

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ASIANS (LEEDS)

England & Wales · Charity number 1042621

Details

Other names	A B A LEEDS, ABA LEEDS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1994-12-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address Touchstone Support Centre
53-55 Harehills Avenue
Leeds
LS8 4EX

Phone 01132103347

Email info@abaleeds.org.uk

Website www.abaleeds.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PEOPLE OF ASIAN ORIGIN AND / OR OTHER BME COMMUNITIES RESIDENT IN THE CITY OF LEEDS AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

Activities: Activities/Services we provide-Advocacy support-Advice and information on benefits and welfare rights-Training -Assist with hospital appointments-Signposting-Form filling-Trips and outings-Health and wellbeing sessions-Reading groups -Luncheon club-Outreach work/Awareness raising -Accessible Information provision-My Guide

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LEEDS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD
- Leeds City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£208,115	£201,851	-	-
2024-03-31	£165,754	£240,170	-	-
2023-03-31	£248,797	£182,830	-	-
2022-03-31	£150,563	£132,482	-	-
2021-03-31	£101,072	£84,235	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
KULDEEP BAJWA	Chair	2017-01-10
Asghar Khan		2024-11-25
Ashwini Sayandan		2026-04-28
Kantilal Mistry		2025-01-23
Kiran Kalsi		2026-04-28
SHINDI DAHRI		

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ASIANS (LEEDS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1042621

Accounts

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Charity number 1042621

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025



Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 12
Examiner's report	13
Receipts and payments account	14
Statement of assets and liabilities	15
Notes to the accounts	16 to 18

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Kuldeep Bajwa	Chair	
Shindi Dahri	Treasurer	
Janice Brown	Secretary	Resigned 31 July 2025
Cllr Eileen Taylor		Resigned 23 January 2025
Catherine Mahoney		
Annette Morris		Deceased July 2024
Ballu Patel		Resigned 23 January 2025
Ummer Daraz		Appointed 23 January 2024
Asghar Khar		Appointed 25 November 2024
Kantilal Mistry		Appointed 23 January 2025

Charity number 1042621 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

Touchstone Support Centre
53-55 Harehills Avenue
Leeds
LS8 4EX

Bankers

Santander UK plc
55 Otley Road
Headingley, Leeds
LS6 3AB

Virgin Money
6 Otley Road
Headingley, Leeds
LS6 2AA

Independent examiner

Simon Bostrom FCIE

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted on 13 October 1994 as amended on 26 November 2010.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

The charity's objects

To promote the welfare of blind and partially sighted people of Asian origin and /or other BME communities resident in the city of Leeds and its neighbourhood.

The charity's main activities

- * Visit clients at their homes
- * One to one support and provide advice and information on various issues including benefits
- * Drop-in sessions for clients to access support closer to their homes
- * Luncheon club to access freshly cooked food
- * Support to carers
- * Support to patients after hospital care

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need by reason of disability.

Achievements and performance

From the Chair of Association of Blind Asians

I feel honoured to be the chair of ABA and proud of our achievements this year. We have faced numerous challenges, particularly in securing funding, which is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Our CEO, Debbani Ghosh, has been working tirelessly to submit applications to secure the necessary funds for ABA, and we, the management committee, have complete confidence in her ability to keep ABA active.

Alongside our CEO, the staff team has excelled in their work with our service users. At times, it can be challenging to align expectations with the constraints of our funding. However, the staff continually find innovative ways to engage with our diverse communities and ensure that our service users receive the best possible support. Without the focused outreach and follow-up work with our service users, ABA would not be nearly as successful; many individuals would be left without any support. Our aim at ABA is to deliver a more holistic service, ensuring that individuals are better supported and have access to the relevant information they need.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our staff team for their dedication in keeping ABA operational over the past year. I also want to express my gratitude to our funders for their trust in ABA and for allocating the necessary funds to provide services to the diverse communities that rely on us for vital information when facing sight loss.

To our service users, thank you for placing your trust in ABA and for actively participating in the groups we develop and run, ensuring that you do not feel isolated at home. And, most importantly, I would like to thank ABA's management committee for dedicating their time, expertise, and energy to help ABA grow.

