Registered number: 02453081 Charity number: 702419

**DERBYSHIRE LAW CENTRE LIMITED** (A company limited by guarantee)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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# REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# **Trustees and Management Committee**

Mr M Gordon, Chair

Mrs M E Honeyben, Vice Chair

Mr D L Webber, Treasurer (deceased 4 July 2016)

Mr J Duncan

Mr D Eccles (resigned 18 November 2015)

Mr S Ellis (resigned 11 April 2016)

Ms J Flood

Ms S Blank

Mr C Collard

Mr J Morehen

Mr C Philpot (resigned 18 November 2015)

Mr D Shaw

Mrs M Thorpe

Ms E Tidd

Mrs J Towuru

Mr A Craw

Mr C Hampton

Ms C Small

Ms A Syrett (resigned 22 July 2015)

Mr H Borrell (appointed 18 November 2015)

Mr C D Harper (appointed 18 November 2015, resigned 2 May 2016)

Miss S White (appointed 28 January 2016)

Mrs M Dooley (appointed 23 July 2015)

Mrs K M Salt MBE (appointed 18 November 2015)

Ms T Gilby (appointed 17 May 2016)

Mr D Skinner (appointed 2 June 2016)

### Company registered number

02453081

## Charity registered number

702419

## Registered office

1 Rose Hill East, Chesterfield, S40 1NU

## **Company secretary**

Mr A Craw

# **Independent auditors**

BHP, Chartered Accountants, 57-59 Saltergate, Chesterfield, S40 1UL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# Advisers (continued)

# **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank plc, Rose Hill, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 1LR

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Derbyshire Law Centre (the charity) for the ended 31 March 2016. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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).

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

### Objectives and Activities

## a. Policies and objectives

The company's mission is to increase access to justice for disadvantaged communities through the provision of quality assured, accessible free and low cost legal advice, information and representation to individuals and groups within our geographical area.

The Law Centre's strategic aims for the next 3 financial years are:

- 1.1. To provide and increase the provision of quality assured specialist legal advice and representation in areas of social welfare law, currently housing and homelessness, employment, community care and debt as well as quality assured specialist legal advice and assistance in immigration, discrimination, and hate and harassment work;
- 1.2. To undertake project work in line with our mission statement and as funding becomes available;
- 1.3. To provide an accessible initial diagnostic and signposting service to all callers, both by telephone and in person;
- 1.4. To increase and diversify funding coming into the Law Centre to secure its longevity;
- 1.5. To extend awareness of the Law Centre's work through appropriate publicity and providing information to groups and individuals on the law and its effects.
- 1.6. To ensure that the Law Centre has appropriate and well trained staff to deliver its services.

And further specific objectives

- To expand the availability of the specialist services across Derbyshire and;
- To be an active member of FAAD, Bolsover CVP, Links CVS, Chesterfield CAB and Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

#### Achievements and performance

#### a. Review of activities

The main areas of charitable activity are the provision of quality assured, accessible legal advice and representation.

This year, our caseworkers have dealt with almost 1,100 specialist cases, many of which involve court or tribunal representation. In addition, our Assessment team dealt with almost 3,900 telephone enquiries who we either advise there and then, refer to our specialist service or signpost on to a more suitable source of legal advice. Without our volunteers on the Assessment Team, our capacity to take these calls would be impossible.

In November, our Articles of Association were updated to make them more easily read. Our staff also went through a salary review which took effect in January 2016.

DLC, as a member of the Law Centres Network, changed to a national branding. This took place in July 2015 bringing more colour to our name.

We were Peer Reviewed and achieved a "2" which is "Competence Plus". This is a very high score which demonstrates we are a very good specialist organisation in legal advice. In February 2016, we were happy to be re-awarded our Service Quality Mark. This demonstrates all our office procedures and casework are at a specialist quality mark level. We pride ourselves on a high level service and, once again, we can prove we do just that. As well as this, we were audited by the Legal Ald Agency and passed with a "Good".

#### Specialist Services - Employment

Demand for employment advice continues to be high. Diminishing resources and higher demand has led to a busy employment unit. The Law Centre continues to work hard at attracting new funds for the service. 2015/16 saw the end of the Transition Funds in June which had supported the service since the end of Legal Aid in 2013. The unit has worked hard at promoting a charged for service and this continues to bring limited funds into the organisation.

The unit was involved in a rapid response advice session with other advice agencies and Job Centre Plus to give redundant ex-employees employment advice when a large company went into administration in the local area.

Services have been provided from our main Chesterfield office, through telephone advice, and face to face advice at Ripley, Bolsover, Buxton, Ilkeston and Matlock. Reduced funding has now seen this service reduce to Bolsover, Ilkeston and Ripley only.

The demand for employment advice continues to outstrip resources and seeking additional funding continues to be a priority.

# Specialist Services - Housing

As with employment, we also provide a specialist, quality assured legal casework service to people who are facing housing problems, including access to housing, homelessness, housing conditions or possession action. In addition (and where we particularly differ from Citizens Advice), we represent clients in court, as a solicitor agency, including staffing the duty scheme at Chesterfield County Court.

Our housing casework service is predominantly funded by the Legal Aid Agency and appointments are offered at both of our offices in Chesterfield as well as at Buxton, Ripley, Staveley and Bolsover.

We continue to organise a local housing law group aimed at local legal practitioners providing an opportunity to exchange information and knowledge on housing issues. Over the last year, through the group, we have organised a number of training sessions for its members, including: Mortgage Repossession, Housing Law Updater and Universal Credit.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## Specialist Services - Community Care

A small but important development in our advice services, the LAA funded contract has paved way for our increased expertise to attract new funds in 2016/17 which will see this part of our service increase.

# Specialist Services - Immigration

We continue to provide a telephone immigration advice service across the county of Derbyshire to families and individuals as well as to other agencies. We have also invested time to attract new funding for this service which has seen the development of two projects – the Living Rights Project (In conjunction with the Law Centres Network) and the Derbyshire Crisis Bilingual Service (which starts in 2016/17).

