



SGTO ANNUAL REPORT 2024



OUR MANTRA

SGTO IS SAYING BRING IT ON!

WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE YOU

OUR AIM IS TO MEET YOUR NEED

OUR GOAL IS TO EXCELL

WE ARE HERE TO STAY!!!

Southwark Group of Tenants
Organisations
Campaigning for Housing Rights and Council Homes

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2023 - 2024

Chairman's Statement

It is my humble privilege to present to you this Annual Report for the year 2024. We have successfully journeyed through another year despite some unprecedented challenges. Let's take you through this journey of the year 2023/24 in retrospect.

One of the indelible footprint of the pandemic on the Tenants Movement is the reluctance of some people attending in- persons meetings. As a result, most of our TRAs are yet struggling to resume active operation after the pandemic. On our survey this year, data gathered from Southwark Council confirmed that out of the 138 functioning TRAs pre pandemic only about 90 TRAs are actively functioning post pandemic in Southwark.

SGTO and Southwark Council have been working collectively to support these struggling TRAs to work them back into active operation. This work is still in progress. Most people have been requesting a return to our usual physical meetings which we are still exploring for a better outcome, but the response so far is far from encouraging. People still prefer virtual meetings. We have invested into trials of hybrid meetings which we continue to explore to see how that can enhance meeting attendance from our membership.

GENERAL OPERATION

MOVE TO TEMPORARY SITE

Bells Garden building project commenced last year and Southwark Council moved SGTO office to this temporary site as you can see. Early spring this year 2024 the project was halted for lack of funds. The faith of the project completion is yet unknown and prospects of SGTO returning to our previous building is equally uncertain. As such we remain expectant but hopeful.

RESIDENT PARTICIPATION FRAMEWORK IN SOUTHWARK

We made little or no progress last year with Southwark Council in our campaign to revamp the Residents Participation Framework. The key platform through which the council consults with tenants and residents on policy decision processes.

You may recall that after our meeting with Cllr Williams, leader of Southwark Council and Cllr Merril former cabinet Member for Housing on the 22nd of May 2023, attended by the Chairs from the Tenants Forum, Homeowners Forum, Tenant Management Organisations Forum and SGTO. To discuss the poor state of Community Engagement and Resident Participation Framework in Southwark.

The meeting unanimously agreed that the Resident Participation Framework was broken and no longer fit for purpose. Therefore, it was agreed that a follow up meeting be convened by Council and Tenants/Residents in October 2023 to decide on the best approach to fix the broken framework. To the dismay of all the representatives that attended that meeting, One year down the line, the Council has not convened that meeting nor any action implemented to remedy the broken framework despite endless reminders.

SGTO FUNDING

In our July SGTO Group meeting attended by Hakeem Osinaike the Housing Director and Nat Stevens the Resident Involvement Manager. When the issue of tenant levy to fund SGTO was raised for discussion, the two officers announced that the Council is in the process of putting SGTO services to public tender. The entire membership raised an uproar in shock of the news. Now let's be reminded that SGTO was established over forty years ago by tenants and residents in Southwark; managed by tenants and residents to provide services for the tenants and residents in Southwark. Therefore, it does not make any sense nor any justification that Southwark Council is unilaterally making such a decision and straight ahead implementing it, to the dismay of the tenants and residents they should be serving. The question then is what is the Council hoping to gain from dismantling the only Tenant's Federation in Southwark.

This proposition is firmly opposed by the board as it is devastating and frustrating especially to both the trustees and the staff. This action points towards job insecurity and low morale with consequential threats of resignations. Just a few days ago we received the first resignation from our Campaign and Research Officer as a result.

STAFFING AND SERVICE DELIVERY

One of the successes of the past year is our ability to maintain optimal staffing capacity despite few challenges. Very early in the year we recruited a Research and Campaign Officer as well as one Out Reach Worker for the North of the borough. Two key officers that resigned towards the end of last year due to uncertainty in job security.

We maintained our staffing level at full capacity throughout the year meaning that the staff team distributed and carried their individual job load without having to take extra load on cover due to staff shortages or prolonged staff sick absence.

