Birmingham & Solihull Social Economy Consortium C.I.C (Company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended

31st March 2022



12/01/2023 COMPANIES HOUSE

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Company Information for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

DIRECTORS: Alun Severn (resigned 16 May 2022)

Sarah Crawley

Sallie Ryan

Martin Hogg

Charles Rapson

COMPANY SECRETARY: David Alcock

REGISTERED OFFICE: Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP

134 Edmund Street

Birmingham B3 2ES

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07992674 (England and Wales)

ACCOUNTANTS: BVSC Accountancy Services

First Floor Livery Place 35 Livery Street Birmingham B3 2PB

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS Year ended 31 March 2022

The directors present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Directors

The directors who served during the year were as follows:

Alun Severn
Sarah Crawley Beaumont
New Directors appointed:

Sallie Ryan 9 March 2022 Martin Hogg 3 March 2022 Charles Rapson 2 March 2022

On 16 May 2022, Alun Severn resigned as a director of the company. There have been 3 additions to the Directors during this financial year. BSSEC would like to thank its members for their continuing support and involvement as well as the Directors, Sarah Crawley (who also serves as Chair), Sallie Ryan, Martin Hogg, Charles Rapson and Alun Severn, its Company Secretary David Alcock of Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP, and its Treasurer, Jasbir Rai and her assistant Paul Bowater, both of BVSC. We especially thank Paul Bowater who prepared the accounts included here.

Principal activity

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of engaging in research, information production and general educational efforts to support the social enterprise sector and help aid public understanding of it.

Overview

BSSEC CIC is a membership network of organisations that share a common commitment to supporting the strategic growth and development of the sector. In pursuit of these aims we:

- Work with the public sector to ensure that social enterprise is recognised, understood and clearly reflected in its priorities.
- Work with the private sector to increase the opportunities for social enterprises as sub-contractors, suppliers and partners.
- Lobby and advocate on behalf of the sector to raise its profile and increase its influence.
- Share information and news so that social enterprises are better connected and more informed.
- Raise resources to enable work that will benefit the sector.

There are [2021/22] 20 members of BSSEC however we are currently reviewing its membership and over the next twelve months we are likely to see changes through gains of new members as well as losses.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS Year ended 31 March 2022

In early-November 2020 WMCA confirmed that a consortium of social economy practitioners assembled by Sarah Beaumont had won a WMCA contract to provide research and consultancy support that would enable production of a plan for social economy growth. This group consisted of: Sarah Beaumont (then CEO of iSE), Meena Bharadwa (Locality), Carole Donnelly (CJD Consultancy/Coventry SE City), Charles Rapson (School for Social Entrepreneurs) and Alun Severn (BSSEC).

The work involved desk research, interviewing, development of an action plan framework and the production of four detailed "Board-ready" business case proposals for the WMCA Board. The work took longer than anticipated and occupied the consortium throughout the most difficult period of the COVID crisis. This work was completed in June 2021 and published in December 2021.

Since that time BSSEC has continued to work alongside WMCA as part of the Authorities 'virtual delivery team' spanning its own staff, member Authorities and sector partners who wish to try and take these ambitious plans forward. We are also involved in a number of the work groups which include Clusters/Place based working, Social investment, Monitoring and evaluation and integration of the other work strands to include the social economy.

In addition to this major work stream we have also:

- Contributed substantially to a University of Birmingham research project examining the role of social enterprise in health and social care provision.
- Representing the social economy sector within the region on the National Advisory Group hosted by the VCSE Crown Representative. We utilise the BSSEC blog as a means of making better known the work of this Crown Representative's VCSE Advisory Group.

The final months of 2021 and into 2022 have been an intense period of transition for BSSEC. In anticipation of Alun Severn's planned retirement, we began a process of preparing BSSEC for some major changes in how it operates. Barrow Cadbury Trust funding has been central in helping us achieve this transition.

As well as recruiting much needed new skills and energy in a new cohort of Directors – Sallie Ryan, Martin Hogg and Charles Rapson, all of whom bring their own special perspectives on and experience of social enterprise – we have also been able to increase our staffing capacity. Existing Director Sarah Beaumont takes over as BSSEC's main point of contact, its Chair and administrator, and Sallie Ryan has been appointed on a contractual basis for three years to support all aspects of BSSEC's information, marketing and communications functions.

