

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED **31 DECEMBER 2015** 

**Charity Number** Company Registration Number 4741583 (England & Wales)

1099506

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# MONEY ADVICE TRUST REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**President** Baroness Coussins

#### **Directors and Trustees**

The Directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Mike Barley Chair (retired 6 July 2016)
Adam Sharples CB Chair (appointed 6 July 2016)
Jenny Watson Deputy Chair

Jenny Watson Tracey Bleakley Simon Crine Martyn Gimber Gail Scott-Spicer Claire Whyley Sian Williams Merrick Willis OBE

Chief Executive Joanna Elson OBE CDir

Company Secretary Ian Witcombe

**Ambassadors** Liz Barclay, Martin Hall MVO MBE, Rt Hon Sir Ian McCartney,

Sir Brian Pomeroy CBE, Carol Sergeant CBE, Sir Sherard

Cowper-Coles KCMG LVO and Simon Walker.

#### Constitution

The Money Advice Trust is a company limited by guarantee (number 4741583) with no share capital and a registered charity (number 1099506) governed by its articles of association. National Debtline, Business Debtline, Wiseradviser, My Money Steps, Common Financial Statement, CASHflow and the Information Hub are part of the Money Advice Trust.

**Registered office** 21 Garlick Hill London EC4V 2AU

Auditors Sayer Vincent LLP Invicta House 108-114 Golden Lane

London EC1Y 0TL

Solicitors Russell-Cooke LLP 2 Putney Hill London SW15 6AB

Bankers National Westminster Bank plc PO Box 399 CR9 3QB

Websites www.moneyadvicetrust.org

www.businessdebtline.org www.cfs.moneyadvicetrust.org www.infohub.moneyadvicetrust.org

www.mymoneysteps.moneyadvicetrust.org

www.nationaldebtline.org www.wiseradviser.org

# MONEY ADVICE TRUST TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015.

## Objectives and activities - including public benefit

The Money Advice Trust's charitable objectives are the relief of poverty including, but not limited to, that arising from indebtedness and the advancement of public education in all matters relating to the management of personal finances. These objectives fall under the purposes of public benefit as defined by the Charities Act 2011. The Board has developed strategic plans to ensure that the Money Advice Trust provides public benefit and achieves its objectives as set out in its governing document.

The Board confirms that it has complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

The Money Advice Trust exists to serve people in all four administrations of the UK. The services we offer to the public are multi-channel to meet our clients' needs and these include telephone and online debt advice. These are all available to individuals via National Debtline and My Money Steps and to micro-businesses via Business Debtline.

National Debtline, My Money Steps and Business Debtline serve people in debt in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. A service we began in April 2016 sees National Debtline advisers providing a triage service in Northern Ireland in conjunction with Citizens Advice Northern Ireland. The Business Debtline service in Northern Ireland is run in partnership with Advice NI.

Anyone in debt can contact National Debtline and we aim to help anyone who contacts us. Any micro-business which is trading or has ceased trading but has business debts outstanding can contact Business Debtline.

The free training and adviser support we offer for free-to-client debt advisers is delivered across the UK by the Money Advice Trust in England and Wales and by funding our partners Money Advice Scotland and Citizens Advice Scotland in Scotland, and Advice NI in Northern Ireland. No fees are charged for our advice services; we charge only for delivering training or consultancy to commercial organisations.

In the original three year strategy 2014 - 2016, we set out an ambitious plan in which we strove to help more people, more effectively across our four aims (set out below). This involved investment in technology that would greatly improve the client journey, make use of new channels in which to serve people and in doing so reduce the cost per client.

Two years into the plan we can reflect on the successes we have had whilst recognising the need to again assess the current and future environment. 2015 was one of significant change for the Money Advice Trust with major projects introduced and the realisation of many of the benefits we envisaged in the original plan. Our multi-channel approach is well established as are our on-going partnerships with Citizens Advice and StepChange Debt Charity.

## Strategic report

## **Achievements and performance**

The Money Advice Trust's annual business plan sets out its vision, values and current aspirations and provides key targets against which its performance is evaluated. Achievement of these targets is monitored by the Board.

We remain committed to our values and work to live them and ensure they are embedded in all we do. Our values are:

Be Balanced Be Supportive Be Innovative

Our vision is:

'People across the UK tackle their debts and manage their money with confidence.'

Our mission reads:

'Supporting people and small business to deal with their debts, training the free advice sector to help them, and improving the UK's money and debt environment.'

The Partnership Board, (comprising key funders, relevant government departments and regulators, alongside advice and creditor sector representatives) provides advice on the Money Advice Trust's strategy to help ensure its objectives are representative of key stakeholders, effective and outcome-focussed.

