



April 2023

This is EDRM's third Social Impact Report. Established in 2015, EDRM has been a member of Social Enterprise UK for the past 3 years.

Over the last financial year, we have continued to focus on architectural projects for cultural, creative and community organisations based largely in and around Ipswich.

2022/3 started disappointingly when last year's work's focus - the conversion of a waterfront building for Gecko Theatre Company in collaboration with Ipswich Borough Council - was deemed too commercially unviable to continue. On the up-side however, a new site was found in Ipswich for a new-build facility, and in the summer we worked intensively on early-stage strategic designs for the Gecko Creation Space project Mark 2.

We also had the great pleasure of working on the early feasibility and visioning of some key Towns Deal projects led by Ipswich Borough Council. These included; strategic proposals to convert the Public Warehouse No.1 building into a Yacht Building Academy, a partnership between the University of Suffolk and Spirit Yachts; visioning proposals for the regeneration of the derelict RW Pauls Silo on the Waterfront into a Climbing Wall centre with a rooftop restaurant; and strategic design for the use of a grade I listed town centre building by Ancient House CIC to showcase locally created arts, crafts and produce.

In our studio, we mentored a T-level student named Parsa who led a garden re-design project for The Hive, a thriving community space on Norwich Road. The project was also supported by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and a great team of volunteers. Parsa gained 280 hours of work experience with us over 7 months as part of his studies at Suffolk New College.

In the spring of this year, we started on the early stages of a strategic design development project with Burlington Baptist Church to transform and extend their wonderful Grade II Listed Church Hall building to better serve their local community. We worked in consultation with the Church, a wide variety of community groups who currently use the Church Hall spaces, potential future users and the conservation officer to develop design proposals.

This year we also continued our work supporting Ipswich Community Media in their search for a new home for their charitable youth and ESOL activities. After gaining planning permission for a leasehold property on the high street, the opportunity to purchase a building arose and we have been assisting in this process.

Finally, we gained planning permission for a new self-build and affordable live/ work space on a micro plot in Ipswich and completed the construction information for the Hamilton Micro Arts Space in Felixstowe. We hope both projects will move forward to the construction phases shortly.

The above projects were fee-paying however, for all we provided additional work beyond the scope of services covered by the fee. This additional pro bono work might take the form of producing presentation materials used to support and promote the project - such as drawings and models - or other activities that ensure that what we deliver is of the highest quality and best value for our clients. We also worked with some new start-up organisations to give them the best chance to get their building projects up and running.

In August, EDRM purchased a drone to help with the surveying and recording of buildings using aerial photography. The drone has proved a really useful tool to explore the buildings we work on, particularly those with limited or restricted access. Using the drone we have been able to make compelling photographic documentation of several significant buildings in Ipswich, that we have shared with the Ipswich Society.

In March this year, we also received a grant for 40% of the cost of purchasing a laser cutter and laptop from the New Anglia LEP Small Grants Scheme. We are very excited to have this equipment to help facilitate architectural model-making and prototype testing.

In addition to the above, we have recorded time spent on tasks that pursue the aims set out in our Social Purpose (2020) document, for which we have not earned a fee. A breakdown of how this time has been apportioned is as follows;

Building Project Support - 425 hours

Additional pro bono work was undertaken for the Burlington Church Hall, ICM and The Hive projects together with contributions for a variety of other smaller community projects. For example, on the Burlington Church Hall project we undertook additional historic research, drone photography, digital modelling and presentation drawings to help more effectively communicate proposed alterations to various consultation groups. On a smaller scale we regularly attend meetings, visit buildings, and offer informal advice to assist community groups with the early stages of projects.

Education - 57 hours

This last year we provided a T-level Planning, Construction and Design student from Suffolk New College with the required 280-hour work experience required to complete the course. We also held a professional development session with students from the UOS architecture degree course. We had a year 10 work experience student from Chantry Academy, and Richard gave a seminar at Eastern Regional Training to a group of secondary school children interested in architecture as a career. We also continue to mentor a young architectural practitioner with his early solo projects.

Research and Development - 140 hours

Ellie continues to be a volunteer board member for Ipswich Central BID and the Town Centre Steering Group to bring an urban design perspective to their 'People Place Purpose' drive to improve Ipswich as a place for everyone to enjoy.

Richard became a volunteer committee member for the Ipswich Society, an active community of people who care about the appearance, character and well-being of the town, its past and its future. Richard and Ellie were also on the Ipswich Society's annual architectural quality award judging panel and have contributed to the society's photography archive.

Alongside this EDRM has been working on Inside Out, an urban photography project consisting of a series of fly-posted large-format photographs and drawings of the interiors of prominent vacant or decaying buildings in Ipswich that are not accessible to the public.

Finally, we have been exploring and experimenting with our new technical kit purchased to support our architectural design process.



April 2023

Summary

EDRM recorded a total of 622 hours pursuing our social purpose, through pro bono work supporting local projects, education and R&D. This focus on social enterprise work means that last year the business was essentially non-profit making.

All of our projects and activities are close to our hearts in pursuit of enriching and encouraging good design in the built environment and to create sociable, inclusive and engaging spaces that encourage togetherness.

Note that EDRM is Ellie DeGory and Richard MacRae and there are no other employees. Both work full-time.

Summary of EDRM Ltd's second financial period¹ of 12 months:

Turnover	£ 73,944
Basic salaries ² (2 directors)	£ 18,300
Overheads	£ 27,006
Corporation tax	£ 3,497
Dividend salaries ² (2 directors)	£ 25,000
Net surplus ³	£ 141
Total salary for each director	£21,650

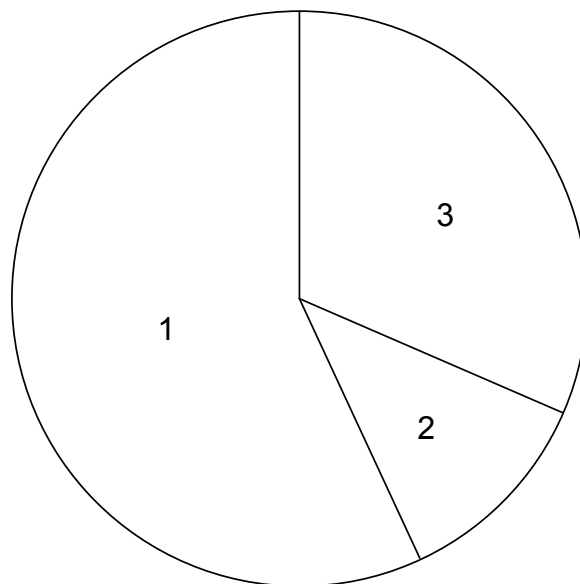
¹ Financial year 31.03.22 to 30.03.23

² As set out in EDRM's constitution 2020, director's salaries are split between PAYE basic salary and a dividend salary up to the average national wage for 2023 as determined by the Office of National Statistics ons.gov.uk

³ As set out in EDRM's Articles of Association 2020, 50% of surpluses are to be reinvested in our social purpose. As demonstrated above, the business is non-profit making.

Note that EDRM are not grant funded or receive funding from other external sources. Our pro bono work is only made possible by subsidy of our fee paying work.

Equivalent of 17.5 weeks pro bono time donated to support local projects



How our recorded social enterprise hours were apportioned

- 1 Project support = 425 hours
- 2 Education support = 57 hours
- 3 R&D = 140



Organisations receiving support

All organisations are registered charities or not-for-profit organisations