## **Hate and Harassment Project**

Funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and Derbyshire County Council, this project continued its work as a Hate Incident Reporting Centre, allowing us to report hate crimes directly to the police Real Time Intelligence Unit in the same way that Stop Hate UK do. We also continued to work with the local community on Equality Issues, particularly getting involved in the Holocaust Memorial Day in January 2016. Unfortunately, funding for this service ceased at the end of March 2016. The Law Centre is looking to develop new work around discrimination Issues, including Hate Crime, during 2016/17.

# Managing Demand for Advice Project

Funded by the Big Lottery Advice Services Transition Fund, this project was a North Eastern Derbyshire Advice Partnership consisting of 5 advice partners: Chesterfield CAB, DUWC, NEDCAB, FAAD and DLC. DLC was lead agency on this project.

The project's aim was to manage the demand for advice on less or alternative sources. It maintained our employment services in North Derbyshire whilst we were able to start a charged for service as well as obtaining new funding for the employment service to continue beyond the projects end in June 2015. New core funding was obtained and employment service levels continued beyond the end of the project.

#### **Improving Services Together Project**

Again, funded by the Big Lottery Advice Services Transition Fund, this project allowed DLC to provide a South Derbyshire Employment Advice Service. Another partnership project, this time with Derbyshire Dales Citizens Advice Bureau (now Derbyshire Districts Citizens Advice) who led on the project.

This project aimed to increase access to advice services, ensure clients were able to access advice before a problem became a crisis and create joined up and well-coordinated services. DLC's part in this was to provide employment advice services in Buxton and Matlock.

With core financial input from Derbyshire County Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council, we were able to continue providing employment advice services in the south of the County. This project ended in June 2015.

### Money Advice Service Debt Project

The Law Centre is funded by the Money Advice Service through East Midlands Money Advice, to deliver free debt advice to those who need it. The project allows us to employ a specialist debt caseworker to deliver a quality assured debt advice service, specialising in housing related debt. We continue to see a high demand for this service and the project is funded nationally until October 2017.

#### Living Rights Project

The Living Rights Project is a European Funded project, led by the Law Centres Network and DLC is funded to provide training sessions covering immigration, housing and employment over a 2 year period.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# Access to Justice Pro Bono Project

This project, started in January 2016, has been funded to secure both financial and non-financial resources to support the Law Centre to continue to provide free legal services to residents on low and unstable incomes across Derbyshire. This has required more partnership work and contact has been made with Derby University and Nottingham Law School, as well as private practice solicitors to look at ways of bringing in additional casework resources for our organisation.

#### **Home for Good**

This was an exciting new project for the Law Centre supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, exploring the history and heritage of social housing through oral history, photographs, written accounts, documents and objects contributed by local people. The project involved interviewing residents, talking to local groups and putting on exhibitions at local libraries. A new website was developed www.socialhousinghistory.org.uk along with Facebook and Twitter accounts. A final celebration exhibition was held at Chesterfield Library in early April. The project exceeded all expectations and it is hoped that we will be able to continue with this, concentrating on a different part of the district.

#### b. Investment policy and performance

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year (and designated funds), most of the charity's funds are to be spent in the short term and so all reserves are kept in a deposit account where interest rates are monitored.

#### Financial review

#### a. Going concern

The charity is dependent on continued core grant funding from Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council, North East Derbyshire District Council and Bolsover District Council as well as casework funding from the Legal Aid Agency. Grant funding is awarded annually and is only confirmed until 31 March 2017. The Legal Aid Agency contract work is currently contracted until 31 March 2018. Whilst inherently there can be no certainty with regards to the future income in the current economic climate, the trustees confirm that there is no reason to believe that this funding will not be continuing but acknowledge that this may be at a reduced level in some cases. New European Funding has been awarded later in 2016 which will continue for a further 3 years. Furthermore, the trustees have taken steps to generate some replacement income to mitigate the potential reductions.

At 31 March 2016 the charity had free reserves of £46,977 after designating funds of £69,807. The charity has produced budgets up to 31 July 2018 and financial reports which identify the measures necessary to maintain positive free reserves.

Given these circumstances the trustees' believe it is appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

## b. Results for the year

Our Financial Strategy has been supported by a very active Funding Strategy during the year. Our organisation has worked hard on attracting new funds, especially by working in partnership with other advice agencies to take advantage of new European Funds through D2N2 and Sheffield City Region.

2015/16 has seen substantial staff resources being put into the partnership working around the European Funding, and with great success. 2016/17 promises to be exciting with our involvement in DHA's Framework Project and Advice Nottingham's project, funded by D2N2 funds and the South Yorkshire Housing Association's project, Pathways to Employment funded by Sheffield City Region Funds. More outcomes are awaited.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

Our Strategic Plan event earlier in the year confirmed our aims increasing our charged service, maximising our Legal Aid Agency Contracts and solidifying our work around EU funding. The outcome of the EU Referendum in June may have impact on this so we are watching the developments carefully.

2015/16 proved to be a steady year in financial terms. Although there was a small deficit of £xxxxx, this came from our restricted funds that were reduced from the previous year. The unrestricted funds have actually increased and this has gone into our free reserves.

In 2014, the Law Centre moved it's main operations to the Town Hall. A payoff for the reduction in rental costs for DLC meant the staff would have to pay for parking. DLC's management committee decided that our saving should not be directly at the expense of our dedicated staff and so a nominal contribution has been given towards staff parking. As ever, staff have tried to find alternatives to paying for car parking and often underclaim. Any balance left in the budget for parking fees has now been transferred to a new designated fund which protects our staff in the future too.

2015/16 saw the end of Advice Services Transition Funding. This had been used to help some core services (particularly employment) to continue after the loss of Legal Aid Agency funding. Our core funding, which was boosted by Derbyshire Dales District Council supporting us, took the brunt of the costs for these services to continue. It is likely, however, that employment services will reduce if core funds are not maintained in 2016/17.