We set out below our key achievements for 2015, which were broadly in line with our objectives as set out in the 3-Year Plan 2014-16. More details are available in our 2015 Impact Report.

In total, we supported over **1,350,000** people either directly through our services or indirectly through our adviser training.

**Aim 1:** Empower clients to tackle their debts and improve their financial health.

• National Debtline helped almost 400,000 people. The National Debtline website had 989,127 visits and our My Money Steps online tool had 91,200 visits. Together, these resulted in 386,910 advice sessions to 267,936 people. Our webchat service

provided an additional 32,533 advice sessions. National Debtline provided 178,700 advice sessions to 128,040 people on the telephone.

97% of people report immediate satisfaction with the advice given. Two months
after contacting us, 84% of callers to National Debtline reported that they felt more
in control of their financial situation and 90% felt more knowledgeable about
financial matters.

**Aim 2:** Empower microbusinesses to tackle their debts and improve their financial health.

- Business Debtline helped over 52,000 people. The Business Debtline website had 134,894 visits, leading to 43,164 online advice sessions provided to 31,262 people. Our Business Debtline webchat service launched in August 2015 and provided an additional 1,279 advice sessions. Business Debtline provided 29,651 advice sessions to 21,325 people on the telephone.
- Two months after contacting us, 87% of Business Debtline respondents reported that they felt confident that they are managing their money more wisely. 89% of Business Debtline respondents said they felt more knowledgeable about financial matters overall and 62% said our advice helped them to continue trading.

Aim 3: Support free advisers across the UK to provide effective debt advice.

- Wiseradviser helped over 903,000 people indirectly through adviser training.
- We provided 7,587 training places to debt advisers in organisations across the UK and 4,395 advisers actively used the Wiseradviser website to access training and other learning resources. 55% of Wiseradviser training places were provided on online courses.
- 74% of advisers who used our training found that it improved their knowledge of money advice substantially and 84% of advisers applied the learning in their role.
   72% of advisers agreed that Wiseradviser has helped their career development.

#### Innovation Grant outcomes

We support projects that aim to produce lessons, insights and materials which can be shared with others to help individuals or small businesses deal with their debts and improve the UK's money and debt environment.

Key outcomes and lessons from the programme include:

• 45% reduction in repeat visits to a debt advice service by assessing the financial capability of clients and providing additional support to those in need (Talking Money – Future Money Project 2012 & 2014).

- 20% improvement on engagement rates for clients referred to the housing association advice team by using principles based on behavioural economics and nudge theory. (Hyde BE Secure 2015/16).
- 512 advice sessions delivered over Skype and Facetime in British Sign Language which meant 141 deaf people were able to get advice from someone who spoke their language. (DeafPLUS 2016).
- £22,388 saved by 198 carers receiving specialist energy and fuel advice (Changeworks 2015).

**Aim 4:** Improve the UK's money and debt environment.

We continue to shape policy, responding to 22 consultations in 2015. This resulted in:

- 28 local authorities committed to improving debt collection practices.
- Improved access to debt options such as the online bankruptcy petition process and changes in DRO rules.
- Better protections for people in vulnerable circumstances when HMRC recovers debts by taking money directly from bank accounts.
- Changes to FCA consumer credit rules as they affect debt advice and clearer FCA guidance ensuring that creditors cannot force people to use their pension pots to pay their debts.

## **Financial review**

The majority of income is from voluntary donations, which have been received as a response to the Money Advice Trust's Funding Model. This model is derived from calculating the benefit to organisations which our services provide to their customers.

Our funding for 2015 consisted of approximately 83% from the private sector, 1% from government and 16% from other sources (self-generated).

The total income for the year was £8,792,725 and total costs were £9,385,948. As part of the Board's plan for helping more people, reducing costs per client and improving the client experience, it had agreed a deficit of £507,000 for 2015, with a view to returning to a balanced budget in 2016. This took account of the agreed use of reserves and is a short term measure. The expenditure was used to support our objectives and the detailed financial analysis of income and expenditure can be found in the notes to the accounts section.

The year-end funds of £4,106,254 fall into three categories: unrestricted funds £3,437,639, restricted funds £19,486 and designated funds £649,129.

## Reserves policy, investment policy and going concern

The Board is committed to ensuring funds are put to use as soon as possible. It considered its reserves policy in conjunction with the development of its three-year plan and took into account fundraising activity and the investment required in achieving the targets set within the plan.

The funding environment in which the Trust operates remains challenging and the Board has reviewed the financial risks associated with the income and expenditure streams and balance sheet items. The Board used this information to ensure that an adequate level of readily realisable unrestricted reserves is held to safeguard the continuing work and commitments of the Money Advice Trust in the event of a significant change in circumstances.

