

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Contents
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Page
Financial Statements	
Directors' Report	1
Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001	6
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	7
Statement of Financial Position	8
Statement of Changes in Equity	9
Statement of Cash Flows	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11
Directors' Declaration	21
Independent Audit Report	22

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Directors' Report

30 June 2023

The directors present their report on Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

1. General information

Information on directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

John Berrill

Qualifications

BA LLB

Experience

John is a principal of the consumer law firm Berrill & Watson practising in superannuation, insurance and financial advice claims and disputes, he is also a volunteer lawyer at Social Security Rights Victoria and the Mental Health Legal Centre.

David Berry (Chair)

Qualifications

BBus Master of Banking

Experience

David is the CEO of Way Forward Debt Solutions Ltd, a not for profit established by the four major banks, ABA and Financial Counselling Australia with a focus on assisting people in financial hardship. He is a former General Manager at NAB, and has extensive experience in the areas of credit and debt.

Vic Marles

Qualifications

Resigned 14 November 2022

Experience

LLB

Vic Marles is the CEO of Trust for Nature, (the Victorian Conservation Trust). Prior to that, Vic was the first Legal Services Commissioner and CEO of the Legal Services Board. She was the Deputy Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman from 2002 to 2005 and prior to that worked as a lawyer with the Communications Law Centre. Vic was a legal member of the Guardianship Board and Guardianship List of VCAT for ten years.

Vic has held a number of board and council positions. She is currently a director of Yarra Valley Water Corporation . She has been a member of the Consumers Federation of Australia Council and the TIO Council. She chaired the board of Circus Oz and was also a trustee of the Victorian Arts Centre and the Victorian Women's Trust.

Directors' Report

30 June 2023

1. General information

Information on directors

Philip Cullum

Qualifications

LLB/LLM

Experience

Philip is principal of Consumer-wise Consulting, working on strategy, policy, engagement and governance. In addition to Consumer Action, he is a member of the Boards of the Financial Basics Foundation (which he chairs), Clean Energy Council, and Consumers' Federation of Australia. He is also a member of the Customer Owned Banking Code Compliance Committee and the expert panel at the financial ombudsman AFCA, and he chairs the independent Customer Advisory Panel for the Victorian energy networks Powercor, Citipower and United Energy. He is a graduate of the AICD. He previously worked at the Australian Energy Regulator, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and the UK energy regulator Ofgem. In the UK he also held senior roles at three consumer organisations and was an associate partner at Accenture. He was a member of advisory committees in financial services, food safety, aviation and water, as well as cross-sectoral bodies advising UK ministers on better regulation.

David Tennant

Qualifications

BA/LLB

Experience

David commenced his appointment as CEO of Shepparton-based FamilyCare in May 2010 and has held a variety of roles in the community sector. From 1995 to 2008 he was employed by Care Inc Financial Counselling Service in the ACT, initially as a consumer lawyer, then as the agency's Director from mid-2000. From April 2003 to November 2008 David was the Consumer Member of the Australian Code of Banking Practice Compliance Monitoring Committee. Prior to appointment with FamilyCare David was Civil Practice Manager with Legal Aid ACT. He has also spent periods as a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University and a Senior Manager with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

David has held a number of representative roles, including terms as Chair of both the Consumers Federation of Australia and the Australian Financial Counselling and Credit Reform Association (now Financial Counselling Australia). Along with his current position at FamilyCare, David is a Trustee of the Jan Pentland Foundation, a member of the Law Help Assessment Panel for the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations and participates in a number of local and regional networks and committees.