Our long lived Hate and Harassment Project ceased on 31.3.16. After 10 years, we had to close our services in Hate Crime. This led to project staff leaving which was upsetting for all concerned. We would like to wish Sarah Roy the best of futures.

Our Legal Ald Agency contracts continue to perform well, although we continue to suffer due to clients not turning up for appointments. Whilst measures are in place to send reminders, it is still difficult to achieve a full take up on the contract. The contracts, which were due for renewal in April 2016, have been extended until March 2018. This type of funding only funds some of our housing work. Our housing specialists also provide additional housing support through our County Court work and mortgage repossession advice, funded by local authorities through core grant and Homelessness funds.

Demand continues to outstrip resources in employment. Early 2016/17 saw the suspension of the service to enable current cases to be managed. It is the first time that this has ever happened and it goes to prove the demand that is there. Our work in 2015/16, once again exceeded all targets, despite the loss of ASTF funding. Whilst our South Derbyshire employment service is directly funded, the majority of our North Derbyshire service (mainly telephone advice) is funded through core funds.

Our charged service, whilst still small, is beginning to pick up a little momentum. This is mainly through caseworkers identifying the right type of case as we provide a charged service through pay per hour cases, Settlement Agreements and Damages Based Agreements. It is of particular note that at the end of the financial year, work was agreed on a joint protected award claim with DLC representing over 120 clients.

Our work on the Money Advice Service project (EMMA), continues at a pace with targets being met. The contract increased for 6 months which gave the organisation additional funds to provide more services around Debt. The targets are harsh but the demand is there to fulfil them.

A real highlight for the organisation was the project, supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, called "Home 4 Good". This allowed the Law Centre to explore our education aim more than we have ever done. We were able to work with new partners, such as Derbyshire Library to explore the history and heritage of social housing through oral history, photographs and written accounts contributed by local people. A celebration event was held in early April 2016 to mark the end of this successful project. There are hopes for more development in this type of area.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

As always, we are grateful to all the organisations that fund our services, both directly and indirectly. The continued support from Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council, Bolsover District Council and North East Derbyshire District Council, despite austerity measures, is essential for the survival of our organisation as they provide core grants. This then enables the Law Centre to retain high quality staff, providing an excellent service and, importantly, to attract/retain other funding from such places as The Big Lottery, Comic Relief and more. Thanks also to:

- The Big Lottery
- Comic Relief
- Money Advice Service
- Legal Ald Agency

We are also reliant upon donations. In 2015/16, the Law Centre set up PayPal accounts and Donations pages to encourage donations. You can find our donations page at www.mydonate.bt.com/charities/derbyshlrelawcentre. The Law Centre is also taking advantage of the Gift Aid scheme. Donations are also accepted through our facebook page too.

With incoming resources of £477,220 and expenditure of £480,818, we suffered a small deficit of £3,598. The year produced lower income and higher expenditure compared to the previous year.

At 31 March 2016, total funds carried forward are £122,962, of which £3,801 are in restricted funds, £69,807 are in designated funds and £49,354 are in unrestricted general funds.

#### c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks faced by the charity are loss of project funds and the reduction or loss of funding from Local Authorities due to the Central Government passing on cuts. Local Authorities may seek to pass on some of these cuts via grant aid reductions.

The processes and strategies for managing these risks are:

- Promoting the positive inpact of the Law Centre services
- Producing an Annual Report and holding a high quality AGM
- Building relationships with funders
- Ensuring funding streams are varied to reduce the impact of funding loss
- Responding actively to funders
- Campaigning through LCN
- Demonstrating the effectiveness of joint working
- Ensuring that "legal advice" is part of key strategies

#### d. Principal funding

During the year, the principal funding sources for the charity are by way of grant Income from Derbyshire County Council, Chesterfield Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council and Bolsover District Council. In addition, contract income comes from the Legal Aid Agency. Project funding has been awarded from the Big Lottery, Chesterfield Borough Council, Bolsover District Council, N E Derbyshire District Council, Comic Relief, Money Advice Service via contracts with Community Advice and Law Service. Finally a small amount of funding comes by way of donations, and other fundraising.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## Structure, governance and management

#### a. Constitution

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 15th December 1989 and registered as a charity on 10th January 1990. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Law Centre reviewed and revised it's Articles of Association to reflect current legislation and to more fully reflect the direction of the Law Centre. This was approved at the Annual General Meeting on 18.11.15. The Management Committee also updated their Personnel and Finance Sub Committees terms of reference.

The change of name from Chesterfield Law Centre to Derbyshire Law Centre was approved by Special Resolution on 13th November 2013 and has subsequently been approved by both the Charity Commission and Companies House.

# b. Method of appointment or election 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 Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustees (who form the Management Committee) are elected to serve for a period of 1 year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting. Currently there are 20 members, with 13 elected at the annual general meeting, 1 elected at the June 2015 committee meeting, 5 nominated as representatives by funders and 1 co-opted member. 1 of the current members has not served previously on the committee. There is a full list of Trustees on page 1 of the Trustees' report.

The Trustees seek to ensure that the diversity of membership of the management committee reflects the diversity of the local communities and any imbalance is addressed by way of co-options. The Trustees also try to maintain a broad skill mix. Currently personnel, finance, communication and community liaison skills are well represented.

The loss of Darren Webber in July 2016 resulted in a vacancy for Treasurer. This position has been temporarily filled by John Duncan.

# c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Existing trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charlty, having visited the office and/or spoken to one of the staff.

Additionally, new and existing trustees are invited to meet with one of the Centre co-ordinators, Teresa Waldron. At this meeting, Teresa Waldron works through an induction pack with the new trustee covering;

- The rights and responsibilities of Management Committee members.
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles.
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.
- Future plans and objectives.

All Management Committee members are also included in strategic events with staff as a way of developing the Law Centre's business strategy.

