MERTON CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (MCIL)

(A company limited by guarantee)



Merton Centre for Independent Living

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31 2014

Company Number: 7645926 Charity Number: 1152825

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Constitution

Merton Centre for Independent Living (MCIL) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. The Charity number is 1152825. The Company number is 7645926.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. As set out in the Articles of Association the Management Board comprises the Chair, the Vice Chair and the Treasurer supported by up to nine trustees. All trustees are elected and confirmed in post at each Annual General Meeting. The trustees serving during the year and since the year-end are as follows:

Chair Roy Benjamin **Vice Chair** John Kelly

Treasurer Fiona Ringwood (co-opted July 2014)

Trustees

Claire Benjamin, Martia Bevan, Slim Flegg, Sarah Henley, Carole Mathurin, Nick Pizey, Gina Vettese, Anita Jones (co-opted July 2014), Patrick Daly (resigned June 2013)

Senior Management

Lyla Adwan-Kamara

Registered Office and Principal Office

Wandle Valley Resource Centre, Room 22, Church Road, Mitcham CR4 3FA

Independent Examiner

Tesfai Meresse, Community Accountant, Merton Voluntary Service Council, The Vestry Hall, London Road, Mitcham, CR4 3UD

Principal Bankers

HSBC, Crown House, 102 London Road, Morden SM4 5AY

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES for the year ending 31 March 2014

The Board presents the report and financial statements of Merton Centre for Independent Living (MCIL) for the year ended 31 March 2014. The statements appear in the format required by the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised March 2005). The report and statements also comply with the Companies Act 2006.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document:

Merton Centre for Independent Living (MCIL) is a company limited by guarantee, having no share capital, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated June 2013. The liability of the Trustees, is limited to $\pounds 1$ in the event of the charity winding up. It is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission.

Appointment of Trustees:

The Board of Trustees is made up of not less than three and no more than twelve persons. Trustees are elected from the membership at the AGM or co-opted during the year by agreement of the board and confirmed at the AGM. Trustees must be aged 16 years or older. At least 75% of trustees should be disabled. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the organisation. New trustees are given induction on their roles and responsibilities and are offered additional training.

Organisation:

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board meets every other month. A manager is appointed to manage the day-to-day operations of the Charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Manager has delegated authority, within the terms of the delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and practice related issues.

Risk Management:

The Directors have reviewed the risks to which the charity is exposed. These are minimised by the implementation of procedures and policies, with a regular review of these to ensure current good practice.

Objectives and Activities

A summary of the objects as set out in the charity's Governing document.

"To relieve the needs of disabled persons in Merton and the surrounding areas by providing support and services to enable them to live as full and equal citizens in all aspects of life."

Our Aims

- To promote the independence and inclusion of disabled and deaf people in Merton
- Challenge discrimination facing disabled and deaf people in Merton
- Encourage disabled and deaf people and supporters to achieve change locally

Key Activities

- A home visiting advice service including income maximisation, benefit checks, debt advice, form filling;
- Advocacy helping disabled people get their voice heard, including support at tribunals and assessments;
- A 12 week programme of 1-2-1 Peer Support led by volunteers with lived experience of disability and a members' group for skills and experience sharing.
- Responding to consultations and reviews, and representing the voice of Merton's disabled people.
- Developing new areas of work around tackling disability hate crime and volunteer development

Summary of Achievements

We have grown MCIL from 1 to 4 members of staff in the past year, and have moved to new, larger, and more accessible premises in March 2014. We became a registered charity in July 2013.

Our key achievements include setting up a Home Advice Service, an Advocacy Service, an Engagement Project, and continuing to deliver our Peer Support Programme and developing an overall Volunteer Programme.

We have also held several events including our AGM held September 2013; 'My Voice Matters' Consultation event November 2013; Shared Experiences Peer Supporter Networking event February 2014.

We have responded to numerous consultations on behalf of our members including submissions to the UNCRDP Shadow Report May 2014; Select Committee Enquiry on WCA April 2014; Law Commission consultation on Hate Crime Sep 2013; DWP consultation on PIP moving around assessment, July 2013. We were also part of a small group helping the Office of Disability Issues develop a Community Data Toolkit We have raised the views and concerns of our members and service users with local service providers including Circle Housing Merton Priory and London Borough of Merton.

We sit on the new Safer Neighbourhoods Board in Merton as the voice of disabled people, we are part of the new Merton Action on Transport Alliance (MATA) and we attend the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The results for the year and financial position of the Charity are shown in the annexed statements.

The charity's net income is £11,983 of which £1,018 is unrestricted and £10,965 is restricted. This leaves final balances to carry forward of £2,034 unrestricted and £26,321 restricted balance. Since the Balance Sheet date no significant changes have taken place.

The Charity continues to rely on grant applications to fund its activities. The Trustees are confident that these grants will continue to be available for the valuable work the charity is doing.

During the year the Charity's Trustees have monitored the financial position of the organisation to ensure that the charity's funds, both restricted and unrestricted are correctly applied and accounted for. During 2013-14 the grant funding received increased from £36,984 to £64,947 when compared to the previous financial year.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Based on our most recent and previous consultation events Merton CIL has developed a 3 year strategic plan which focuses on key areas of work around each of the organisation's 3 aims.

In addition to plans for consolidating and scaling up existing advice, advocacy and peer support services, Merton CIL intends to grow it's volunteer programme, continue its engagement work and develop new areas of work around Disability Hate Crime and Planning, Access and Consultations, among others.

Merton CIL is also developing it's management and trustee capacity by developing a training programme and working towards a quality mark.

RESERVES POLICY

Merton Centre for Independent Living plans to develop reserves to cover its running costs for a period of 3 - 6 months as funds become available.