Sarah Leslie

Qualifications

BCom (Hons Economics), MGCompConLaw

Experience

Sarah is a Director in the Victorian Department of Transport. Sarah is an economist and has worked with the Federal Government in the Departments of Treasury and Prime Minister & Cabinet. Sarah has also worked as a senior ministerial adviser in the Victorian Government, serving former Minister for Energy & Resources and Treasurer. Sarah is currently completing a Masters of Global Competition & Consumer Law at the University of Melbourne

Directors' Report

30 June 2023

1. General information

Information on directors

Ciara Sterling

Experience

As Founding CEO and Director of the Thriving Communities Partnership, Ciara Sterling convenes over 350 organisations, together with people with lived experience, to forge deeper understanding of vulnerability and drive ecosystem change through social design innovation. Ciara has over 20 years' experience collaborating across corporate, government and community sectors to address the root causes of hardship and inequality. Ciara also worked with the Essential Services Commission to help lead the water industry's response to the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence. Ciara is Managing Director for the Thriving Communities Foundation, a member of the White Ribbon Advisory Board, the Monash Safe and Equal Advisory Board and a founding member of the Economic Abuse Reference Group (EARG).

Meseret Abebe

Qualifications

Experience

BA

Highly driven and responsive case manager in a youth homelessness sector, qualified and experienced member of multiple board of directors; has over 20 years of experience within the Community services sectors, supporting the strengthening of communities and individuals. With strong understanding of CALD, refuge and settlement issues in providing direct support, building partnerships and relationships which empower and advocate for justice.

Tehanee Bardolia

Qualifications

Experience

BA/JD

Tehanee is currently Legal Counsel at SEEK Limited and a volunteer lawyer at Refugee Legal. She has diverse legal experience across the corporate, not-for-profit and academic sectors, having also worked as Legal Counsel at RMIT University, a solicitor at Herbert Smith Freehills and a lawyer at Justice Connect. Tehanee is committed to addressing the structural inequalities affecting Australian consumers.

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Directors' Report

30 June 2023

1. General information

Principal activities

The Consumer Action Law Centre is a campaign-focused consumer advocacy organisation based in Melbourne. As a community legal centre, Consumer Action provides free legal advice and pursues litigation on behalf of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers across Victoria, and is the largest specialist consumer legal practice in Australia. As well as working with consumers directly, Consumer Action provides legal assistance and professional training to community workers who advocate on behalf of consumers.

As a financial counselling centre, Consumer Action operates The National Debt Helpline for Victoria, a not-for-profit email and telephone financial counselling service providing free, confidential and independent financial advice to Victorians experiencing financial difficulty. The National Debt Helpline is nationally recognised as a point of contact in Victoria for anyone with financial counselling issues.

As a nationally-recognised and influential policy and research body, Consumer Action pursues a law reform agenda across a range of important consumer issues at a governmental level, in the media and throughout the community directly.

No significant changes in the nature of the Company's activity occurred during the financial year.

Objectives

Our Vision:

A just marketplace where people have power and business plays fair.

Our purpose:

To make life easier for people experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage in Australia.

We use our skills in the law, financial counselling, policy and campaigning to make consumer markets fair. We do this by:

- Assisting and empowering people by advising them about their rights, connecting them with services, and supporting them to be capable self-advocates;
- Supporting an effective community sector by enabling community workers to help their clients through training, outreach and legal assistance;
- Shaping a fairer system, by leading change to policy, laws and industry practice. We also litigate in the public interest and work to improve access to justice

Our policy and advocacy work is informed by our experience assisting and representing people in Victoria, and has a national reach. We are an independent organisation based in Melbourne and collaborating extensively.

Members' guarantee

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up the company, the constitution states that (a) each Member, and (b) each person who has ceased to be a Member in the preceding year, the amount capable of being called up from each member and any person or association who ceased to be a member in the year prior to the winding up, is limited to \$ 5 for members that are corporations and \$ 5 for all other members, subject to the provisions of the company's constitution.

At 30 June 2023 the collective liability of members was \$ 40 (2022: \$ 35).