The Board has agreed that a minimum of three to six months running costs; currently £2,400,000 - £4,800,000 should be set aside to cover this. The Board reports that after the agreed investment spends, the year-end unrestricted reserves funds carried forward figure is £3,437,638. This falls within the current reserves policy.

As reported both last year and in 2014, the Board committed to use £1,300,000 from reserves to invest in technology to help more clients, more effectively. This has helped us plan for future increases in numbers of clients helped by being able to build on the new platform. In 2015, we spent £236,318 on enhancing our digital services including online tools, web chat and improving the client journey for those calling us. The improvements are bedding in and there are further changes planned for 2016, which will allow us to increase again the number of clients helped in a cost-effective way.

The Board agreed a revised investment policy for investing reserves in cash deposits and utilising a risk assessment review on organisations' suitability for investment. The risk assessment utilises ratings from credit reference agencies and aims to achieve a spread of investments to minimise the exposure to any one counterparty.

The financial performance and reserve position together with the reasonable expectation that we will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence in the future, give comfort to a level where the accounts have been prepared on the basis that the Money Advice Trust is a going concern.

## **Principal risks**

The Board acknowledges its responsibility in relation to risk management and the need to assess the major strategic, business and operational risks.

The Board monitors risk through its risk framework, which establishes a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities and embeds risk awareness throughout the organisation. The Board considers all types of risk and these are reported via a risk register and heat map. These are reviewed quarterly which helps inform plans to mitigate these risks. These were enhanced during the year with a closer review of departmental risk logs.

In 2015, based on a risk-map driven internal-audit approach, we implemented a programme of audits using an independent auditor. The Audit and Risk Committee and the Board review internal audit reports and risks.

The key risk we currently face is linked to uncertainty of planned income. We are mitigating this risk by regular financial reviews and adjustments as appropriate, plus a significant promotion of our services through our business development team.

#### **Environmental matters**

The Money Advice Trust takes its responsibility in relation to environmental matters seriously and whilst we are not making a significant negative environmental impact due to the nature of our activities, we ensure that, where we are able, we help reduce any negative impact. We have increased emailing out information to clients which has reduced paper usage and improved the speed of providing clients with the details they require.

We also aim to replace end-of-life equipment with more energy-efficient equipment and when disposing of older equipment we recycle where possible. We have adopted recycling schemes at both our London and Birmingham offices.

## **Future plans**

We have evolved our three year plan, which has received the support of partners and funders. The plan is informed by data and research, a better understanding of our customer journeys and more effective, efficient channels.

At our December 2015 Board meeting we revised the plan, making it more challenging by aiming to help 4,200,600 people in debt over the period 2016-18, effectively turning our three year plan into a rolling strategic -planning document.

Our business aims for 2016 are as follows:

- To deliver a quality, seamless, multi-channel debt advice service to 526,000 clients in 2016 via National Debtline.
- To deliver a quality, multi-channel debt advice service to 72,000 self-employed clients via Business Debtline.
- To develop 3,000 learners in the free advice sector and support commercial credit sectors to better serve clients, using enhanced technological approaches informed by improved insight, our innovation grants and our partners.
- To improve the UK's money and debt environment by promoting our services, influencing policy and positioning the Trust as an evidence-based thought leader.

The business aims work in conjunction with our internal supporting aims, which ensure the Trust has sufficient funding and applies good governance on all aspects of its operations.

All internal supporting aims (such as HR, IT, finance etc) have their own activities, outputs, outcomes and metrics.

## Working together

Our plans envisage working with a range of partners in order to help more people more effectively. Our Partnership Board members include many of these, and we are grateful to Sir Brian Pomeroy CBE for chairing this and the Trust's Funders' Forum so effectively.

Our work has been significantly assisted by our other ambassadors – Liz Barclay, who also chairs our Business Debtline Funders' Forum which had its first meeting in February 2016, Rt Hon Sir Ian McCartney and Martin Hall MVO MBE as well as our President, Baroness Jean Coussins. During 2016, we are delighted that we have welcomed Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles, Carol Sergeant and Simon Walker as new ambassadors.

We benefit very significantly from our Trustees' skills and knowledge in a range of areas, and from their willingness to support us in many ways, as well as from their input at Board meetings and membership of Board Committees.

Our partnership with Citizens Advice grows from strength to strength, where we work together to assist clients with debt problems who call their Advice Line – handling 130,000 calls from their clients who would not otherwise have been able to access debt advice.

Achieving our objectives would not be possible without the generous financial support of our funders, both those who have been loyal to us over the years and the new sectors we have started working with, notably utilities. They have provided us with encouragement and valuable dialogue. The list of our funders can be found at note two.

We are grateful to our staff for helping achieve the successes in 2015.