¹ Key documents from the WMCA work can be downloaded from links at this post: <a href="https://bssec.org.uk

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS Year ended 31 March 2022

During the period 01/11/19 to 30/10/21 BSSEC has been grateful for the financial support of the Barrow Cadbury Trust. This funding relationship has existed with the

Trust for six or seven years. During the period in question which coincided with the two years of the COVID crisis, this funding was even more important and without it BSSEC would have been challenged to have survived.

That cycle of funding ended in October 2021 and after some initial discussion with the Trust BSSEC prepared a further application for funding that would support our core work and in particular enable us to continue the process of working alongside WMCA in implementing its social economy growth plans. This application was submitted in December 2021 and in early-February 2022 the Trust confirmed that it was making available grant funding to support BSSEC's core work for three years.

The Trust took this decision in recognition of the complexities entailed in working on major policy initiatives with public sector partners and in the belief that BSSEC would be much more likely to achieve positive, tangible outcomes working alongside WMCA over three rather than two years.

This is a core grant to BSSEC to support its aim of influencing statutory agencies and increasing the ability of Birmingham social enterprises to maximise opportunities that will emerge as the WMCA strategy unfurls. The work it helps fund is five-pronged:

- Enabling BSSEC to be part of region-wide team working with the WMCA to implement its social economy growth plan and ecosystem for growth approach. This will include providing essential sector engagement to ensure WMCA plans are known and understood, promoting and advocating the ecosystem approach.
- Providing a conduit for information to/from the sector regarding national policy developments and local opportunities including those arising from the regeneration and infrastructure developments in Birmingham, and COVID recovery initiatives.
- 3. Maintaining BSSEC's information service including its website and blog on current issues.
- 4. Identifying and promoting social enterprise more generally.
- 5. Further developing BSSEC membership and reach in new/emerging policy landscape, including bringing in new partners.

Again, we wish to put on record our appreciation of the Barrow Cadbury Trust's supportive and flexible approach to its funding relationships.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS Year ended 31 March 2022

We have also used this period to get Sallie Ryan properly embedded in our marketing and communications and this additional, dedicated capacity is already bearing fruit. As well as continuing to build up our subscriber lists and our online presence (LinkedIn and Twitter especially) Sallie is also starting to develop a flow of expert guest posts on the blog covering a range of topics including impact and using impact in story-telling, and co-production.² This is part of a conscious effort to widen BSSEC's appeal, to connect with greater numbers of social entrepreneurs and to ensure continuing relevance in a rapidly changing post-COVID, post-BREXIT landscape in which new concerns and crises seem to be jostling for attention virtually every day.

Almost 60 items were posted on the blog during 2021/22. BSSEC's Twitter and Linked In posts have been refreshed with a clear focus on growing the social economy.

We were pleased to support iSE's City Drive – now rebranded as Social Enterprise Drive – and to welcome it back for 2021 after the disappointing cancellation that Covid forced on the organisers in 2020. We know what an immense effort was required to pull together the 2021 programme and congratulate the team at ISE for managing to offer 21 online events in five days, including a flagship online conference event.

Community Benefit

These activities have benefitted the wider social enterprise community by:

- Raising the profile of social enterprise.
- Improving public awareness and understanding of the sector, especially amongst policy-makers.
- Securing support for the social enterprise sector and ensuring that it remains at the top of the policy agenda.
- Helping create opportunities for inter-trading.
- Helping to ensure that the sector is aware of new and emerging policy and understands the opportunities this may offer (and the threats it may pose).
- Helping to promote social enterprises' events and offerings.
- Helping to raise the profile of social value amongst policy-makers, strategic partners and the sector.
- Helped alert the social enterprise sector to sources of help, advice and financial support relating specifically to coronavirus that might otherwise have been missed.