Directors' Report

30 June 2023

2. Other items

Meetings of directors

During the financial year, 13 meetings of directors (including committees of directors) were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

	Board Meetings (Operational and Strategic)		Audit, Finance & Risk Committee Meetings		AGM	
	Eligible Meetings	Number attended	Eligible Meetings	Number attended	Eligible Meetings	Number attended
John Berrill	6	6	2	2	1	1
David Berry (Chair)	6	6	-	-	1	1
Vic Marles	2	2	-	-	1	-
Philip Cullum	6	6	2	2	1	1
David Tennant	6	5	4	4	1	1
Sarah Leslie	6	6	6	6	1	1
Ciara Sterling	6	5	1	1	1	1
Meseret Abebe	6	3	1	1	1	-
Tehanee Bardolia	6	6	-	-	1	1

Auditor's independence declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with s60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012, for the year ended 30 June 2023 has been received and can be found on page 6 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director:
David Berry (Chair)

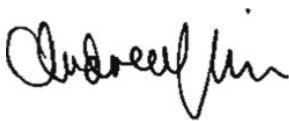
Director:
David Tennant

Dated 09 October 2023

Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 to the Directors of Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Andrew Fisher FCA, Partner (auditor registration number 306364) on behalf of
Banks Group Assurance Pty Ltd, Chartered Accountants
Authorised audit company registration number 294178 (ACN 115 749 598)

09 October 2023

Melbourne, Australia

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

		2023	2022
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	4	5,807,426	5,826,466
Other income	4	316,597	217,017
Employee benefits expense		(5,087,533)	(4,628,280)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(295,015)	(299,672)
Travel costs		(62,183)	(7,139)
Premises expense		(123,458)	(100,896)
Office overhead expenses		(158,877)	(122,468)
Finance and accounting		(15,762)	(13,206)
Communication expenses		(22,576)	(57,045)
Library resources and subscriptions		(35,415)	(35,296)
Program and planning expenses		(180,955)	(161,800)
Other expenses		(359,514)	(195,213)
Finance costs		(42,600)	(55,912)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(259,865)	366,556
Total comprehensive income		(259,865)	366,556

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	3,865,972	4,153,707
Trade and other receivables	6	86,279	49,009
Other assets	7	17,483	3,892
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		3,969,734	4,206,608
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Right of use assets	8	560,891	830,118
Property, plant and equipment	9	51,468	38,050
Intangible assets	10	-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		612,359	868,168
TOTAL ASSETS		4,582,093	5,074,776
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	11	497,734	362,929
Deferred income	12	302,386	369,818
Employee benefits	13	459,898	504,062
Lease liabilities	8	293,936	263,400
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,553,954	1,500,209
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	13	116,440	109,067
Lease liabilities	8	354,942	648,878
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		471,382	757,945
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,025,336	2,258,154
NET ASSETS		2,556,757	2,816,622
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		2,556,757	2,816,622
TOTAL EQUITY		2,556,757	2,816,622

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2023

	Accumulated Surplus	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022	2,816,622	2,816,622
(Deficit) attributable to the entity	(259,865)	(259,865)
Balance at 30 June 2023	2,556,757	2,556,757

2022

	Accumulated Surplus	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2021	2,450,066	2,450,066
Surplus attributable to the entity	366,556	366,556
Balance at 30 June 2022	2,816,622	2,816,622

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

ABN: 37 120 056 484

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers	6,446,215	6,819,835
Payments to suppliers and employees	(6,502,618)	(5,783,439)
Interest received	113,873	14,596
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17 57,470	1,050,992
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(39,205)	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(39,205)	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Payment of lease liabilities	(306,000)	(290,957)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	(306,000)	(290,957)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	(287,735)	760,035
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	4,153,707	3,393,672
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5 3,865,972	4,153,707

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

The financial report covers Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd as an individual entity. Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd is a not-for-profit Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Income Tax

The Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(b) Revenue and other income

Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

Revenue from contracts with customers

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the Company expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. Revenue is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows:

1. Identify the contract with the customer
2. Identify the performance obligations
3. Determine the transaction price
4. Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations
5. Recognise revenue as and when control of the performance obligations is transferred

Generally the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the Company have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(b) Revenue and other income

Specific revenue streams

The revenue recognition policies for the principal revenue streams of the Company are:

Grant income - AASB 15

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when each performance obligation is satisfied.