# Structure, governance and management

The Money Advice Trust is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its articles of association dated 27 May 2010. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

The governing body is the Board of Trustees (Board), who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act. Trustees are appointed by the Board and new Trustees undergo an induction briefing, which covers their legal obligations, Money Advice Trust's governing documentation, strategy and business plans, financial analysis, risk framework and structure as well as meeting staff. Trustee development is considered as part of the annual review on Board effectiveness.

During 2015, the Trustees took time outside its five formal Board meetings to attend a strategy day, focused on progressing our rolling three year plan.

Trustees, who are all unpaid, are appointed for a three-year term, and following the Good Governance Code are usually limited to a maximum of two three-year terms.

Our recruitment processes follow the Good Governance Code and include open advertising and interviewing. We are keen to promote diversity on the Board. The Chair carries out a regular evaluation of the Board's effectiveness and this information is used when considering any development needs and future trustee recruitment.

The Board sets values and strategic direction for the Money Advice Trust, establishes policy and ensures plans are implemented to deliver them, and monitors performance against agreed objectives. It receives reports from the formally delegated Audit and Risk; Grants; Nominations and Remuneration Committees. All have specific terms of reference, reviewed at least annually.

The **Audit and Risk Committee** met four times in 2015. It comprises Martyn Gimber (Chair of the Committee), Tracey Bleakley, Sian Williams and Merrick Willis. The Audit and Risk Committee oversees the financial reporting process and reviews the effectiveness of the Money Advice Trust's risk framework, including internal and external controls, risk management, the independent audit process and compliance systems.

The **Grants Committee** met twice in 2015. It comprises Merrick Willis (Chair of the Committee), Gail Scott-Spicer and Claire Whyley. It oversees the Money Advice Trust Innovation Grant Programme to ensure it is clear, transparent and conforms to the aims and objectives of the Money Advice Trust. In addition, the Money Advice Trust monitors all grants that are made in accordance with the agreements we have in place.

The **Nominations and Remuneration Committee** met twice in 2015. It comprises Jenny Watson (Chair of Committee), Mike Barley, Simon Crine and Martyn Gimber. It is responsible for identifying and nominating for the approval of the Board, candidates for the office of Trustee, Ambassador and President and for organising recruitment for the post of the Chief Executive. It also carries out reviews on matters relating to the remuneration policy and considers succession planning for trustee positions. It meets at least once a year, and as and when necessary.

The Chief Executive, who is appointed by the Board, and the Deputy Chief Executives manage the day-to-day operation of the Money Advice Trust's activities under delegated authority.

The Board is supported by an advisory Partnership Board comprising partner members who meet twice a year. Partner members do not have voting rights and are appointed by the Board.

## Remuneration policy

The Money Advice Trust Board has overall accountability for the remuneration of staff who work for us. Board members are unremunerated and are volunteers.

The Money Advice Trust's purpose, values and achievements, as well as its income, activities and market conditions will influence how its remuneration policy is developed and put into practice.

We are committed to ensuring the policy is open and transparent and in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). To reflect this, we publish the principles that underpin the remuneration policy as well as publishing the roles, salaries and pension contributions for staff who are paid over £60,000 per annum within our annual report and accounts.

Each year all staff participate in an appraisal of their performance. In the case of the Chief Executive, the Chair of the Board undertakes this. We do not apply any performance-related pay or bonuses.

The following are the principles we have adopted as good practice when setting our remuneration policy.

- That we offer fair pay, to attract and keep appropriately qualified staff to lead, manage, support and deliver the Trust's aims. The pay offering objective is to operate at a median rate within the charity sector market.
- Trustees are responsible for setting remuneration levels for the Trust's Chief Executive and where appropriate other members of the senior team.
- The Board delegates to its Nominations and Remuneration Committee (NRC) specific duties in relation to nominations, remuneration, succession planning and recruitment. The NRC's terms of reference are agreed by the Board.
- That we are a Living Wage employer

## Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of the Money Advice Trust 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, which 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 Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions

## **Auditors**

Sayer Vincent were reappointed as the charitable company's auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The Trustees' report, which includes the strategic report, has been approved by the Board of Trustees signed on their behalf by:

Mike Barley Trustee Martyn Gimber Trustee

6 July 2016

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MONEY ADVICE TRUST

We have audited the financial statements of Money Advice Trust for the year ended 31 December 2015, which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, cash flow statement and the related notes. 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 charitable company'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 charitable company'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 charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out in the report of the Trustees, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

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

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the report of the Trustees including the Strategic Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies, we consider the implications for our report.