This ensures that core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

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 company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the

company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Y ORDER OF THE BOARD
Roy Benjamin (Chair)
Liona Rigurood.
Fiona Ringwood (Treasurer)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MERTON CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2014 set out on pages 11 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanation from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently, I do not express an opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe, that in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- 2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

15/07/2014

Tesfai Meresse, Community Accountant, BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance, Associate Member of ACIE.

The Vestry Hall, London Road, Mitcham, CR4 3UD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31 2014 ^{2a}

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2014	Total Funds 2013
Incoming Resources Incoming Resources	2b	£	£	£	£
from Charitable Activities	3a	-	63,929	64,947	36,984
Voluntary Income Fundraising Income	3b 3c	624 242	-	624 242	-
Other Income	3d	151	-	151	-
Total Incoming Resources		1,018	63,929	64,947	36,984
Resources Expended	2c				
Charitable Activities Cost of Fundraising		-	50,932 59	50,932 59	20,937 -
Governance Costs	4i		1,973	1,973	733
Total Resources Expended		-	52,964	52,964	21,670
Net Incoming Resources		1,018	10,965	11,983	15,314
Transfer of funds	3e	1,016	(1,016)	-	-
Total funds Brought Forward	3g		16,372	16,372	1,058
Total Funds Carried Forward	3g	2,034	26,321	28,354	16,372

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those in the statement of financial activities. Therefore no statement of total recognised gains and losses has been prepared. All the above amounts relate to continuing activities. The notes on pages 13-15 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AT MARCH 31 2014

	Notes	2014	2013
CURRENT ASSETS:		£	£
Debtors		0	151
Cash at bank and in hand		28,354	16,312
		28,354	16,463
LIABILITIES:			,
Creditors: amounts falling due			
within one year		0	91
NET CURRENT ASSETS		28,354	16,372
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT			
LIABILITIES		28,354	16,281
		=====	=====
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		2,034	0
TOTAL FUNDS		28,354	16,372
		=====	=====

For the year ending 31st March 2014 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The director's acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements were approved by the board on 15th July 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

(Roy Benjamin, Chair)

(Fiona Ringwood, Treasurer)

The notes on pages 13-15 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31 2013

1. These Notes form part of the financial statements.

2. Accounting Policies

2a Basis of Accounting: The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, and in compliance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 (revised 2008)' ("the SORP") 2b Income: from grants, donations and contributions represents the amounts receivable in respect of the year.

2c Expenditure: is recognised in the year in which it is incurred.

2d Fixed Assets: were incorrectly allocated in 2012-13. Fixed Assets should be capitalised and written off over their useful lives on a straight line basis if their purchase value is over £1,000

2e Voluntary Help: No amounts have been included in these financial statements to reflect the value of services provided free of charge to the charity by volunteers.

2f Pension Costs and other post retirement benefits: The company does not contribute to any pension scheme.

3. Income

2013-14

3a Incoming Resources from Charitable Activity means the grants and fees received on the understanding that they will be used to undertake activities to further charity's objects.

3b Voluntary Income means donations, grants given with no expectation of a service in return

3c Fundraising Income means various fundraising activities such as events, charity shops, catalogues, sales of merchandise, etc.

3d Other income is a debt repaid from 2012-13

3e Transfer of Funds: Circle Housing funds remaining at end of project moved to unrestricted funding with permission. Salary contribution made towards LBM restricted funds enabled transfer to unrestricted 3f Funds brought forward means funding kept from 2012-13 for use in

3g Funds carried forward means funding reserved for 2014-15 3h The organisation has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Statement No. 1 from producing a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2013
Charitable Activities				
Circle Housing	3i	-	9,000	9,000
London Borough of Merton	3 <u>j</u>	-	23,762	23,762
Merton Partnership	3k	-	10,000	10,000
Office of Disability Issues	31	-	12,167	12,167
Trust for London	3m	-	9,000	9,000
_		-	63,929	63,929
Voluntary Income		624	-	-
Fundraising Income		242	-	-
Other income		151	-	-
Total Incoming Resources		1,018	63,929	64,947

- 3i Circle Housing formerly known as Merton Priory Homes made 2 grants under the Empowering Communities and Legacy Funds
- 3j London Borough of Merton Grant was year two of 3-year Strategic partnership funding.
- 3k Merton Partnership Promoting Health and Wellbeing in East Merton Voluntary sector grants fund
- 3l ODI grant paid on a refund basis for which we submitted receipts. 3m Trust for London year one of 2 year grant from small grants programme

4. Expenditure

4a No trustee or any other person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the Charity during the year

4b The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 4.of the Charities Act 2006 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission.

Costs allocated to activities

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	2013 Total
Salaries and associated costs	4c	-	40,144	40,144
Hardware and software	4d	-	1,504	1,504
Training	4e	-	235	235
Events	4f	-	866	866
Publicity	4g	-	924	924
Office Overheads	4h		7,258	7,258
Total Cost of Charitable Activities			50,932	50,932
Cost of Fundraising Activity		-	59	59
Governance	4i	-	1,973	1,973
Total Resources Expended		_	52,964	52,964

4c Includes salaries and on costs, DBS checks, recruitment costs, access and volunteer expenses. The number of employees whose emoluments amounted to over £60,000 during the year was nil

- 4d Includes 2 desktop computers (1 new. 1 second hand), voipfone system and internet switch
- 4e Includes staff and volunteer training
- 4f Includes My Voice Matters 2013 and associated accessibility costs and Shared Experiences Event 2014
- 4g Includes leaflets, flyers and advertising.
- 4h Includes rent, office supplies, phones and insurance
- 4i Includes AGM 2013, access, and room hire for board meetings.