The Management Committee annually reviews the 3 year financial strategy and 3 year business plan document.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

#### d. Pay policy for senior staff

The charity's definition of senior management is staff on the Workers Group and the Trustees on the Management Committee. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits with the exception of out of pocket expenses incurred in the undertaking of their duties as Trustees and as agreed by the Committee. The Workers Group currently consists of 9 members of staff. Their salaries are reviewed annually by the Trustees and is set by reference to "Payscales and Allowances" published by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

#### e. Organisational structure and decision making

The Management Committee meets at least every two months and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The Management Committee has a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary (also the Company Secretary) and Treasurer. All officer positions are filled.

The Management Committee has two sub-committees; Personnel Sub Committee and Finance Sub Committee. Each sub-committee consists of at least four Management Committee members, with normally two staff in attendance, and usually meet on a quarterly basis. The Management Committee devolves the responsibility for the operational running of the charity to a staff management collective, known as Workers Group.

Workers Group is currently made up of solicitors (3), legal executives (1), caseworkers and project workers (3), and coordinators (3) and has responsibility for smooth running of the services, the day to day operational management of the Centre, individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continues to develop skills and working practices in line with best practice. Four admin workers provide administrative support to all Workers Group staff.

## f. Related party relationships

The Law Centre is a member of the Law Centres Network (LCN). The LCN is a Company Limited by Guarantee and registered in England. Established in 1978, the LCN acts as a co-ordinating body and the voice for Law Centres. It has a catchment area covering England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The LCN staff team provides an initial point of contact for those seeking information about the work of Law Centres, both within the movement, outside agencies and to the general public. The LCN also encourages the setting up of Steering Committees to establish new Law Centres by providing practical development support and advice.

Law Centres provide free legal advice and representation to the poorest and most disadvantaged members of society. They mainly practice in what is loosely termed Social Welfare Law. There are at present 44 Law Centres nationally.

The LCN also supports and develops special projects. Currently these include legal services for young people, promoting equality and human rights and tackling discrimination.

Locally, the Law Centre is an active member of Financial Action and Advice Derbyshire (FAAD), an unconstituted group involving other not-for-profit advice agencies across Derbyshire.

Derbyshire Law Centre has representatives on the Board of Trustees at Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre (DUWC), Chesterfield Citizens Advice Bureau, The Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Council for Voluntary Service and Action Limited and Bolsover CVP.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## g. Risk management

The "Office Manual" sets out all the policies and procedures in relation to Risk Management. This document is reviewed at least once a year. The Management Committee have taken steps to mitigate identified risks.

Our solicitors are members of the Law Society of England and Wales. Legal Executives are members of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEX). Solicitors and Legal Executives are subject to the regulatory requirements of the Solicitors Regulatory Authority and CILEX respectively, including responsibility for the supervision of non-qualified staff. The law centre is also registered with Financial Conduct Authority.

#### Plans for future periods

#### a. Future developments

Our priority is to maintain our core specialist legal advice services (in housing, debt, community care, employment and immigration) to the most vulnerable communities in Derbyshire. Local Authority core funding is absolutely key to maintaining this.

Whilst some core funding is to be reduced in 2016/17, we are delighted that our Local Authority funders recognise the importance of the work that we do and have tried to maintain levels of grants where possible.

New project funding from the EU will see new projects developing later in the year, with the likelihood of additional staff.

Our volunteers will play a key role in our services as Assessors. They will continue to signpost and refer internally or externally. We shall be looking to recruit additional volunteers during the year and, hopefully, obtain new funding to make their experience with the Law Centre more fulfilling and rewarding with the chance of taking part in additional training.

We shall continue to review our Funding Strategy to take advantage of all funding opportunities that are appropriate based on our Business Plan. This includes looking at funding a new service for Asylum Seekers and Refugees.

We shall continue to work hard to maintain our branch offices and outreach services. Best Value shall be applied and services assessed to consider the future viability of all offices. Our thanks to Banner Jones Solicitors, Ripley CVS, Derbyshire Districts CAB and Derbyshire County Council for allowing us to have offices in their premises.

Having our Service Quality Mark renewed, we shall continue to hold Legal Aid Agency contracts in Housing and Community Care.

Our charged service will continue to be developed, looking at other areas of social welfare law that may be suitable for this type of service, where funding is not otherwise available.

We shall continue to work with other Advice Agencies in Derbyshire to avoid duplication, maintain excellent working relationships on work on joint funding proposals.

We will continue our work as Board Members on Links CVS, Bolsover CVP, Chesterfield CAB and DUWC, again ensuring the longevity of these valued organisations and advice services generally. We also aim to become a Board Member at Derbyshire Districts Citizens Advice.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

Finally, we will continue to work closely with our Local Authority funders, ensuring that through their funding we contribute to their priorities and plans for local services.

#### Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Derbyshire Law Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

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 auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 4 Apple 16 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr M Gordon, Chair

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBYSHIRE LAW CENTRE LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Derbyshire Law Centre Limited for the year ended 31 March 2016 set out on pages 15 to 31. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's members, 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 members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

## Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity 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.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and international Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

# Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2016 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.

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

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBYSHIRE LAW CENTRE LIMITED

# 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 take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

John Marhall.

Jane Marshall (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

**BHP, Chartered Accountants** 

**Statutory Auditors** 

57-59 Saltergate Chesterfield S40 1UL

Date: 12 August 2016.