Ms Kuldeep Bajwa, Chairperson

From the CEO of Association of Blind Asians

I am delighted to present our Annual Report for the year ending 31 March 2025. This report reflects not only our achievements and challenges over the past twelve months but also our enduring commitment to making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

This year has been both inspiring and demanding. Amid economic uncertainty and shifting social needs, our charity has continued to adapt; despite financial pressures and increased demand on services, resulting in some waiting list. Like any challenges, we learn and adapt, become resilient and celebrate success from our continuous learning.

The two areas we concentrated on in 2024-25 were facilitating meaningful consultations for our strategic goals, including a name change and branding, as well as completing an impact assessment to evaluate our organisation's effectiveness.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Throughout the report, the achievements are shared and hope that you enjoy learning more about the work that was delivered as much as we enjoyed delivering. As we look to the year ahead, our priorities include expanding our reach, deepening our impact, and strengthening our funding base. We will continue to listen to the communities we serve, champion their voices, and adapt our programmes to meet emerging needs.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our committed trustees, dedicated staff, tireless volunteers, funders and committed partners. It is their unwavering support and hard work that enables us to deliver on our mission and bring hope to so many. Thank you for being part of our journey.

Mrs Debbani Ghosh, CEO

Themes:

In 2024/25, ABA delivered projects promoting eye health, and supporting adults with sight loss, across five themes:

- Supporting unpaid carers from diverse backgrounds through the Aasra project.
- Support for disabled isolated adults through the Roshni project.
- Providing support to visually impaired adults through ECLO service and community settings.
- Bringing communities together through Community Cohesion project.
- Sharing health messages, and reaching people from diverse communities with these messages through partnership working, health promotion events, and outreach – to promote eye health and reach people of all communities with health messaging around sight loss.

We also:

- Share health messages and outreach online and by video;
- Made radio, television and podcast appearances;
- Delivered trips and events for our members.
- Worked with partners, increasing our outreach by working with Primary Care Networks, the NHS, Social Care, and local third sector and community groups.

In 2024-2025, we;

- Delivered 434 sessions, reaching 1689 people directly.
- Provided direct advocacy to 389 people and directly supported 41 unpaid carers.
- Completed 15+ Blue Badge Applications.
- Served 1070 hot meals!
- Attended outreach events and partnership events, and we reached 2730 people through outreach sessions, developing networks with 43 new organisations and developing 6 new referral pathways.
- Delivered 57 Health Awareness sessions, reaching ABA members and the wider community with important health messages about eye health.
- Delivered 204 Outreach sessions delivered.
- Supported 173 service users, who were given resilience funding vouchers or Housing Support Funding vouchers, exceeding our goal of supporting service users by 108%.
- Were supported by 5 dedicated Volunteers – 2 activities volunteers, and 3 admin volunteers.
- Organised 10 Trips: destination - shopping, days out, seaside trips, and celebration days.

Sahara Project – Funded by Leeds Sensory Services

The Sahara Project is dedicated to supporting individuals experiencing or at risk of sight loss, particularly those from ethnically diverse and deprived communities. This support is delivered through the Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) service based at the eye clinic and in community settings.

The Sahara Project aims to bridge gaps by providing personalised one-on-one support, advocacy, and guidance on assistive technology, while promoting social inclusion and independence. Through culturally sensitive outreach and community engagement, the project empowers individuals to make informed decisions about their eye health and overall well-being. The focus remains on reducing isolation, building resilience, and helping individuals lead more confident, connected lives.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

The ECLO service (Eye Clinic Liaison Officer) was initiated this year, and in a short amount of time, staff received extensive training on eye conditions, welfare benefits, tax allowances, concessions, certification, and registration. The goal of the ECLO service is to support individuals with the Certificate of Visual Impairment (CVI) process and assessments, as well as to help them navigate available services.

The social group meets once a week, and throughout the year, a variety of activities were organised to address the holistic needs of our service users. This included card making, crochet, knitting, and painting, along with sessions led by experts, such as Rehabilitation Officers for Visually Impaired Individuals (ROVI), who provided valuable information. Over 13 users regularly attended these group sessions.