## **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31
   December 2015 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 matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

## 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.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP Statutory Auditors Invicta House 108-114 Golden Lane LONDON EC1Y 0TL

2016

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 December 2015

Donations and legacies Charitable activities         2         4,457,608         -         4,457,608         4,705,213         -         4,705,213           Charitable activities         3         1,113,899         2,634,252         3,748,151         1,468,158         2,336,578         3,804,736           - Debt Advice         3         240,490         224,834         465,324         154,034         165,616         319,650           - Insight & Engagement         3         240,490         224,834         465,324         154,034         165,616         319,650           - Insight & Engagement         3         240,490         224,834         465,324         154,034         165,616         319,650           - Investments         99,126         99,126         291,26         -         96,437         96,437         96,437           Other         -         2,516         -         22,516         26,914         -         26,914           Other         -         -         2,516         26,914         -         26,914           Other         -         -         2,516         26,914         -         26,914           Other         -         -         2,58,212         8,792,725         6,	Income from:	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2015 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2014 Total £
Debt Advice   3	<u> </u>	2	4,457,608	-	4,457,608	4,705,213	-	4,705,213
- Training 3 240,490 224,834 465,324 154,034 165,616 319,650   - Insight & Engagement 3 - 99,126 99,126 - 96,437 96,437   Other trading activities		3	1.113.899	2.634.252	3.748.151	1.468.158	2.336.578	3.804.736
Other trading activities         - <td>- Training</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	- Training	3						
Investments		3	- -	99,126	99,126	-	96,437	96,437
Expenditure on: Raising funds			22,516	- - 	22,516 -	26,914	- - -	26,914 -
Raising funds       4       296,400       -       296,400       268,036       -       268,036         Charitable activities       -       Debt Advice       4       4,722,393       2,724,127       7,446,520       5,415,556       2,301,463       7,717,019         -       Training       4       1,056,322       239,331       1,295,653       981,672       170,219       1,151,891         -       Insight & Engagement       4       250,840       96,535       347,375       234,780       96,437       331,217         Other       -<	Total income	-	5,834,513	2,958,212	8,792,725	6,354,319	2,598,631	8,952,950
Charitable activities         Charitable activities	Expenditure on:							
- Training	•	4	296,400	-	296,400	268,036	-	268,036
- Insight & Engagement 4 250,840 96,535 347,375 234,780 96,437 331,217 Other	- Debt Advice	4	4,722,393	2,724,127	7,446,520	5,415,556	2,301,463	7,717,019
Other         - <td>- Training</td> <td>4</td> <td>1,056,322</td> <td>239,331</td> <td>1,295,653</td> <td>981,672</td> <td>170,219</td> <td>1,151,891</td>	- Training	4	1,056,322	239,331	1,295,653	981,672	170,219	1,151,891
Net expenditure for the year         6         (491,442)         (101,781)         (593,223)         (545,725)         30,512         (515,213)           Reconciliation of funds:           Total funds brought forward         4,578,210         121,267         4,699,477         5,123,935         90,755         5,214,690		4	250,840 -	96,535 -	347,375 -	234,780	96,437 -	331,217 -
Reconciliation of funds:           Total funds brought forward         4,578,210         121,267         4,699,477         5,123,935         90,755         5,214,690	Total expenditure	-	6,325,955	3,059,993	9,385,948	6,900,044	2,568,119	9,468,163
Total funds brought forward 4,578,210 121,267 4,699,477 5,123,935 90,755 5,214,690	Net expenditure for the year	6	(491,442)	(101,781)	(593,223)	(545,725)	30,512	(515,213)
Total funds carried forward         4,086,768         19,486         4,106,254         4,578,210         121,267         4,699,477			4,578,210	121,267	4,699,477	5,123,935	90,755	5,214,690
	Total funds carried forward	•	4,086,768	19,486	4,106,254	4,578,210	121,267	4,699,477

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17 to the financial statements.

## **Balance sheet**

As at 31 December 2015

Company no. 4741583

	Note	£	2015 £	£	2014 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	11	_	123,174	_	221,861
		_	123,174	·	221,861
Current assets:					
Debtors	12	1,553,293		1,682,125	
Short Term Deposits Cash at bank and in hand		2,000,000		500,000	
Cash at bank and in hand	_	2,886,856		4,149,679	
		6,440,149		6,331,804	
Liabilities: Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13 _	2,086,910		1,854,188	
Net current assets		_	4,353,239	-	4,477,616
Total assets less current liabilities			4,476,413		4,699,477
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	15		370,159		-
Total net assets		=	4,106,254	=	4,699,477
The funds of the charity:	17				
Restricted income funds			19,486		121,267
Unrestricted income funds:  Designated funds		649,129		1,155,577	
General funds	_	3,437,639	_	3,422,633	
Total unrestricted funds			4,086,768		4,578,210
Total charity funds		- -	4,106,254	- -	4,699,477