# **DERBYSHIRE LAW CENTRE LIMITED**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

|   | Note        | Unrestricted funds 2016  | Restricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£ |
|---|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income from:  |             |                          |                                  |                             |                             |
| Donations and legacies Investments Charitable activities            | 2<br>3<br>4 | 183,854<br>148<br>93,069 | 129,622<br>66,255                | 313,476<br>148<br>159,324   | 321,275<br>48<br>168,619    |
| Other income  | 5           | 2,400                    | 1,872                            | 4,272                       | 3,134                       |
| Total income  |             | 279,471                  | 197,749                          | 477,220                     | 493,076                     |
| Expenditure on:   |             |                          |                                  |                             |                             |
| Ralsing funds   | 6           | 2,937                    | 5,899                            | 8,836                       | 5,899                       |
| Charitable activities   | 7           | 268,959                  | 203,740                          | 472,699                     | 456,501                     |
| Total expenditure   |             | 271,896                  | 209,639                          | 481,535                     | 462,400                     |
| Net Income / (expenditure) before transfers Transfers between funds | 15          | 7,575<br>(5,436)         | (11,890)<br>5,436                | (4,315)                     | 30,676                      |
| Net income / (expenditure)  |             | 2,139                    | (6,454)                          | (4,315)                     | 30,676                      |
| Net movement in funds   |             | 2,139                    | (6,454)                          | (4,315)                     | 30,676                      |
| Reconciliation of funds:  |             |                          |                                  |                             |                             |
| Total funds at 1 April 2015   |             | 117,007                  | 9,553                            | 126,560                     | 95,884                      |
| Total funds at 31 March 2016  |             | 119,146                  | 3,099                            | 122,245                     | 126,560                     |

All activities relate to continuing operations.

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 02453081** 

**BALANCE SHEET** AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

|  |      |          | 2016    |          | 2015    |
|--|------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
|  | Note | £        | £       | £        | £       |
| Fixed assets                                   |      |          |         |          |         |
| Tangible assets                                | 9    |          | 2,377   |          | 2,578   |
| Current assets                                 |      |          |         |          |         |
| Debtors  | 10   | 58,545   |         | 44,780   |         |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |      | 129,453  |         | 114,976  |         |
|  | _    | 187,998  | _       | 159,756  |         |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 11   | (68,130) |         | (35,774) |         |
| Net current assets                             | -    |          | 119,868 |          | 123,982 |
| Net assets                                     |      | •        | 122,245 | -        | 126,560 |
| Charity Funds                                  |      |          |         | =        |         |
| Restricted funds                               | 15   |          | 3,099   |          | 9,553   |
| Unrestricted funds                             | 15   |          | 119,146 |          | 117,007 |
| Total funds                                    |      | •        | 122,245 | -        | 126,560 |
|  |      |          |         | -        |         |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

4 August 2016. and signed on their behalf,

Mr M Gordon Chair

The notes on pages 17 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 1. Accounting Policies

# 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Derbyshire Law Centre Limited 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

#### 1.2 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

# 1.3 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

At the date of transition in applying the requirement to recognise liabilities arising from employee benefits, a liability was recognised for short-term compensated absense arising from employee entitlement of the charity to paid annual leave. The initial liability recognised at the date of transition was for the holiday entitlement carried forward and the entitlement arising in the year which was due but not taken. The initial liability was for £7,970. No other restatements were required.

In accordance with FRS 102, a reconciliation of opening balances is provided here:

| Reconciliation of funds and balances                               | 01 April 2014<br>£ | 2015<br>£          |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fund balances as previously stated Short-term compensated absenses | 101,961<br>(6,077) | 133,730<br>(7,170) |
| Fund balances as restated  | 95,884             | 126,560            |

21 March

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

#### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### 1.4 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

#### 1.5 Income

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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

#### 1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

#### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

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

Fixtures and fittings

20% straight line

Computer equipment

33% straight line

Assets purchased with project funds are not to be subject to depreciation and are to be written off in the year of purchase.

#### 1.8 Pensions

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the company during the year.

### 1.9 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

#### 1.10 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### 1.11 Debtors

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

#### 1.12 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

### 1.13 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.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

### 1.14 Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

# 1.15 Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

### 2. Income from donations and legacies

|  | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Donations                                    | 763                                | 9                                | 763                         | 573                         |
| Chesterfield Borough Council                 | 46,330                             | 12,700                           | 59,030                      | 58,330                      |
| Derbyshire County Council                    | 90,124                             | -                                | 90,124                      | 97,924                      |
| N E Derbyshire District Council              | 18,453                             | 12,000                           | 30,453                      | 30,216                      |
| Bolsover District Council                    | 18,000                             | 12,000                           | 30,000                      | 30,000                      |
| Big Lottery - Hate and Harrassment Project   | -                                  | -                                |                             | 9,371                       |
| Comic Relief - Pennies and Pounds Project    | -                                  | 10,042                           | 10,042                      | 10,003                      |
| Derbyshire Dales District Council            | 10,000                             | -                                | 10,000                      | -                           |
| Big Lottery - Transition Fund (N Derbyshire) | 184                                | 19,298                           | 19,482                      | 46,108                      |
| Big Lottery - Transition Fund (S Derbyshire) | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 32,500                      |
| Heritage Lottery - Home for Good             | -                                  | 27,900                           | 27,900                      | 7.5                         |
| Access to Justice Pro Bono Project           | -                                  | 1,875                            | 1,875                       |                             |
| Police & Crime Commissioner                  | -                                  | 24,813                           | 24,813                      | 6,250                       |
| Amber Valley Borough Council                 | -                                  | 6,000                            | 6,000                       | *                           |
| Living Rights Project                        | -                                  | 2,994                            | 2,994                       | €1                          |
|  |                                    |                                  |                             |                             |
| Total donations and legacies                 | 183,854                            | 129,622                          | 313,476                     | 321,275                     |

In 2015, of the total income from donations and legacies, £173,243 was to unrestricted funds and £148,032 was to restricted funds

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

| 3. | Investment income |                                    |                                  |                             |                             |
|----|-------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|    |                   | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£ |
|    | Investment income | 148                                |                                  | 148                         | 48                          |

In 2015, of the total investment income, £48 was to unrestricted funds and £Nil was to restricted funds.

# 4. Income from charitable activities

|                                     | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| LSC: Legal help contract            | 48,431                             | E.                               | 48,431                      | 61,742                      |
| LSC: Disbursements (Block contract) | 852                                | <b>=</b> 2                       | 852                         | 1,773                       |
| LSC: Disbursements (Legal rep)      | 2,855                              | +:                               | 2,855                       | 2,924                       |
| LSC: County Court Duty Scheme       | 10,589                             | -                                | 10,589                      | 16,280                      |
| LSC: Legal representative           | 21,480                             | <b>\$</b> 6                      | 21,480                      | 25,296                      |
| Case work fees                      | 5                                  | #                                | -                           | 831                         |
| EMMA project                        | -                                  | 66,255                           | 66,255                      | 49,598                      |
| Charged services income             | 8,862                              | *                                | 8,862                       | 10,175                      |
| Total                               | 93,069                             | 66,255                           | 159,324                     | 168,619                     |

In 2015, of the total income from charitable activities, £133,989 was to unrestricted funds and £34,630 was to restricted funds.