Part of our projection for the future is to increase our staffing level to build necessary capacity to expand our operations going forward, hence we are intensifying our drive to secure more funding from external sources.

Staff capacity has been our major constraint. SGTO is run by two outreach workers, one research and campaign officer, office administrator, part time accounts officer and the manager. SGTO trustees have been taking a critical look at the staff workload and have been volunteering to assist the outreach workers in supporting the TRAs.

Basically, we have two outreach workers, one for the North and one for the South which means it is practically impossible for them to attend more than one meeting each night being that TRA meetings across board starts at the same time of 7pm. Hence, the trustees are stepping in to support where they have more than one meeting to attend in any night.

The campaign and research officer is now having to take on case work in the absence of a caseworker. At the time of writing (July 2024) SGTO manages a small workload of 8 cases, which are additional responsibility for the Campaign & Research Officer.

These cases represent a mix of housing problems. We are specifically supporting these cases in contesting banding and medical decisions (2 cases), progressing complaints against the council (1 case), supporting families who have been moved out of the area and are living in temporary accommodation (1 case), as well as referring and aiding people experiencing food and fuel poverty (4 cases).

The Research and Campaign Officer in collaboration with the two Tenants and Residents Officers organised and delivered training to tenants and residents on housing matters during the summer.

Verification of TRA Accounts is one major service that SGTO is providing to TRAs free of charge. A service that will cost hundreds of pounds from private or corporate accounting firms in the market place. Our accounts officer continues to provide this essential service to TRAs free of charge.

In the past year we have verified accounts for 67 TRAs of which some are for multiple years making it very stressful for a part-time post. We are currently seeking funds to make the post full time to help reduce the turnaround time.

SGTO WHATSAPP SUPPORT

The SGTO Tenants Support WhatsApp group has continued to provide essential communication platform enabling residents to share information and give support to each other in the amazing work they are doing in their communities despite that some people do sometimes try to introduce unacceptable and inappropriate discussions that does not pertain to housing on the platform. Nonetheless, SGTO is determined to continue building these essential connections to strengthen relationships aimed at improving health and well-being of our members.

ACCOUNTS AND AUDITORS

SGTO Accounts and Financial Statements are key components of our annual presentation. This year we are following that same tradition. As you can see on pages 10 to 28. Our detailed accounts for SGTO and Bells Garden, prepared and audited by Kleinman Graham our external auditors. Take a look

OUR PROJECTION AND FUTURE FUNDING STRATEGY

The unprecedented announcement by the Council of their intention to put SGTO services to public tender is vehemently rejected as both the SGTO Board of Trustee and SGTO Membership are protesting against this proposal. Hence the future of SGTO is under great challenge.

Therefore, our outlook for the future are two prongs; continue with our fight to retain our funding from Southwark Council and intensively intensifying our campaign to secure more funding from other funding sources in order to sustain our operation, boost our level of staffing and gradually move towards lessening our dependence on Southwark Council for our funding. We are currently in the process of making several funding applications to seek alternative sources of funding in order to sustain our survival.

APPRECIATION

My Very humble appreciation to SGTO Membership for granting me the privilege to serve as Chair of SGTO in the past year. It is an honour that I have cherished greatly.

My special appreciation equally goes to Althea Smith Vice-Chair; and to the members of our Board of Trustees for your individual and collective contributions in serving SGTO for this year.

My super appreciation to Gerry Sanford our caretaker; Bethan Ygerne Price-Davies/George Davies our Research and Campaign Officers; Eldezangela Gomes our Tenants and Residents Officer for the North of the Borough and Ahmed Kabba our Tenants and Residents Officer for the South of the Borough; Lilliean Rodrigues de Arruda our Accounts Officer; Amanda Carey our Administrator and Margaret Onwuta our Senior Manager.

That is the line-up of SGTO Super Team of Devoted staff that is giving nothing short of commendable loyalty to the Tenants and Residents of London Borough of Southwark.

Chris Meregini

SGTO Chair



Our Cost-of-Living Fund Experience

In January 2022 we were approached by London Borough of Southwark, to be part of making referrals to them for the Cost-of-Living Scheme. The purpose was to help those in need with covering energy costs over the winter months.

