u>-</u>	2,217
Children in Need	-	39,847	39,847	36,588
The National Lottery Community Fundation -	d -	40,449	40,449	99,708
Justice First Fellowship	_	31,832	31,832	46,134
The AB Charitable Trust	15,000	31,032	15,000	40,134
Three Guineas Trust - Welfare	13,000	93,646	93,646	67,528
Three Guineas Trust –	-	33,040	33,040	07,320
Development Worker	_	5,000	5,000	_
Nisbet Trust	10,000	-	10,000	30,000
Pro Bono grant funding	-	28,500	28,500	30,000
MoJ - Community Justice Wave 2	39,420	20,300	39,420	_
Nationwide	-	3,260	3,260	13,040
Van Neste Foundation	_	3,200	-	10,000
The Tudor Trust	_	20,000	20,000	11,667
Access to Justice	_	356	356	5,043
Three Guineas Trust -				0,0 .0
Remote Volunteering Project	-	1,876	1,876	31,419
Therium	-	13,893	13,893	6,947
Quartet – Coronavirus	_	, -		4,684
HMRC – Job Retention Scheme	_	_	-	12,369
Law Centres Network – EUSS	_	-	_	19,357
Law Centres Network – Justice Fund	_	-	-	153,500
Law Centres Network – Justice Fund				,
(Pooled Fund)	_	-	-	10,500
Good Things Foundation	_	_	-	1,925
Julia & Hans Rausing Trust				ŕ
Emergency Fund	-	_	_	19,108
National Lottery Covid Response Fund	- 1	-	-	42,455
	**************************************		-	
	222,850	334,628	557,478	839,539
	****		**************************************	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

5.	RESOURCES EXPENDED	Direct	Other			
		Staff	Direct	Support	Total	Total
		Costs	Costs	Costs	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
	Housing	119,619	45,482		L66,482	187,599
	Immigration	149,083	75,964	· ·	226,911	282,078
	Mental Health	113,048	18,827	•	133,170	161,230
	Employment & Public Law	116,069	23,462	-	L40,947	163,385
	Welfare Benefits	131,203	37,179		170,176	224,256
		,	0.,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	., 0, 1, 0	LL 1,230
		***************************************	***************************************			
		629,022	200,914	7,750 8	37,686	1,028,548
		Manufacture of the Contraction Contraction		***************************************	PARTICIPATION OF THE PROPERTY	
		Unrestricted	Restricted	d Total	To	otal
		Funds	Fund			021
		£	£			£
	Housing	116,760	49,722	166,482	187,	
	Immigration	151,423	75,488	226,911	•	
	Mental Health	117,529	15,641	133,170	•	
	Employment & Public Law	56,458	84,489	140,947	•	
	Welfare Benefits	60,888	109,288	170,176		
	Wendle Benefits		103,200	170,170	227,1	230
		503,058	334,628	837,686	1,028,5	548
		The same of the sa	######################################	Deliver of the later of the lat	****	
				202	2	2021
	Other direct costs:			£		£
	Payments to Other Agencies			23,26	1 6	51,212
	Indirect staff costs			ŕ	-	7,753
	Disbursements & Client Costs			56,83	1 4	14,012
	Direct Costs of Grant Funded Pro	ojects		12,40		6,182
	Staff Recruitment, Training & Re	freshments		, 33.		5,022
	Office & Premises Costs			47,75		50,509
	Professional Fees & Insurance			28,79		28,185
	Ask Us costs			8,90		7,045
	Subscriptions & Memberships			14,40		5,332
	Depreciation			7,73		.1,074
	Bank Charges			14		120
	Bad debts			350		417
	Dad action			331	U	41/
					 -	
				200,91	4 23	6,863
				-		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

5.	RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)	2022 £	2021 £
	Support costs:		
	Auditors' remuneration	7,750	6,400
		CANADA AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN	1878-107-207-107-1
6.	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	2022	2021
	This is stated after charging:	£	£
	Depreciation of owned assets	7,738	11,074
	Auditors' remuneration	7,750	6,400
		#MINISTER CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE	Million Table Consideration
7.	STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION		
	Staff costs were as follows:	2022	2021
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	545,881	679,610
	Social security costs	45,769	61,393
	Pension contributions	37,260	44,282
		628,910	785,285
	Temporary staff	112	-

		629,022	785,285
		ACCUPATION OF A SOMEWHALE	

No employee earned £60,000 p.a. or more. The average number of employees (based on numbers and not full-time equivalents) during the year was 23.75 (2021 - 27). No remuneration was paid to the Trustees. Trustees' expenses reimbursed amounted to £Nil (2021 - £Nil).