## 5. Other income

|                             | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£ |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Training fees Subscriptions | 2,400                              | 1,822<br>50                      | <b>4,222</b><br>50          | 3,121<br>13                 |
| Total                       | 2,400                              | 1,872                            | 4,272                       | 3,134                       |

In 2015, of the total other income, £Nil was to unrestricted funds and £3,121 was to restricted funds.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

| 6. | Expenditure on raising funds |                                    |                                  |                             |                             |
|----|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|    |                              | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£ |
|    | Publicity and promotion      | 2,937                              | 5,899                            | 8,836                       | 5,899                       |

In 2015, of the total expenditure on raising funds, £2,395 was to unrestricted funds and £3,504 was to restricted funds.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

| 7. | Charitable activities                            |              |            |         |         |
|----|--|--------------|------------|---------|---------|
|    |  | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total   | Total   |
|    |  | funds        | funds      | funds   | funds   |
|    |  | 2016         | 2016       | 2016    | 2015    |
|    |  | £            | £          | £       | £       |
|    | Wages and salaries                               | 161,321      | 155,161    | 316,482 | 301,258 |
|    | National insurance                               | 20,925       | 5,156      | 26,081  | 23,862  |
|    | Pension cost                                     | 12,880       | 7,167      | 20,047  | 22,375  |
|    | Redundancy costs                                 | 3,705        | 8          | 3,705   |         |
|    | Practising certificates                          | 757          | 920        | 1,677   | 1,834   |
|    | Telephone  | 3,211        | 1,431      | 4,642   | 5,757   |
|    | Affiliations, reference books and education      | 2,510        | 1,438      | 3,948   | 6,360   |
|    | Subscriptions                                    | 1,964        | 1,322      | 3,286   | 2,939   |
|    | Staff expenses                                   | 3,107        | 1,341      | 4,448   | 4,017   |
|    | Committee expenses                               | 865          | 96         | 961     | 984     |
|    | Volunteer's training costs                       | 30           | -          | 30      | 1,465   |
|    | Staff training costs                             | 7,986        | 4,821      | 12,807  | 10,852  |
|    | Volunteer's expenses                             | 958          | 249        | 1,207   | 3       |
|    | Training delivery                                | ===          | -          | -       | 1,776   |
|    | Consultancy                                      | 435          | 3,030      | 3,465   | 3,260   |
|    | Disbursements                                    | 10,747       | 51         | 10,798  | 5,611   |
|    | Professional indemnity                           | 563          | 1,027      | 1,590   | 1,449   |
|    | Rent   | 10,561       | 7,978      | 18,539  | 16,224  |
|    | Heat, light and water                            | -            | -          | 200     | 188     |
|    | Insurance  | 1,228        | 503        | 1,731   | 1,658   |
|    | Repairs and cleaning                             | 1,264        | 738        | 2,002   | 2,588   |
|    | Stationery and postage                           | 4,604        | 3,385      | 7,989   | 8,817   |
|    | Moving costs                                     | -            | 2          | -       | 3,925   |
|    | Equipment maintenance, mobility alds, repair     |              |            |         |         |
|    | and replacement                                  | 12,173       | 5,625      | 17,798  | 19,202  |
|    | Interpretation costs                             | 50           | -          | 50      | 90      |
|    | Hospitality                                      | 1,102        | 770        | 1,872   | 1,207   |
|    | Computer and website costs                       | 3            | 722        | 725     | 4,243   |
|    | Bank charges, interest and card facility charges | 95           | 160        | 255     | 844     |
|    | Legal and professional                           | 238          | 2          | 238     | 687     |
|    | Profit on disposal of fixed assets               | -            | 2          | -       | (833)   |
|    | Depreciation                                     | 1,276        | 8          | 1,276   | 689     |
|    | Audit costs                                      | 4,401        | 649        | 5,050   | 3,170   |
|    | Total  | 268,959      | 203,740    | 472,699 | 456,501 |
|    |  |              |            |         |         |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

|     | Net incoming resources/(resources expended)    |              |                 |                 |
|-----|--|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|     | This is stated after charging:                 |              |                 |                 |
|     |  |              | 2016            | 2015            |
|     |  |              | £               | £               |
|     | Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:         |              |                 |                 |
|     | - owned by the charity Auditors' remuneration  |              | 1,276           | 689             |
|     | Auditors' remuneration - professional services |              | 4,000           | 2,920<br>250    |
|     | ,  |              |                 |                 |
| 9.  | Tangible fixed assets                          |              |                 |                 |
|     |  | Fixtures and | Computer        |                 |
|     |  | fittings     | equipment       | Total           |
|     |  | £            | £               | £               |
|     | Cost   |              |                 |                 |
|     | At 1 April 2015<br>Additions                   | 9,660        | 14,963<br>1,075 | 24,623<br>1,075 |
|     |  |              |                 |                 |
|     | At 31 March 2016                               | 9,660        | 16,038          | 25,698          |
|     | Depreciation                                   |              |                 |                 |
|     | At 1 April 2015                                | 9,660        | 12,385          | 22,045          |
|     | Charge for the year                            |              | 1,276           | 1,276           |
|     | At 31 March 2016                               | 9,660        | 13,661          | 23,321          |
|     | Net book value                                 |              |                 |                 |
|     | At 31 March 2016                               |              | 2,377           | 2,377           |
|     | At 31 March 2015                               | -            | 2,578           | 2,578           |
| 10. | Debtors  |              |                 |                 |
| 10. | DEBTOL2  |              |                 |                 |
|     |  |              | 2016<br>£       | 2015<br>£       |
|     | Trade debtors                                  |              | 8,140           | 14,938          |
|     | Contract and other debtors                     |              | 40,815          | 20,864          |
|     | Prepayments and accrued income                 |              | 9,590           | 8,978           |
|     |  |              |                 |                 |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