We created a poster, shared via multiple platforms: TRA Support WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Website, Emailed to database & print. Once we had completed our first referral, we knew what information was required, so we created and shared a criteria sheet, so people would know what information they would need to provide when contacting us or another referral partner. The 1st scheme ran from 26th January through to 31st March, where we achieved 205 referrals during this time and noted as the highest referral partner by the Council.

	Amanda	107	
	Jack	63	
	Rita	9	
	Ahmed	17	
	?	unknown	9
	TOTAL	205	
			%
	Approved	155	76
	Awaiting confirmation	1	0
	Not approved	49	24

In October 2022, we were approached to assist the Council again with making referrals. We had no idea how the numbers would dramatically increase from before. The 2nd scheme ran from November'22 to March'23, which was a completely different experience from before as we achieved 3,709 referrals, a difference of 3,504 which was an increase of 1709%, and again, we were noted as one of the highest referrers. The phone was constantly ringing late into the night and from the early hours of the morning. This saw a huge increase of staff time in completing referrals from the time work started to when our shifts ended. It put an immense strain on us all, as we are very small, but in the same light a huge feeling of satisfaction, where we had managed to assist so many people who were desperate for help.

	Amanda	1858	
	Jack	583	
	Ahmed	1009	
	Georgie	204	
	?	unknown	55
	TOTAL	3709	
			%
	Approved	1565	42
	Awaiting confirmation	30	1
	Not approved	325	-9
Approved etc. and percentages only provided on 1920 out of 3709 referrals from information received from council			

To try and alleviate the pressure on the phone, we created an online form via our website. This allowed people to apply 24/7 and not just when the office was open. Each referral still had to be processed but could be done whilst catching up with the soaps in the evenings. It was extremely hard work and exceptionally long working hours, but knowing how many people we managed to support made it worthwhile. We are currently involved again in the 3rd Scheme which is from November '23 to March '24. The initial contact from November through to December '23 was very high but quietened down a little when we resumed on 3rd January '24. As of 22nd March '24, the scheme closed and we managed to process in total a staggering 1,957 referrals.

Amanda	1074	
Ahmed	246	
Joe	177	
Ygerne	227	
?	unknown	16
TOTAL	1740	
		%
Approved	1416	81
Awaiting confirmation	51	3
Not approved	273	16



Cost of Living Fund Support

This scheme is to help towards the cost of heating your homes during the winter months.

To be eligible, you must:

- You live in Southwark
- You're in temporary accommodation out side of borough provided by Southwark Council
- You pay or share energy bills
- Financial situations (*relevant questions will be available on our or Councils website*)

If you or a resident you know is eligible for this support, please get in contact with us on 0207 639 6718 or complete form on our website: sgto.org.uk/cost-of-living-support/




This is a well worth outreach exercise that we enjoyed being part of, as it gave us the opportunity to try and assist our residents in need. It also gave us the opportunity to speak with callers and talk about TRAs', if they weren't part of one, and the importance of getting involved. The volume of applicants, not only to us, but to other organisations, shows how much help is needed by people and we hope that the Council are able to continue this much needed assistance and that organisations are invited to get involved and assist with the process in the future.

SGTO Services

TRA and People Helped Log for 2023-2024

Computer courses - 7 learners

Print requests - 200 tras' (benefit many residents) 49,056 copies

Equipment Hire – 106 tras'