The key management personnel of the charity in the year comprised the Chief Executive Officer (previous year the Chief Executive Office and interim Chief Executive Officer). The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £44,498 (2021: £58,606).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

8. **INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

Website

Total

	COST	£	£
	Brought forward and at 31 March 2022	6,672	6,672
	AMORTISATION		
	Brought forward and at 31 March 2022	6,672	6,672
	NET BOOK VALUE At 31 March 2022	-	-
		Millionial Assessment Const.	Mark Annie Lander Lande
	At 31 March 2021	-	-
		Market Market State Control	MARKETTA
9.	TANGIBLE ASSETS		
		Land & Building £	Total £
	COST	_	
	Brought forward and at 31 March 2022	644,381	644,381

	DEPRECIATION		
	At 1 April 2021	15,476	
	Charge for the year	7,738	7,738
		****	***************************************
	At 31 March 2022	23,214	23,214
	NET BOOK VALUE	The system of the state of the	
	At 31 March 2022	621,167	621,167
	At 31 March 2021	628,905	628,905

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

10.	WORK IN PROGRESS	2022	2021
		£	£
	Legal Aid Agency work in progress	204,408	207,429
		Company of the Compan	Hillian Charles Co.
11.	DEBTORS	2022	2021
		£	£
	Trade Debtors	46,177	33,189
	Other Debtors	17,755	8,217
	Prepayments and accrued income	6,419	14,446
		70,351	55,852
		amerianiuniuniuniunuu	1000-00-1-1-def-consecue
12.	CREDITORS	2022	2021
	Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
	Trade Creditors	16,519	29,386
	Other Creditors	20,768	31,339
	Accruals	41,572	40,926
	Taxation and Social Security	21,633	18,971
	Deferred Income	74,263	118,034
		174,755	238,655

Deferred grants refer to grants for the period April 2022 to March 2023 received before the end of the financial year. These include:

The National Lottery Community Fund	-	31,779
Children in Need	9,962	1,992
Legal Education Foundation - Justice First Fellowship	1,312	16,000
Nationwide	-	3,260
Pro Bono grants	-	15,500
Three Guineas Trust		16,882
TGT Remote Volunteering Pilot Project	4,409	10,037
Therium		13,893
Tudor Trust	8,334	8,333
Access to Justice	-	357
Quartet – Resilience Fund	10,000	-
A B Charitable Trust	5,000	-
Swan Mountain Trust	6,000	-
Pathway	5,000	-
Bristol City Council Thrive	3,666	-
Community Justice Wave 2	20,580	-
	74,263	118,034

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

13. OPERATING LEASES

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	TOHOWS:				2021	2020
	Not later than 1 year				£	£
	Not later than 1 year Later than 1 year and not lat	or than 5 v	earc		934	934
	tater than I year and not lat	er than 5 y	Cars		334	334
				•		
					934	934
				,		
14.	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				_	
		At 1			Transfer	At 31
		April			Between	March
		<u>2021</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>2022</u>
		£	£	£	£	£
	Designated funds					
	Building works reserve	25,000	_	_	15,000	40,000
	Building improvements reser		-	-	10,000	10,000
	IT upgrade reserve	-	-	-	7,000	7,000
		***************************************		***************************************		***************************************
		25,000	-	-	32,000	57,000

	General funds	844,937	562,808	(503,058)	(32,000)	872,687
				(303,030)	(32,000)	0,2,00,
		869,937	562,808	(503,058)	-	929,687

Building works reserve

This designated fund has been set up in respect of known planned building repair and maintenance works that are required at the charity's office building.