Approved by the trustees on 6 July 2016 and signed on their behalf by

Mike Barley Chair of Trustees

## Statement of cash flows

## For the year ended 31 December 2015

	Note	20		201	
Cash flows from operating activities	18	£	£	£	£
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities			235,938		1,275,166
Cash flows from investing activities: Dividends, interest and rents from investments Proceeds from the sale of fixed assets Purchase of fixed assets Proceeds from sale of investments Purchase of investments	_	22,516 - (21,277) - -	_	26,914 - (169,267) - -	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities			1,239		(142,353)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			237,177		1,132,813
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			4,649,679		3,516,866
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	19		4,886,856	_	4,649,679

#### For the year ended 31 December 2015

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### a) Basis of preparation

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 (August 2014) (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

#### b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. The transition date was 1 January 2014. No transition adjustments were required.

#### c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably.

On receipt, donated gifts, 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.

## g) 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.

#### h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

#### For the year ended 31 December 2015

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of running our debt advice services, providing debt advice training and reasearch and policy work undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

#### j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, plus fundraising costs are apportioned based an estimate of staff time attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

#### k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### I) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

IT & Telephony Equipment

3 years

#### m) Debtors

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

#### n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

### o) 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.

Allα

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.

## For the year ended 31 December 2015

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### p) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

Income from donations and legacies				
<u>-</u>			2015 total	2014
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Gifts				
Lloyds Banking Group	1,167,456	-	1,167,456	1,196,270
Royal Bank of Scotland	943,348	-	943,348	1,198,716
HSBC	641,040	-	641,040	664,428
Barclays	411,524	_	411,524	423,439
Barclaycard	410,000	-	410,000	410,000
Santander	344,122	_	344,122	348,780
Bank of America	147,604	_	147,604	150,000
National Australia Bank Group	100,000	_	100,000	50,000
Capital One	75,000	_	75,000	75,000
British Gas	30,000	_	30,000	30,000
Vanquis	30,000	_	30,000	-
UKAR	26,000	_	26,000	20,000
Money Shop (Dollar Financial)	25,000	_	25,000	-
Donations	24,014	-	24,014	13,580
Nationwide	20,000	-	20,000	-
Wescot Credit Services	15,000	_	15,000	7,500
Brighthouse	15,000	_	15,000	10,000
Experian	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Wessex	10,000	_	10,000	10,000
Home Retail Group/Argos	7,500	_	7,500	7,500
QuickQuid	-	_	-	40,000
Wonga	-	-	-	25,000
Scottish Power	-	-	-	10,000
	4,457,608		4,457,608	4,705,213

## 3 Income from charitable activities

moome nom onantable activities				
			2015	2014
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Citizens Advice	<del>-</del>	1,141,230	1,141,230	904,932
Step Change Debt Charity (DMP)	640,922	-	640,922	875,282
Payplan (DMP)	444,587	-	444,587	521,396
British Gas	-	290,979	290,979	20,979
Lloyds Banking Group	-	189,862	189,862	192,550
Royal Bank of Scotland	-	184,274	184,274	194,151
Barclays	-	135,065	135,065	142,305
Scottish & Southern Electric	-	116,944	116,944	10,327
HSBC	-	110,970	110,970	112,540
Scottish Government	-	110,000	110,000	110,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	100,000	100,000	100,000
Scottish Power	-	46,923	46,923	41,454
Santander	-	43,939	43,939	43,939
American Express Foundation	-	31,365	31,365	30,552
Building Societies Trust	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
Provident Financial	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
QuickQuid (Enova International)	-	20,000	20,000	30,000
npower	-	17,256	17,256	18,315
Citigroup	-	10,100	10,100	-
EDF Energy	-	10,000	10,000	12,989
Northumbrian (North East)	-	7,845	7,845	9,045
Debt Lifeboat (IVA)	7,200	-	7,200	6,000
Grant Thornton (IVA)	7,200	-	7,200	6,400
Insolvency Service (DRO)	7,190	-	7,190	12,680
Payplan (IVA)	5,600	-	5,600	44,800
BES	-	5,000	5,000	-
Wescot Credit Services	-	2,000	2,000	7,500
Step Change Debt Charity (IVA)	1,200	-	1,200	1,600
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills	-	-	-	275,000
Nationwide	-	-		20,000
Other Donations		500	500	-
Sub-total for Debt Advice	1,113,899	2,634,252	3,748,151	3,804,736
Money Advice Service	_	224,834	224,834	165,616
Training Course Income (69 funders)	238,659	224,004	238,659	153,904
Other	1,831		1,831	130,304
Outer	1,001			
Sub-total for Training	240,490	224,834	465,324	319,650
Money Advice Service	_	64,126	64,126	63,937
Provident Financial	-	35,000	35,000	32,500
Sub-total for Insight & Engagement		99,126	99,126	96,437
Cas total for moight a Engagement		55,125	55,125	20, 101
Total income from charitable activities	1,354,389	2,958,212	4,312,601	4,220,823