Phones and tablets - 1 resident

Non-tra related support - 55

TRA Development & Support - 173

Referrals - 503

Cost of Living Fund Support – 1,957

Individual Housing Casework – 119

You Involvement & Support - 65

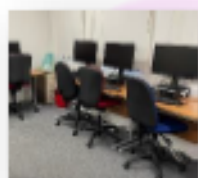
TRA Account Verification – 67 tra's

2023/2024 - Combined	1st			2nd			3rd			4th			Year Total				
	April	May	June	Qtr Total	July	Aug	Sept	Qtr Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr Total		Jan	Feb	March	Qtr Total
Computer Courses	3			3				0			3	3	1	6		7	13
Print requests	25			25	23	28	15	66	22	22	15	59	17	15	18	50	200
Print Copies	6709			6709	4644	6757	6282	17683	3494	6319	5558	15371	2154	2774	4365	9293	49056
Equipment Hire	8	12	8	28	10	8	8	26	10	8	8	26	10	8	8	26	106
Phones & Tablets				0	1			1				0				0	1
Support - non-tra related (homesearch)	2	5	4	11	5	1	4	10	5	8	5	18	5	5	6	16	55
TRA Development & Support	7	13	23	43	17	9	18	44	12	19	14	45	11	14	16	41	173
Referrals - general	6	42	40	88	30	24	32	86	22	6	32	60	28	205	36	269	503
Referrals - energy				0				0		192	907	1099	208	244	406	858	1957
Individual Housing Casework	3	14	15	32	8	4	4	16	29	3	15	47	6	13	5	24	119
Youth Involvement & Support			12	12	5	19	4	28		3	5	8	6	8	3	17	65
Financial Support - accounts verified	3	2	8	13	3	4	22	29	0	10	7	17	0	6	2	8	67
monthly / quarter totals - less print copies	51	46	70	167	72	73	75	220	78	265	979	1322	264	319	464	1047	3259

SGTO Services



- Free TRA related printing
- Free TRA Accounts Verification
- Free support/advice/development (e.g. grant applications, banking issues, anything TRA related etc.)
- Free representation (in disputes with Council)
- Free equipment and games hire for TRA events
- DBS checks – at a reduced cost as we are registered with the Aarons department
- Youth forum – for young people to get involved
- Partnership working – work in collaboration with various organisations to provide support on different topics (CAB – bidding, AGE UK – chiropody etc.)
- Campaign for housing rights – repairs, call centre, damp & mould etc.
- Online & onsite learning:



- Learn my Way – to learn from scratch how to use a computer, moving up to creating emails, attachments, online banking and so on.
- Food & Hygiene level 2 – accredited certificate for TRAs' to be able to prepare and serve food in their halls to guests.
- Fire Safety – overview on what to do in the event of a fire, how to evacuate safely in a timely manner, what equipment to use for which type of fire.
- Fire Aid – refresher course on what and how to treat different injuries, maintain suitable first aid kit and so on.
- Health & Safety – Gives outline on recognising hazards and how to prevent them, consequences and fines for propping open fire doors and so on.
- Customer Care – how to communicate in a customer service role and more.
- Microsoft Office – Excel, Word, Access, Outlook & Power-point learning CDs' to enhance peoples skills when creating CVs', posters, typing letters and more.

Contact Us SGTO

Bells Gardens Community Centre
19 Buller Close
Peckham, London
SE15 6UJ

Tel: 0207 639 6718
Email: info@sgto.co.uk
Website: www.sgto.org.uk



We Are Open!

Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations Resource Centre



Our FREE Services Include:



Computer Skills Help

Helping residents with simple internet skills like surfing the web, accessing emails, & using Microsoft Office.



Online Courses

Accredited online courses in:

- Food and Hygiene
- Fire Safety
- Health & Safety
- First Aid
- Customer Care
- Microsoft Packages
- Budgeting and Money Management



CV/Job Search

Helping residents create or update their CV's and apply for jobs.

RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW - OPEN MON-FRI 10AM-3PM



+44 020 7639 6718

BELLS GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTRE
19 BULLER CLOSE, SE15 6UJ



info@sgto.co.uk



www.sgto.org.uk/

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31st March 2024

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

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Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Legal and administrative information

Charity number	1130043
Company registration number	06406353
Business address	Bells Gardens Community Centre 19 Buller Close London SE15 6UJ
Registered office	Bells Gardens Community Centre 19 Buller Close London SE15 6UJ
Trustees	Chris Meregini (Chair) Christine Glaridge Althea Smith Zoey Sergeant Saidat Oketunde Christina Metibemu Johnson McCalthly Kiri Pieri AL-issa Munu Jacqueline Martin Emmanuel Ojomo Kyle Simmonds
Secretary	M Onwuta
Accountants	Kleinman Graham 2nd Floor Unicorn House Station Close Potters Bar Hertfordshire EN6 1TL
Bankers	Lloyds TSB 25 Camberwell Green London SE5 7AB