This year, we also provided assistive technology assistance to more than 30 service users. Participants received support in using screen readers, magnifiers, smartphone accessibility tools, and talking devices to help with daily living tasks. These sessions improved digital confidence, enabling users to stay connected with family, access online services, and manage personal tasks independently. Additionally, participants were offered a three-month digital course to help them learn how to navigate online resources.

Recognising that English is not the first language for many, we delivered 15 English-speaking sessions over several weeks. These sessions showed marked improvement in participants' language skills and boosted their confidence when interacting with others.

Advocacy remained a cornerstone of the Sahara Project. Staff provided over 207 advocacy support, that included form filling and reading letters, PIP applications and healthcare services, wellbeing calls, booking access bus, calls to councils and energy providers.

A total of 5 outreach sessions were delivered across community centres, faith institutions, and cultural events. Through these, over 300 people were engaged, receiving information about sight loss prevention, eye health awareness, and available support.

Outreach not only increased referrals but also helped tackle stigma around visual impairment within minority communities.

Impact and Outcomes

The Sahara Project has achieved notable outcomes during this reporting period:

- 207 advocacy sessions delivered to service users and new referrals.
- 30+ service users received assistive technology support and training.
- 58 service users now have a personalised support plan in place.
- 24 new referrals received.
- 15 people attended English speaking course.
- More than 120 structured sessions and activities organised throughout the year.
- 5 Outreach sessions were delivered.
- Over 100% improvement in social connection and confidence, measured through feedback, service forums, and outcome star data.
- Over 70% of participants expressed interest in additional social groups and activities. These outcomes demonstrate the project's role in reducing isolation, enhancing digital and emotional resilience, and building lasting community networks.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Success Story 1:

Mrs. R, from a South Asian background, faced severe anxiety after her sight deteriorated, leaving her isolated at home. With support from the team, she was introduced to a Sahara group and received help with assistive technology with her smartphone. This enabled her to connect with family overseas and participate in group activities more confidently. Over time, Mrs. R regained her independence, and started travelling to sessions on her own.

Success Story 2:

Mr. K experienced visual impairment and struggled with communication when accessing public services. Through Sahara's advocacy and peer support network, he attended several social trips, which helped boost his confidence and community involvement. He was also supported in applying for benefits and successfully received backdated payments, improving his financial stability. Mr. K now volunteers occasionally to help other members facing similar barriers, demonstrating the empowering ripple effect of the project's approach.

Service User Testimonials

"The staff helped me understand my eye condition and supported me with my hospital forms. Without their help, I would have struggled to manage everything on my own."

"I learned how to use a talking phone through Digital skills session — now I can call my children without help!"

Roshni Project – Funded by Henry Smith

The Sahara Project has achieved notable outcomes during this reporting period:

The Roshni Project is designed to support individuals, particularly those from culturally diverse and deprived communities, facing sight loss or at risk of losing their vision. These communities often experience significant health complications due to a lack of accessible information, cultural barriers, and limited access to healthcare services.

The project aims to bridge these gaps by offering personalised support, ensuring that service users understand the resources available to them, and advocating for their health and wellbeing. The project promotes social inclusion, helps to navigate the healthcare system, and raises awareness about eye health, aiming to reduce isolation and improve the quality of life for those affected by sight loss.

Impact and outcomes:

We have received 25 new referrals for the Roshni project, all of which have been risk assessed. A total of 58 service users have a support plan in place. Throughout this project, 80 weekly group sessions were conducted.

We completed 182 advocacy sessions with service users and their caregivers. Staff members dedicated time to resolve various issues for service users, including:

- Communicating with the Department of Work and Pensions.
- Negotiating with broadband providers.
- Assisting with smartphone setup (digital inclusion).
- Organising children's transportation to school with Leeds Council.
- Disputing and understanding utility bills with energy companies.
- Renewing Blue Badges.
- Welfare benefits forms.
- Coordinating with the council regarding accessibility of paths and pavements.
- Scheduling GP appointments.
- Engaging with Adult Social Care, Rehab officers and other organisations.