² For example, see post by: Heidi Fisher MBE https://bssec.org.uk/impact-matters-saying-you-create-impact-and-showing-it-are-two-different-things/; Rob Legge https://bssec.org.uk/building-the-social-enterprise-movement-the-power-of-evidence-and-storytelling/.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS Year ended 31 March 2022

Summary notes to accounts

The accounts show a surplus of £9,144 during the year, made up of £9,910 inflow in restricted funds and a £766 deficit in unrestricted funds.

Impact on the reserves is as follows:

- Restricted reserves have moved from a nil position to a surplus of £9,910 at the end of March 2022, an increase of £9,910.
- Unrestricted reserves have moved from a surplus of £5,846 to a surplus of £5,080 at the end of 31st March 2022, an reduction of £766.
- Total reserves at the end of 31st March 2022 are £14,990, £9,910 in restricted and £5,080 in unrestricted.

Directors' remuneration

During the year in question no Directors have received remuneration for being a Director, although their employing organisations (in one case a sole trader) have received payment for undertaking specific pieces of work in connection with Birmingham & Solihull Social Economy Consortium C.I.C's Barrow Cadbury Trustfunded research and policy development project.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Directors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS Year ended 31 March 2022

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

This report was approved by the board of directors on September 2022 – to be done and signed on behalf of the board by

Sarah Beaumont - Director

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON THE PREPARATION OF THE UNAUDITED STATUTORY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF BIRMINGHAM & SOLIHULL ECONOMY CONSORTIUM C.I.C FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, I have prepared for your approval the financial statements of Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the income statement and statement of financial position from the company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given me.

This report is made solely to the Board of Directors of Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. My work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C and state those matters that I have agreed to state to the Board of Directors of Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C, as a body, in this report in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C and its Board of Directors, as a body, for my work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C. You consider that Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

I have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of Birmingham & Solihull Economy Consortium C.I.C. For this reason, I have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to me and I do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

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Paul Bowater
Chartered Accountant
BVSC Accountancy Services
First Floor
Livery Place
35 Livery Street
Birmingham
B3 2PB

September 2022

Income Statement For the year ended 31st March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Turnover	22,300	36,270
Other operating charges	(13,156)	(39,417)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	9,144	(3,417)

Statement of Financial Position As at 31st March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets	15,290	6,146
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(300)	(300)
Total Current Assets	14,990	5,846
Capital and Reserves		
Restricted reserves	9,910	_
Unrestricted reserves	5,080	5,846
	14,990	5,846

For the year ending 31st March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

The average number of paid employees during the year was 0 (2021: 0).

The financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on September 2022 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Director

Name: Sarah Beaumont

- Director

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31st March 2022

Detailed Income Statement

Turnover

		2022	2021
Grants	Barrow Cadbury	£ 21,850	£ 34,000
Other income	Anthony Collins	21,000	01,000
Other income	Solicitors	-	300
	Art share limited	50	250
	BITC	-	-
	BRAP LTD	50	100
	Big Issue	50	50
	Bridging to the Future	-	175
	BVSC charity	-	100
	FSE (UNLTD)	-	-
	int s/ent it Roots Human	-	250
	Resources CHI UK/Welcome	50	100
	Trust Thriv Tog	50	150
	Birmingham	50	100
	The Birmingham DBF		-
	The Colebridge Trust The Jericho	50	120
	Foundation	50	175
	School for Social	50	400
Total	_	22,300	36,270

Other operating charges

		2022	2021
		£	£
Grant expenditure	Barrow Cadbury	11,940	38,500
Other expenses	IT	120	81
	Secretariat function	950	750
	Sundry	146	86
Total		13,156	39,417

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31st March 2022

Capital and Reserves

	Opening Balance 1st April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing Balance 31st March 2022
Unrestricted Reserves	5,846	450	1,216		5,080
Restricted Reserves:					
Barrow Cadbury		21,850	11,940_		9,910
Total Restricted Reserves	-	21,850	11,940	•	9,910
Total Reserves	5,846	22,300	13,156	-	14,990

CIC 34

Community Interest Company Report

	(Please leave blank)	
Please complete in typescript, or in bold black capitals.	Company Name in full Company Number Year Ending	Birmingham and Solihull Social Economy Consortium CIC 07992674 31/03/2022
		(The date format is required in full)

Please ensure the company name is consistent with the company name entered on the accounts.