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation (A company limited by guarantee)

Report of the trustees (incorporating the directors' report) for the year ended 31st March 2024

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024. The trustees, who are also directors of Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation for the purposes of company law and who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Structure, governance and management

Southwark Group of Tenants Organisation is governed by the Trustees Board which:

- Sets the policy of the charity
- Determines corporate strategy, including setting key strategic objectives
- Makes major decisions about the use of finance
- Sets a framework for human resources policy

Objectives and activities

The objective of the charity is to promote the benefit of the council tenants and residents of Southwark by associating together local authorities, voluntary organisations and residents in a common effort to improve the quality of housing for the council tenants and residents. We continue to promote the interests of tenants and residents associations in the Borough of Southwark by providing an engaging platform that enhances information sharing and best practice among members, by offering support, training, advice and resources for their benefits.

- We promote the right of tenants including those from minority ethnic groups to exercise control over their housing and environment by information sharing between the organisations and the local authority
- We continue to work with tenants and residents from the minority ethnic groups to extend their right to participate and be consulted in the formulation of council policies on housing and associated issues and to be represented on all matters and policies that involve them and their homes, by offering training and providing information through our regular newsletter and website.
- We work with tenants to enhance their confidence and make them aware of the local authority consultation structure and their right to participate in such structure.
- Our Resource Centre provides regular support with IT skills which allow members to put back into their associations which is helping to promote community activity and development.
- We promote the harmonious functioning of a multicultural community and work towards the elimination of all forms of racism and discrimination within the community by providing adequate facilities and bespoke support to cater for all sections of the community, and address the areas where communication breaks down because of language barriers, disabilities and lack of understanding.
- We have an input on policies in our role as the umbrella group representing tenants and residents associations throughout the borough by providing a better standard of relaying information back to tenants and residents on current housing issues and by analysing present or proposed government and local authority housing policies and legislation
- We partnership with other organisations who share our objectives, interests and aspirations by providing a networking forum, information service with regular monitoring and evaluation of our services to enable development and growth in the years to come. We aim to achieve all the above so that tenants and residents, including those from the minority ethnic groups can have the information to help with their campaigns for better homes, to be trained to know the local authority's consultation structure so that there is better tenants' participation which will allow representation of all members of the community to be involved.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation (A company limited by guarantee)

Report of the trustees (incorporating the directors' report) for the year ended 31st March 2024

Risk management

The major risks to which the charity is exposed have been identified and considered. They have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate these risks. The most significant risk identified, was the impact of depreciating council housing stock as illustrated in the current Housing Commission Report, which will reflect on funds available to tenants and the impact of recession on levels of income as well as the impacts of the present Welfare Reform. These factors have been carefully considered and are managed as follows:

- The organisation is currently exploring other funding streams to carry out specific projects in addition to the funding available through the tenants' fund. The future plan is to find other funding strategies.
- Income and expenditure is monitored in total and is compared with the approved plan to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Achievements and performance

During the year, we continue to provide support to council tenants and residents associations in the Borough of Southwark. We continue to provide services to our members based on their individual requirements and support needed to ensure that our collective objectives are achieved.

Training

Our partnerships with other voluntary sectors have helped to develop and deliver free training in areas of employment and capacity building for council tenants and residents.

Free equipment hire

As in previous years, we continue to provide these services free of charge to community organisations in the borough with a view to purchase additional and update certain items.

Free account reconciliation

We have helped many tenants associations with the verification of their accounts free of charge and offered advice on how to adopt good bookkeeping.

Staff development

Our priority is to invest in training of all employees in areas that will continue to enhance their individual personal development. This will lead to an increased level of staff morale.

Real time support

We continue to support tenants and residents with housing related issues, such as the bedroom tax through our Campaign Team and where we cannot help solve their problem, we have signposted to the relevant organisations who can assist them resolve their specific housing related issues.