We also tracked the following metrics:

- 16 outreach activities were completed reaching 500+ individuals.
- 4 budget management courses were delivered.
- 12 applications were submitted for blue badges etc.
- 15 Carers were engaged and supported.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Importantly, 100% of our service users reported improved social networks. This data was collected through outcome stars, periodic service forums, and regular monitoring and evaluation. Additionally, 50% of our service users expressed interest in an additional social group. As a result, we have secured funding to offer a separate social group specifically for women.

Case Study:

Mrs. S, a member of the South Asian community, faced social isolation and low self-confidence due to visual impairments and health issues after being housebound for nearly 20 years. With ABA's help, she received support that addressed various challenges, including her mental health struggles. Since joining, she has transformed significantly; gaining confidence, learning stress management techniques, and making meaningful social connections. She participated in events like the Lord Mayor's International Day of Cultural Celebration and shared her journey during National Eye Health Week. Her experiences highlight how our services combat social isolation and empower individuals to improve their self-confidence and well-being. She was interviewed by Channel 4, and the broadcast later shared the access issues that still exist in society, creating barriers for disabled people to live independently.

"I was ill and contacted ABA for help. After overcoming my illness, I started coming here regularly. I come to spend quality time with people to share my culture, language and tastes. I get to meet more people like me, learn new things and engage in activities. When I am at home I just look and stare at the walls. I feel lonely."

Luncheon Clubs

We ran two luncheon groups at two different venues, offering a healthy, nutritious hot meals along with a variety of activities such as yoga, crafts, knitting, and singing to promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being. 80% percent of our service users are dropped off by Access Bus, while the remaining twenty percent make their own way to the groups. Both luncheon clubs support over 35 unique individuals, who socialise over hot meals and refreshments, followed by various activities. For some participants, these groups provide not only social interactions but also emotional support. For some service users, this may be the only meal of the week that they have access to fresh food. This year, we organised 80 luncheon clubs and provided a total of 1,070 meals.

Success Story 1:

One of our most inspiring success stories is that of Mrs. A, a service user from the BAME community. She noticed a broken pathway near her home and overgrown bushes that were causing mobility issues, leading to falls and cuts. Mrs. A lacked the confidence and knowledge on how to contact the right person to address this concern. Additionally, since English is her second language, she reached out to the staff for assistance. Our support worker brought this issue to the attention of the local council. As a result of this collective effort, the bushes were trimmed, and the broken pathway was repaired. This improvement not only enhanced Mrs. A's mobility but also fostered a sense of community support, boosting her self-confidence and independence.

Aasra Carer's Project, funded by Live Well Leeds

The Aasra Carers Project, funded by Livewell Leeds, was established to provide much-needed support for carers within the South Asian community across Leeds. Now completing its second year, the project continues to address the emotional, physical, and social challenges faced by unpaid carers—individuals who provide essential care to family members while also managing employment, household responsibilities, and their own wellbeing.

Carers within South Asian communities often experience isolation, emotional exhaustion, and physical strain. Many face barriers to accessing help due to cultural stigma surrounding caring roles and mental health. Recognising these challenges, Aasra has worked to create safe and inclusive spaces where carers can connect, share experiences, and receive support—promoting their overall mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Impact and Outcomes

Aasra facilitated 93 group sessions, including one-to-one support which also included assisting in applying for Carers Allowance and Blue Badge. These sessions were held twice weekly across two different venues, supporting a total of 41 carers from diverse backgrounds.

Activities included:

- Stress management and mindfulness workshop.
- Healthy eating sessions.
- Yoga and Pilates classes, contributing to relaxation & stress relief.
- Arts and crafts, including embroidery sessions, supporting mindfulness.
- Nature walks and relaxation sessions.
- Massage and self-care activities, promoting self-care.