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

(N.B. A Filing Fee of £15 is payable on this document. Please enclose a cheque or postal order payable to Companies House)

PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

BSSEC CIC is a membership network of organisations that share a common commitment to supporting the strategic growth and development of the sector. Over the past financial year we have been:

- Working with the public sector to ensure that social enterprise is recognised, understood and clearly reflected in its priorities.
- Working with the private sector to increase the opportunities for social enterprises as sub-contractors, suppliers and partners.
- Lobbying and advocating on behalf of the sector to raise its profile and increase its influence.
- Sharing information and news so that social enterprises are better connected and more informed.
- Raising resources to enable work that will benefit the sector.

BSSEC has played an integral role in the production of the West Midlands Combined Authority Social Economy framework for Growth, a 10 year plan for social economy development. The work involved working closely with social economy organisations through desk research, interviewing, development of an action plan framework and the production of four detailed "Board-ready" business case proposals for the WMCA Board. The work took longer than anticipated and occupied the consortium throughout the most difficult period of the COVID crisis. This work began in November 2020 and was completed in June 2021 and published in December 2021.

Since that time BSSEC has continued to work alongside WMCA as part of the Authorities 'virtual delivery team' spanning its own staff, member Authorities and sector partners who wish to try and take these ambitious plans forward. We have also been involved in a number of the work groups which include Clusters/Place based working, Social investment, Monitoring and evaluation and integration of the other WMCA work strands to include the social economy.

In addition to this major work stream we have also:

- Contributed substantially to a University of Birmingham research project examining the role of social enterprise in health and social care provision.
- Representing the social economy sector within the region on the National Advisory
 Group hosted by the VCSE Crown Representative. We utilise the BSSEC blog as a
 means of making better known the work of this Crown Representative's VCSE Advisory
 Group.
- Supported Birmingham Social Enterprise City 'Social Enterprise Drive'
- Provided a valued communication and information service through our web site and social media
- Hosted Roundtable events to discuss key sector topics

Community Benefit

These activities have benefitted the wider social enterprise community by:

- Raising the profile of social enterprise.
- Improving public awareness and understanding of the sector, especially amongst policy-makers.

- Securing support for the social enterprise sector and ensuring that it remains at the top of the policy agenda.
- Helping create opportunities for inter-trading.
- Helping to ensure that the sector is aware of new and emerging policy and understands the opportunities this may offer (and the threats it may pose).
- Helping to promote social enterprises' events and offerings.
- Helping to raise the profile of social value amongst policy-makers, strategic partners and the sector.
- Helped alert the social enterprise sector to sources of help, advice and financial support relating specifically to coronavirus that might otherwise have been missed.

For further information see the 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 BSSEC Annual Report attached.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company's stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.

BSSEC has undertaken a range of consultation activities with our key stakeholders [social economy organisations, public sector organisations and the private sector] over the past year and our approaches have included one to one interviews, small group consultation, Roundtables to discuss key topics and share opinions, attendance at meetings organised by partner organisations, consultation using social media and large events with social economy organisations [post covid].

The primary purpose of these consultation activities has been to support the continued sustainability and growth of the social economy sector. The learning from the range of consultation approaches has informed the understanding of the social economy ecosystem, the development of place based approaches to social economy growth across the region and a better understanding of new markets and approaches to procurement.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

PART 3 – DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, "There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed" (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that "no remuneration was received" below.

During the year in question no Directors have received remuneration for being a Director, although their employing organisations (in one case a sole trader) have received payment for undertaking specific pieces of work in connection with Birmingham & Solihull Social Economy Consortium C.I.C's Barrow Cadbury Trust-funded research and policy development project.

PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that "no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made" below.

No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made

PART 5 - SIGNATORY (Please note this must be a live signature)

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed & Bout

Date 18/10/22

(DD/MM/YY)

Please note that it is a legal requirement for the date format to be provided in full throughout the CIC34 report.

Applications will be rejected if this is information is incorrect.

Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

Director: Sarah	Beaumont
Butlers Cottage,	Wychnor Park, Burton on Trent
Staffordshire	
DE138BU	Tel 07889452225
DX Number	DX Exchange

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales: Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4th Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139 Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)