Bells Gardens Community Centre

We took over the management in December 2011, and since then, we have turned around the community centre to make it accessible to the tenants and residents within the Community. We have invested in essential amenities such as, new appliances along with a new fitted kitchen, new tables and chairs for each hall, re-decorated, and cleaned regularly. There is now a caretaker who ensures that the standard is maintained. We have made Bells Gardens Community Centre a very attractive venue for community based projects and popular for meetings.

Financial review

A Budget is set at the beginning of each financial year, taking into account known and anticipated funding. Monthly reports of income and expenditure are prepared by the Senior Manager and compared with the budget. These reports are considered by the Trustees at their regular monthly meetings.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation **(A company limited by guarantee)**

Report of the trustees (incorporating the directors' report) **for the year ended 31st March 2024**

Total income for the year amounted to £277,794 (2023: £297,970). This includes income from the tenant fund of £228,000 (2023: £233,000) and income from Bells Gardens Community Centre £21,570 (2023: £21,000). Total expenditures (including depreciation) was £259,510 (2023 £239,033).

Reserve policy

The charity's policy regarding its reserve is to maintain liquid reserves equivalent to at least 3 months. Our reserves reflect not only the resources required to fund the charity's day-to-day operation but also to cover our plans for the future.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 SORP;

make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report of the trustees (incorporating the directors' report)
for the year ended 31st March 2024

On behalf of the board



Chris Meregini (Chair)
Director

23rd July 2024

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation.

I report on the accounts of Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation for the year ended 31st March 2024 set out on pages 2 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect on the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).



Mr Jason Bennett FCA

Independent examiner

Kleinman Graham
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
2nd Floor, Unicorn House
Station Close
Potters Bar EN6 1TL

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

For the year ended 31st March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Incoming resources				
Incoming resources from generating funds:				
Voluntary income	2	252,000	252,000	275,300
Activities for generating funds	3	21,570	21,570	21,000
Investment income	4	2,050	2,050	291
Other incoming resources	5	2,174	2,174	1,379
Total incoming resources		<u>277,794</u>	<u>277,794</u>	<u>297,970</u>
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds:				
Cost of generating voluntary income	6	249,903	249,903	236,114
Governance costs	7	2,607	2,607	2,919
Total resources expended		<u>252,510</u>	<u>252,510</u>	<u>239,033</u>
Net incoming resources for the year /				
Net income for the year		25,284	25,284	58,937
Total funds brought forward		<u>197,334</u>	<u>197,334</u>	<u>138,396</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>222,618</u>	<u>222,618</u>	<u>197,333</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet

as at 31st March 2024

Company number: 06406353

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		3,485		4,646
Current assets					
Debtors	13	90		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		230,070		199,748	
		<u>230,160</u>		<u>199,748</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(11,028)		(7,059)	
Net current assets			<u>219,132</u>		<u>192,689</u>
Net assets			<u>222,618</u>		<u>197,334</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted income funds			<u>222,618</u>		<u>197,334</u>
Total funds			<u>222,618</u>		<u>197,334</u>

The Balance Sheet continues on the following page.

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)**

Balance sheet (continued)

**Trustees statements required by the Companies Act 2006
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

In approving these financial statements as trustees of the company we hereby confirm:

(a) that for the year stated above the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ;

(b) that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st March 2024.

(c) that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:

(1) ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006, and

(2) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 23rd July 2024 and signed on its behalf by



**Chris Meregini (Chair)
Director**

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

1.1. Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', The 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2. Incoming resources

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

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

1.3. Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the charity's shop.

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

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management.

1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% Reducing balance

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to financial statements
for the year ended 31st March 2024

2. Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Grants receivable	252,000	252,000	275,300
	<u>252,000</u>	<u>252,000</u>	<u>275,300</u>

3. Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Bells Gardens Hall Hire	21,570	21,570	21,000
	<u>21,570</u>	<u>21,570</u>	<u>21,000</u>

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Bank interest receivable	2,050	2,050	291
	<u>2,050</u>	<u>2,050</u>	<u>291</u>

5. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Other income	2,174	2,174	1,379
	<u>2,174</u>	<u>2,174</u>	<u>1,379</u>

6. Cost of generating voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Support costs	249,903	249,903	236,114
	<u>249,903</u>	<u>249,903</u>	<u>236,114</u>