The performance obligations are varied based on the agreed but may include legal advice or assistance, law reform or the provision of independent debt advice to consumers.

Each Performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control. Within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract.

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Grant income - AASB 1058

Amounts arising from grants within the scope of AASB 1058 are recognised at the assets fair value when the asset is received. The Company considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised the income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

Other income

Other income, including from donations, is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

(c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(d) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over each asset's useful life to the Company, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

Leased assets and leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or their estimated useful life.

The estimated useful lives used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Useful life
Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings	5 years
Office Equipment	5 years
Computer Equipment	4 years
Leasehold improvements	5 years
Telephone System	4 years

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

(e) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially using trade date accounting, i.e. on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Impairment of financial assets

At the end of the reporting period the Company assesses whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired.

Financial assets at amortised cost

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss on financial assets carried at amortised cost has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial assets original effective interest rate.

Impairment on loans and receivables is reduced through the use of an allowance accounts, all other impairment losses on financial assets at amortised cost are taken directly to the asset.

Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in profit or loss.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(e) Financial instruments

Available-for-sale financial assets

A significant or prolonged decline in value of an available-for-sale asset below its cost is objective evidence of impairment, in this case, the cumulative loss that has been recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from equity to profit or loss as a reclassification adjustment. Any subsequent increase in the value of the asset is taken directly to other comprehensive income.

(f) Intangibles

Software

Software has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. It has an estimated useful life of between one and three years.

(g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(h) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a lease exists - i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

This involves an assessment of whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset - this may be explicitly or implicitly identified within the agreement. If the supplier has a substantive substitution right then there is no identified asset.
- The Company has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the asset throughout the period of use.
- The Company has the right to direct the use of the asset i.e. decision making rights in relation to changing how and for what purpose the asset is used.

Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

At the lease commencement, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the Company believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(h) Leases

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Company's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the Company's assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

(i) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

(j) Economic dependence

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd is dependent on the ongoing receipt of Federal and State Government grants to ensure the ongoing continuance of its programs. At the date of this report the directors have no reason to believe that this financial support will not continue.

3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The directors make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

Key judgements

The directors make judgements concerning deferrals of grant revenue depending on the stage of completion of associated projects.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

4 Revenue and Other Income

Revenue from continuing operations

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue from (non-reciprocal) government grants and other grants:		
- Core grants VLA State	1,318,768	1,292,906
- VLA State - utilised surplus/(deficit) in current year	-	166
- Core grants VLA commonwealth	372,136	366,854
- Core grants CAV	2,398,645	2,299,568
- Core grants other	1,717,877	1,866,972
Total Revenue	5,807,426	5,826,466

Note: The only grant income received directly from government departments was \$2,299,568 received from the Department of Justice and Community Safety.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Other Income		
- Interest	113,873	14,596
- Consulting and sitting fees	36,226	77,519
- Refunds and reimbursements	46,957	54,952
- rental income	119,541	69,950
	316,597	217,017

5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash at bank and on hand	3,865,972	4,153,707

6 Trade and Other Receivables

	2023 \$	2022 \$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	58,558	13,156
Prepayments	27,721	35,853
	86,279	49,009

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

7 Other Assets

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Accrued income	17,483	3,892

8 Leases

Right-of-use assets

	Buildings	Total
	\$	\$
Year ended 30 June 2023		
Balance at beginning of year	830,118	830,118
Depreciation	(269,227)	(269,227)
Balance at end of year	560,891	560,891

Year ended 30 June 2022

Additions to right-of-use assets	1,099,346	1,099,346
Depreciation	(269,228)	(269,228)
Balance at end of year	830,118	830,118