Building improvements reserve

This designated fund has been set up to fund improvements to the charity's office building.

IT upgrade reserve

This designated fund has been set up to fund upgrades to the charity's IT systems.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

15. RESTRICTED FUNDS

At 1			Transfer	At 31
April			Between	March
<u>2021</u>	<u>Income</u>	Expenditure	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2022</u>
£	£	£	£	£
<u>Grants</u>				
BCC – Bristol Hate Crime &				
Discrimination Service -	53,943	(53,943)	-	-
European Direct Information Centre -			-	-
Children in Need -	39,847	(39,847)	-	-
The National Lottery Comm. Fund -	40,448	(40,448)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation -				
Justice First Fellowship -	31,832	(31,832)	-	-
Three Guineas Trust -	93,646	(93,646)	-	-
Three Guineas Trust – Development -	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Nationwide -	3,260	(3,260)	-	-
The Tudor Trust -	20,000	(20,000)	=	-
Access to Justice -	357	(357)	-	***
Three Guineas Trust - Remote				
Volunteering Project -	1,876	(1,876)	-	-
Therium -	13,893	(13,893)	-	-
Pro-Bono Fund -	28,500	(28,500)		-
BCC – Other -	2,026	(2,026)	-	-
Miles and the second se				
	224 622	(224 625)		
-	334,628	(334,628)	-	-

Purposes of Funds

BCC - Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service

Grant to support the provision of advice and support services in relation to tackling discrimination.

Children in Need

Grant to provide specialist children's immigration work.

The National Lottery Community Fund

Funding in collaboration with Bristol CAB and 1625 Independent People to provide advice and support to vulnerable young people aged 16-25.

Legal Education Foundation - Justice First Fellowship:

Grant to fund a trainee solicitor in the provision of access to justice in social welfare law.

Three Guineas Trust:

Grant to fund the Legal Advocacy Support Project (LASP) staff working with volunteers to support clients access ESA and PIP funding.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

15. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

Nationwide

Grant to provide housing support and advice.

The Tudor Trust

Grant to provide immigration and asylum advice.

Access to Justice

Grant to fund Court fees and Consultancy advice.

Three Guineas Trust - LASP Remote Volunteering Project

LASP Remote Volunteering Project Grant to extend the volunteer legal advice service into a remote service

Three Guineas Trust Remote – LASP Development Project Grant to fund the costs of a development worker

Therium

Grant to fund a housing and employment advice telephone helpline.

Pro Bono Fund

Received from Osborne Clarke, Simmons & Simmons, Burges Salmon & TLT. Grants received to fund free legal advice

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrest.	Unrest.	
	Designated	General	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£
Fund Balances at 31 March 2022			
are represented by:			
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	621,167	621,167
Cash at Bank and in Hand	57,000	151,516	208,516
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	-	100,004	100,004
		144	######################################
Total	57,000	872,687	929,687
	***************************************		***************************************

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no transactions with related parties during the year. At the year end the balance owed to Cabot Law CIC was £8,379 (2021 - £8,402). Cabot Law CIC was dissolved on 26 October 2021.

18. JOINT VENTURE COMPANY

On 16 May 2014 Bristol Law Centre entered into a Joint Venture arrangement with Gloucester Law Centre and Wiltshire Law Centre in establishing Cabot Law CIC – a private company limited by guarantee without share capital.

The objects of Cabot Law CIC are to carry on activities which benefit the community and in particular (without limitation) to aid and assist the work of Law Centres in the South West of England and widen the provision of legal advice to those of limited means.

The company is not established or conducted for private gain and any surplus or assets are used principally for the benefit of the community. The reported results of Cabot Law CIC are not consolidated into the financial statements of ABLC on the basis that ABLC retains no beneficial interest in the CIC.

For the year ended 31 May 2020 Cabot Law CIC recorded a deficit of £163 and net liabilities of £878 as at 31 May 2020.

On 26 October 2021 Cabot Law CIC was dissolved.