| 11. | Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year  |                                     |  |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|--|
|     |   | 2016<br>£                           | 2015<br>£                                |
|     | Trade creditors Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income | 21,241<br>7,357<br>39,532<br>68,130 | 4,355<br>3,170<br>74<br>28,175<br>35,774 |
|     | Deferred Income   |                                     | £  |
|     | Deferred income at 1 April 2015   |                                     | 10,389                                   |
|     | Resources deferred during the year  |                                     | 16,766                                   |
|     | Amounts released from previous years  |                                     | (10,389)                                 |
|     | Deferred income at 31 March 2016  |                                     | 16,766                                   |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

#### 12. Staff costs

Staff costs were as follows:

|                       | 2016<br>£   | 2015<br>£ |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Wages and salaries    | 316,482     | 301,258   |
| Social security costs | 26,081      | 23,862    |
| Other pension costs   | 20,047      | 22,375    |
|                       | 362,610     | 347,495   |
|                       | · · · · · · |           |

The average monthly number of employees was: 15 (2015: 14) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part-time staff):

| 2016 | 2015 |
|------|------|
| No.  | No.  |
| 13   | 13   |
|      |      |

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

As at the 31 March 2016 a provision has been provided for a redundancy payment of £3,705 which relates to the current year but will be paid after the year end. This was compensation determined through a settlement agreement for one member of staff.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £269,504 (2015: £258,105). The charity considers its key management personnel comprise the staff on Workers Group and the Trustees on the Management Committee.

#### 13. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees.

The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £20,047 (2015: £22,375). £4,335 (2015: £2,997) was outstanding at the year end and included within creditors.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# 14. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2016 the charity had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

|   | Land   | Other  |       |       |
|---|--------|--------|-------|-------|
|   | 2016   | 2015   | 2016  | 2015  |
|   | £      | £      | £     | £     |
| Not later than 1 year                   | 13,385 | 13,385 | 1,573 | 1,573 |
| Later than 1 and not later than 5 years | 16,731 | 30,116 | 3,867 | 5,080 |
| Later than 5 years                      |        |        | 18    | 360   |
| Total                                   | 30,116 | 43,501 | 5,440 | 7,013 |

### 15. Statement of funds

|  |           |                                    | Statement or idina   |
|--|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| Brought Incoming Resources Transfers Carried Forward resources Expended in/out Forward £ £ £ £ | resources | Forward                            |  |
|  |           |                                    | Designated funds   |
| 53,977 - 2,938 56,915  | -         | 53,977                             | Staff contingency  |
| 8,665 = 8,665  | 2         | 8,665                              |  |
| 2,000 - 2,000  | -         | 2,000                              | Long term repair fund  |
| - 2,227 2,227  |           | -                                  | Staff car parking  |
| 64,642 - 5,165 69,807  |           | 64,642                             |  |
|  |           |                                    | General funds  |
| 52,365 279,471 (271,896) (10,601) 49,339   | 279,471   | 52,365                             | General funds  |
| 117,007 279,471 (271,896) (5,436) 119,146  | 279,471   | 117,007                            | Total Unrestricted funds   |
| 8,665<br>2,000 - 2,227<br>64,642 - 5,165<br>52,365 279,471 (271,896) (10,601)                  | 279,471   | 8,665<br>2,000<br>64,642<br>52,365 | Staff contingency Equipment renewals fund Long term repair fund Staff car parking  General funds General funds |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# 15. Statement of funds (continued)

# Restricted funds

|                                     | Brought<br>Forward<br>£ | incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>Expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>in/out<br>£ | Carried<br>Forward<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hate and Harassment project (Big    |                         |                            |                            |                          |                         |
| Lottery)                            | -                       | -                          | (1,200)                    | 1,200                    | 3.00                    |
| Hate and Harassment project (PCP)   | 110                     | 24,813                     | (24,923)                   | 1967                     | 200                     |
| Hate and Harassment project (DCC    |                         |                            |                            |                          |                         |
| Community Fund)                     | 4,938                   | -                          | (4,938)                    | 592                      | 527                     |
| Hate and Harassment project (CBC)   | -                       | 700                        | (700)                      | 1                        | -                       |
| Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire        |                         |                            |                            |                          |                         |
| Housing Law Group                   | 123                     | 50                         | (72)                       |                          | 101                     |
| Youth reach - YMCA Homeless         |                         |                            |                            |                          |                         |
| Project                             | 14                      | -                          | (14)                       | 586                      | 8.58                    |
| Pennies and Pounds project          | -                       | 10,042                     | (10,042)                   | 390                      | 1300                    |
| Adv Serv Trans Fund (N. Derbyshire) | 4,139                   | 9,298                      | (15,637)                   | 2,200                    |                         |
| NED Homelessness Prevention         | -                       | 36,000                     | (36,454)                   | 454                      | 3365                    |
| Adv Serv Trans Fund (S. Derbyshire) | 45                      | 10,000                     | (10,169)                   | 124                      | -                       |
| Growth Accelerator                  | -                       | 1,822                      | (2,258)                    | 436                      | 200                     |
| Home for Good project               | -                       | 27,900                     | (26,298)                   |                          | 1,602                   |
| EMMA project                        | 184                     | 66,255                     | (66,424)                   | (30)                     | 15                      |
| Amber Valley Independent Advice     | 28                      | 6,000                      | (6,273)                    | 273                      | 3.00                    |
| Access to Justice Pro Bono Project  |                         | 1,875                      | (1,875)                    | 3.00                     | 200                     |
| Living Rights Project               | 74                      | 2,994                      | (2,362)                    | 749                      | 1,381                   |
|                                     | 9,553                   | 197,749                    | (209,639)                  | 5,436                    | 3,099                   |
| Total of funds                      | 126,560                 | 477,220                    | (481,535)                  | -                        | 122,245                 |

Transfers from unrestricted funds are made to cover restricted funds in deficit and to provide for designated funds.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# 15. Statement of funds (continued)

#### **Designated funds**

#### **Staff Contingency Fund**

Staff redundancy costs are covered in the contingency fund. This designated fund will, for 2015/16, consist of 80% of staff redundancy costs at statutory minimum levels.