Lease liabilities

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year	1 - 5 years	> 5 years	Total undiscounted lease liabilities	Lease liabilities included in this Statement Of Financial Position
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2023					
Lease liabilities	321,649	366,196	-	687,845	648,878
2022					
Lease liabilities	306,000	687,845	-	993,845	912,278

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

9 Property, plant and equipment

	2023 \$	2022 \$
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Furniture, fixtures and fittings		
At cost	5,561	5,561
Accumulated depreciation	(5,561)	(5,561)
Total furniture, fixtures and fittings	-	-
Office equipment		
At cost	33,308	32,027
Accumulated depreciation	(26,631)	(24,205)
Total office equipment	6,677	7,822
Computer equipment		
At cost	145,777	107,852
Accumulated depreciation	(100,986)	(83,853)
Total computer equipment	44,791	23,999
Leasehold Improvements		
At cost	230,243	230,243
Accumulated amortisation	(230,243)	(230,243)
Telephone system		
At cost	130,580	130,580
Accumulated depreciation	(130,580)	(124,351)
Total telephone system	-	6,229
Total plant and equipment	51,468	38,050
Total property, plant and equipment	51,468	38,050

(a) Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings \$	Office Equipment \$	Computer Equipment \$	Leasehold Improvements \$	Telephone System \$	Total \$
Year ended 30 June 2023						
Balance at the beginning of the year	-	7,822	23,999	-	6,229	38,050
Additions	-	1,281	37,924	-	-	39,205
Depreciation expense	-	(2,426)	(17,132)	-	(6,229)	(25,787)
Balance at the end of the year	-	6,677	44,791	-	-	51,468

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

10 Intangible Assets

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Computer software		
Cost	56,250	56,250
Accumulated amortisation	(56,250)	(56,250)
Net carrying value	-	-

11 Trade and Other Payables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade payables	132,750	31,708
Deposits	8,164	4,941
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	356,820	326,280
Total trade and other payables	497,734	362,929

12 Deferred Income

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Other deferred income	302,386	369,818

The deferred income balance of \$302,386 includes \$100,000 received from VLA for the BRV project and \$144,886 from CAV for disaster recovery.

13 Employee Benefits

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Provision for long service leave	197,412	219,682
Provision for annual leave	262,486	284,380
	459,898	504,062
NON-CURRENT		
Provision for long service leave	116,440	109,067

14 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of the Company is \$ 281,840 (2022: \$ 174,945).

15 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022:None).

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

16 Related Parties

The company's related parties comprise its board members and key management personnel, including the entities controlled by them.

No related party transactions arose during the financial year.

17 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(259,865)	366,556
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- depreciation	295,014	299,673
- lease liability interest	42,600	55,915
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(58,993)	446,644
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	8,132	(10,541)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	67,373	(185,331)
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	(36,791)	78,076
Cashflows from operations	<u>57,470</u>	<u>1,050,992</u>

18 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

The financial report was authorised for issue on 09 October 2023 by the Board of Directors.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

19 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business is:

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd
Level 6, 179 Queen Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

Directors' Declaration

The directors of the Company declare that:

- 1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 7 to 20, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012, and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
- 2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director
David Berry (Chair)

Director
David Tennant

Dated 09 October 2023

Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

Independent Audit Report to the members of Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report****Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and not-for-profit Regulations 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Regulations 2013, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

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Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

Independent Audit Report to the members of Consumer Action Law Centre Ltd

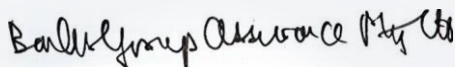
As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

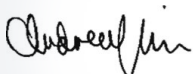
We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.



Banks Group Assurance Pty Ltd, Chartered Accountants
Authorised audit company number 294178 (ACN 115 749 598)



Andrew Fisher FCA, Partner
Registration number 306364

Melbourne, Australia
09 October 2023

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