## 4 Analysis of expenditure

Charitable activities			_					
	Cost of raising	Debt Advice	Training	Insight & Engagement	Governance costs	Support costs	2015 Total	2014 Total
	funds £	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (note 7) IT & Telephony Occupancy Adviser Training Commercial Training Grants (note 5) Other Staff Costs Depreciation Communications Self Help Packs Other Costs	168,577 10,660 20,900 - - - 3,371 906 - - 52,412	4,393,424 698,378 557,861 - 128,609 114,825 109,699 59,431 30,497 129,848	342,373 22,436 43,295 388,607 144,652 220,980 16,357 1,841 11,886	221,568 11,319 20,597 - - 4,434 962 7,924 17,909 20,640	98,291 3,054 6,185 - - 1,968 260 - - 14,047	978,434 52,221 84,617 - - - 46,400 4,440 - - 96,000	6,202,667 798,068 733,455 388,607 144,652 349,589 187,355 118,108 79,241 48,406 335,800	5,773,732 904,596 704,375 293,222 95,764 600,205 243,642 135,146 79,281 60,827 577,373
	256,826	6,222,572	1,215,280	305,353	123,805	1,262,112	9,385,948	9,468,163
Support costs	36,039	1,114,612	73,193	38,268	-	(1,262,112)	-	-
Governance costs	3,535	109,336	7,180	3,754	(123,805)			
Total expenditure 2015	296,400	7,446,520	1,295,653	347,375			9,385,948	9,468,163
Total expenditure 2014	268,036	7,717,019	1,151,891	331,217		-	9,468,163	

Of the total expenditure, £6,325,955 was unrestricted (2014: £6,900,044) and £3,059,993 was restricted (2014: £2,568,119).

#### For the year ended 31 December 2015

5	Grant making			
		Grants to institutions	2015	2014
		£	£	£
	Cost			
	Training	220,980	220,980	210,518
	Specialist Support Grants	-	-	145,374
	Innovation Grants	83,081	83,081	116,232
	Business Debtline Northern Ireland	26,500	26,500	33,125
	Core Grant Funding	19,028	19,028	94,956
	At the end of the year	349,589	349,589	600,205

Training - Grants given to partner agencies for the provision of Wiseradviser training.

Innovation Grants - funding of external innovative debt advice projects

Business Debtline Northern Ireland - grant provided to Advice Northern Ireland to provide this service.

Core Grant Funding - Given to Money Advice Scotland. Core funding was also given to Advice UK in 2014.

## 6 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2015 £	2014 £
Depreciation	118,108	135,147
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,856	-
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	324,021	265,721
Other	12,716	39,878
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	9,900	9,700
Other services	2,000	11,845

## 7 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

otali oosto were as ioliows.	2015 £	2014 £
Salaries and wages Social security costs Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,287,287 489,262 426,118	4,879,304 453,682 440,746
	6,202,667	5,773,732
The following employees received employee benefits in excess of £60,000:		

	Gross Salary	Employer Pension
Employee Position	£	£
Chief Executive	- 109,177	9,826
Deputy Chief Executive	74,263	6,684
Director of Strategy & Services	72,214	6,499

The total employee benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £278,663 (2014: £267,354)

The charity contributes between 4% and 9% of annual salary to employees group personal pension scheme.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2015: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2015: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represents the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £2,664 (2014: £3,988) incurred by 10 (2014: 10) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

#### 8 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	<b>2015</b> No.	<b>2014</b> No.
	137	132
	10	10
gement	8	7
	29	24
elopment	4	3
	188	176
	10 8 29 4	

#### 9 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2015 (2014: none).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

## 10 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

11	langible fixed assets		
		Computer	Total
		equipment	c
	Cost	£	£
	At the start of the year	858,357	858,357
	Additions in year	21,277	21,277
	Disposals in year	(2,784)	(2,784)
	Disposalis III year	(2,704)	(2,704)
	At the end of the year	876,850	876,850
	Depreciation		
	At the start of the year	636,496	636,496
	Charge for the year	118,108	118,108
	Eliminated on disposal	(928)	(928)
	At the end of the year	753,676	753,676
	Net book value		
	At the end of the year	123,174	123,174
	At the start of the year	221,861	221,861
	All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.		
12	Debtors		
		2015 £	2014 £
	Trade debtors	754,680	1,228,055
	Other debtors	7,370	2,749
	Taxation and social security	7,370	5,221
	Prepayments	311,859	296,100
	Accrued income	479,384	150,000
		1,553,293 	1,682,125
13	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	ordanors. amounts running due within one year	2015	2014
		£	£
	Trade creditors	217,454	364,697
	Taxation and social security	169,433	132,512
	Other creditors	21,864	20,313
	Accruals	243,185	151,544
	Deferred income (note 14)	1,434,974	1,185,122
		2,086,910	1,854,188

## Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2015

## 14 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of donations received for BDL advisers from 2016 onwards and income for delayed training provision.