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to financial statements
for the year ended 31st March 2024

7. Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Accountancy fees	2,094	2,094	2,407
Legal and professional fees	396	396	396
Bank charges	117	117	116
	<u>2,607</u>	<u>2,607</u>	<u>2,919</u>

8. Analysis of support costs

	Cost of generating voluntary income	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Purchases	1,151	1,151	-
Staff costs	212,064	212,064	196,912
Premises expenses	2,166	2,166	6,091
Motor and travelling costs	150	150	-
Accountancy charges	-	2,094	2,407
Legal and professional fees	-	396	396
Communication and information technology	3,390	3,390	2,987
Other office expenses	25,569	25,569	21,825
Interest payable and similar charges	-	117	116
Depreciation and impairment	1,161	1,161	1,548
Advertising	2,518	2,518	337
Conferences and training	1,734	1,734	6,414
	<u>249,903</u>	<u>252,510</u>	<u>239,033</u>

9. Net incoming resources for the year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	<u>1,161</u>	<u>1,548</u>

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to financial statements
for the year ended 31st March 2024

10. Employees

Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	184,304	170,946
Social security costs	16,857	16,116
Other post retirement benefits	10,903	9,850
	<u>212,064</u>	<u>196,912</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2023 : None).

Number of employees

The average monthly numbers of employees (including the trustees) during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:

2024	2023
Number	Number
<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

11. Taxation

The charity's activities fall within the exemptions afforded by the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. Accordingly, there is no taxation charge in these accounts.

12. Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1st April 2023 and At 31st March 2024	<u>20,408</u>	<u>20,408</u>
Depreciation		
At 1st April 2023	15,762	15,762
Charge for the year	1,161	<u>1,161</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>16,923</u>	<u>16,923</u>
Net book values		
At 31st March 2024	<u>3,485</u>	<u>3,485</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>4,646</u>	<u>4,646</u>

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to financial statements
for the year ended 31st March 2024

13. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	90	-
	<u>90</u>	<u>-</u>

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxes and social security	6,827	2,858
Accruals and deferred income	4,201	4,201
	<u>11,028</u>	<u>7,059</u>

15. Company limited by guarantee

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

The following pages do not form part of the statutory accounts.

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Detailed statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31st March 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Incoming resources from generating funds:				
<i>Voluntary income</i>				
Grants receivable		252,000		275,300
		<u>252,000</u>		<u>275,300</u>
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>				
Bells Gardens Hall Hire		21,570		21,000
		<u>21,570</u>		<u>21,000</u>
<i>Investment income</i>				
Bank interest receivable		2,050		291
		<u>2,050</u>		<u>291</u>
Total incoming resources from generating funds		<u>275,620</u>		<u>296,591</u>
Other incoming resources				
Other income		2,174		1,379
		<u>2,174</u>		<u>1,379</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>277,794</u>		<u>297,970</u>
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds:				
<i>Support costs</i>				
Community fridge purchases	1,151		-	
Wages & salaries	184,304		170,946	
Employer's NIC	16,857		16,116	
Staff pension costs	10,903		9,850	
Premises, cleaning, upkeep, repairs and insurance	2,166		6,091	
Travel, subsistence and childcare	150		-	
Computer expenses	3,390		2,987	
Telephone, printing, postage and stationery	25,569		21,825	
Depreciation & impairment	1,161		1,548	
Event costs	2,518		337	
Conferences and training	1,734		6,414	
		<u>249,903</u>		<u>236,114</u>
Total cost of generating voluntary income		<u>249,903</u>		<u>236,114</u>
Fundraising trading:				
cost of goods sold and other costs				
Total costs of generating funds		<u>249,903</u>		<u>236,114</u>

Southwark Group Of Tenants Organisation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Detailed statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31st March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Charitable activities		
Governance costs		
<i>Support costs</i>		
Accountancy fees	2,094	2,407
Legal and professional fees	396	396
Bank charges	117	116
	<u>2,607</u>	<u>2,919</u>
Total governance costs	<u><u>2,607</u></u>	<u><u>2,919</u></u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	<u><u>25,284</u></u>	<u><u>58,937</u></u>