#### **Equipment Renewals Fund**

This is a capital fund which allows for the replacement of capital equipment as required.

#### Long Term Repair Fund

To allow for an estimate of repairs work to be carried out over the next 5 years.

#### Staff Car Parking Fund

This is set aside to fund parking at work costs.

#### **Restricted funds**

# Hate and Harassment Project: Ended 31.3.16

Funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, our Rose Hill East Office is now a Hate Incident Reporting Centre where we report hate crimes directly to the police Real Time Intelligence Unit in the same way that Stop Hate UK do. We also continue to work with the local community on Equality issues.

### Hate and Harassment Project: Ended 31.3.16

Funded by Derbyshire County Council's Community Safety fund, this project compliments the one funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and aims to continue the work of providing legal advice and training on hate and harassment issues across North Eastern Derbyshire.

### Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Housing Law Group:

Subscription based group. Legal practitioners from the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire areas meet to exchange information on Housing. Formal housing training has also been undertaken by the group.

#### Youth Reach - YMCA Homeless Project:

An emergency fund for clients who are homeless.

#### Pennies and Pounds Project: Ended 31.3.16

Funded by Comic Relief, six advice and VCS partners, including Derbyshire Law Centre, within North Eastern Derbyshire Advice Partnership are delivering a 3-year project: 'Look after your pennies and the pounds will look after themselves.'

# Adv Serv Trans Fund (N. Derbyshire): Ended 31.3.16

Managing Demand 4 Advice Project, funded by the Big Lottery Advice Services Transition Fund, is a North Eastern Derbyshire Advice Partnership that consist of five advice partners: Chesterfield CAB, DUWC, NEDCAB, FAAD and ourselves. The aim of this project is to manage the demand for advice on less resources.

### North Eastern Derbyshire Homelessness Prevention:

Funded Jointly by Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council, this project allows DLC to assist clients that are facing mortgage reposession.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

#### 15. Statement of funds (continued)

#### Adv Serv Trans Fund (S. Derbyshire): Ended 31.3.16

Improving Services Together is funded by the Big Lottery Advice Service Transition Fund. The project is a partnership of advice organisations across Amber Valley, Derbyshire Dales, Erewash and High Peak. The project partners are: Derbyshire Districts Citizens Advice Bureau Derbyshire Law Centre, Direct Help and Advice, Home-Options and Rural Action Derbyshire. The aims of the project are to; increase access to advice services, ensure clients are able to access advice before a problem becomes a crisis and create joined up and well-coordinated services. DLC directly provides an employment service in Buxton and Matlock for this project.

#### **Growth Accelerator**

As part of the ASTF project, the Law Centre signed up for the "Growth Accelerator" Scheme. This took advantage of the European Regional Development Fund 2007-13 to give business advice and provide match funding for senior management training. These funds provided 50% towards the cost of some staff training.

#### **Home for Good Project**

This was an exciting new project for the Law Centre supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, exploring the history and heritage of social housing through oral history, photographs, written accounts, documents and objects contributed by local people

#### **East Midlands Money Advice Project**

The Law Centre is a partner of this regional project, funded by the Money Advice Service, through East Midlands Money Advice. Our project allows us to employ an additional specialist debt caseworker who delivers a quality assured debt service to people who are struggling to maintain essential payments for their home (rent or mortgage) because of other debts.

We continue to have a high demand for this service and have this year signed another 3 year service level agreement to enable us to continue this type of work.

# Amber Valley Independant Advice

This work is funded by Amber Valley Borough Council and is for housing work that is out of scope in Ripley.

# Access to Justice Pro Bono Project

To support the Law Centre to continue to provide free legal services to residents on low and unstable incomes across Derbyshire. This has required more partnership work and contact has been made with Derby University and Nottingham Law School, as well as private practice solicitors to look at ways of bringing in additional casework resources for our organisation

### **Living Rights Project**

The Living Rights Project is a European Funded project, led by the Law Centres Network and DLC is funded to provide training sessions covering immigration, housing and employment over a 2 year period.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

|     | Summary of funds   |                         |                              |                            |                              |                              |
|-----|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|     |  | Brought<br>Forward<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£   | Resources<br>Expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>in/out<br>£     | Carried<br>Forward<br>£      |
|     | Designated funds<br>General funds                                  | 64,642<br>52,365        | 279,471                      | -<br>(271,896)             | 5,165<br>(10,601)            | 69,807<br>49,339             |
|     |  | 117,007                 | 279,471                      | (271,896)                  | (5,436)                      | 119,146                      |
|     | Restricted funds   | 9,553                   | 197,749                      | (209,639)                  | 5,436                        | 3,099                        |
|     | :  | 126,560                 | 477,220                      | (481,535)                  |                              | 122,245                      |
| 16. | Analysis of net assets between funds                               |                         |                              |                            |                              |                              |
|     |  |                         | Unrestricted funds 2016      | Restricted funds 2016      | Total<br>funds<br>2016<br>£  | Total<br>funds<br>2015<br>£  |
|     | Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors due within one year |                         | 2,377<br>184,899<br>(68,130) | 3,099<br>-                 | 2,377<br>187,998<br>(68,130) | 2,578<br>159,756<br>(28,604) |
|     |  |                         | 119,146                      | 3,099                      | 122,245                      | 126,560                      |

# 17. Related party transactions

Committee members receive no remuneration for their services. Their travelling and other expenses are reimbursed in respect of expenses incurred on the company's business. In the year ended 31 March 2016 these totalled £961 (2015: £982).

During the year no committee members made donations to the charity (2015: Nil).