				2015 £	2014 £
	Balance at the beginning of the year Amount released to income in the year Amount deferred in the year			1,185,122 (1,185,122) 1,805,133	27,500 (27,500) 1,185,122
	Balance at the end of the year			1,805,133	1,185,122
15	Creditors: amounts falling due after one year			2015 £	2014 £
	Deferred Income (due 2-5 years) Bank loans Amounts due under finance leases			370,159 - -	- - -
				370,159	-
16	Analysis of net assets between funds	General unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
		£	£	£	£
	Tangible fixed assets Net current assets Long term liabilities	3,437,639 -	123,174 525,955 -	389,645 (370,159)	123,174 4,353,239 (370,159)
	Net assets at the end of the year	3,437,639	649,129	19,486	4,106,254

Movements in funds					
	At the start of the year	Incoming resources &	Outgoing resources &	Transfers	At the end of the year
		gains	losses		
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Debt Advice	89,875	2,634,252	(2,724,127)	-	-
- Citizens Advice	89,875	1,141,230	(1,231,105)	-	-
Training	26,417	224,834	(239,331)	-	11,920
Insight & Engagement	4,975	99,126	(96,535)	-	7,566
Total restricted funds	121,267	2,958,212	(3,059,993)	-	19,486
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
3 Year Implementation Plan	815,414	-	(236,318)	(171,508)	407,588
Fixed Assets	220,005	-	(118,108)	21,277	123,174
Dilapidation Fund	62,500	-	-	-	62,500
Website Project	50,206	-	-	64	50,270
Innovation Grants	5,597			-	5,597
Total designated funds	1,153,722		(354,426)	(150,167)	649,129
General funds	3,424,488	5,834,513	(5,971,529)	150,167	3,437,639
Total unrestricted funds	4,578,210	5,834,513	(6,325,955)	-	4,086,768
Total funds	4,699,477	8,792,725	(9,385,948)	-	4,106,254

#### **Purposes of restricted funds**

Debt Advice includes National Debtline, My Money Steps, Business Debtline and a Citizens Advice funded Triage service. These services offer free, expert and professional debt advice via telephone, Internet and email.

The Training programme provides free face-to-face and online money advice training. It includes training provided through the Money Advice Service Debt Advice Project.

Grants & Contracts consist of grants to the Trust's partners to cover training and core costs, a pilot service in Northern Ireland plus a new style of grant for innovative projects.

Insight & Engagement covers the development of Trust policy in relation to specific issues and consultations affecting its activities and the debt advice sector. It also includes debt advice tools such as the Common Financial Statement, CASHflow, Infohub and the Trust's self-help packs.

#### Purposes of designated funds

The Trustees have agreed to designate funds for the following:

- Investment for the Trust's 3 year funding strategy including a telephony upgrade, CRM project, marketing and overall
- implementation of these projects
- Funds for Fixed Assets have been designated;
- Dilapidation expenditure for 21 Garlick Hill, London and 8th Floor, Tricorn House, Birmingham;
- Costs associated with the re-design and upgrade of the Trust's websites;
- Additional funds for the Innovation Grants project;

## 18 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	(6.4)		or daming droubles.		
				2015	2014
				£	£
	Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period			(593,223)	(515,213)
	(as per the statement of financial activities)				
	Depreciation charges			118,108	135,147
	Dividends, interest and rent from investments			(22,516)	(26,914)
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets			1,856	-
	Decrease in debtors			128,832	436,399
	Increase in creditors			602,881	1,245,747
	Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities			235,938	1,275,166
19	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	At 1 January	Cook flows	Othershange	At 31
		At 1 January 2015	Cash flows	Other changes	December 2015
		£	£	£	£
	Cash in hand	4,149,679	(1,262,823)	-	2,886,856
	Notice deposits (less than three months)	500,000	1,500,000		2,000,000
	Total cash and cash equivalents	4,649,679	237,177	-	4,886,856

## 20 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Property		Equipment	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Less than one year	278,601	278,601	10,085	10,377
to five years	699,423	978,024	27,916	-
	978,024	1,256,625	38,001	10,377

## 21 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.