Also, Aasra partnered with NHS Buddies, enabling carers to access Hepatitis C testing during group sessions. This collaboration reduced long GP waiting times and demonstrated the project's commitment to improving carers' access to essential health services. Outreach plays a vital role in engaging people from diverse South Asian backgrounds. We participated in 28 community outreach sessions over the year, including attending local community events, and engaging with local radio stations to raise awareness. These initiatives helped the team reach individuals who might not otherwise engage with mainstream support services.

Case Study

FH sought support from Aasra for her mental health and anxiety due to ongoing family issues and challenges in her living situation. As the primary caregiver for her daughter with learning difficulties and her husband, these pressures led to long-term stress affecting her confidence and self-esteem.

Attending Aasra's group sessions provided FH with a safe space for self-care. Over time, she found these sessions beneficial, gaining confidence in her interactions. She particularly enjoyed the mindfulness sessions and embroidery activities, which helped her focus on the present and boosted her sense of identity.

By the end of the program, FH reported significant improvements in her mood, feeling calmer and emotionally stronger, which enhanced her resilience as a caregiver for her family.

Community Cohesion Project – Funded by UKSPF

One of the Community Cohesion Project's aims was to make a positive contribution to society. Participants took part in creative activities, to bring communities together and develop cohesion.

Sessions were held at Ramgharia Sports Centre and were open to both ABA members and the wider community. Various members of different community groups joined the project, showcasing a perfect example of community cohesion, where individuals from diverse backgrounds came together to work on visual art projects and play forgotten games. A Sports Day was organised, which included participants from four different groups. Additionally, a session took place at the 3D workshop in partnership with Leeds City Museum.

Impact and outcomes

The project reached 298 people from a diverse range of faith and cultural backgrounds. Friends of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh faith worked together to create Rangoli. The ratio of people with disabilities attending was high, with the session at Leeds Museum being attended by two neurodiverse individuals and one older gentleman with disabilities.

34 participants attended art, dance and board games sessions at Ramgharia; 15 participants attended 'building community' sessions at Muir Court; 16 attended a Sports Day at Ramgharia; 7 attended the 3D workshop at Leeds City Museum.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

The project was successful in bringing together people of different faith, cultural and diverse communities, bringing people together through creative activities and sport, to create cohesion. 69% of participants in the project stated that art, music and dance can remove barriers between communities.

80% of the older participants (aged 60-90) who participated in the project, stated that art and games improved relations in their neighbourhood. 95% believed that both arts and games enabled better knowledge of their neighbours by acting as a conduit for engagement with other communities.

Given that another objective of the project was to create a safe space for dialogue it was encouraging to see that nearly 83% felt confident to speak during the session. Nearly 60% felt their mental well-being increase, though the figures were higher (at nearly 70%) for physical well-being increasing and sense of isolation decreasing. Most encouraging was the data of nearly 75% feeding back that their sense of belonging had increased.

Case Studies and quotes

"Excellent project, just continue to reach out to others."

"I really enjoy artwork and making crafts connected to my heritage. The rangoli we stuck on paper was really beautiful."

"How to play Karrom board with others." "We got to meet some new friends and met some old friends we haven't seen for a long time"

Household Support Fund 2024

The grant was provided in the form of supermarket vouchers for service users. For those who were unable to attend group sessions due to illness or being bedbound, vouchers were mailed to their homes. The Household Support Fund has assisted individuals and couples in alleviating some of the financial challenges caused by the cost-of-living crisis. In total, vouchers were distributed to 57 individuals who were facing financial struggles.

Case Study 1

Mrs C, a carer, has recently lost her husband and is struggling to look after herself. She can speak some English but struggles to understand budgeting as her husband took charge of their bills and money. She is undergoing a benefit review and is finding it difficult to make ends meet. The vouchers have been extremely helpful at such a difficult time in helping to pay for food. By using this extra resource for her groceries, she has been able to save money to put towards her bills and become more confident in her ability to budget.

Case Study 2

Mrs. V is a devoted carer to her disabled child and three other younger children. She often finds herself juggling multiple responsibilities, including arranging transportation for her child, managing household expenses, and providing comfort and care for her family. Living in a self-rented apartment, Mrs. V faces financial challenges, struggling to cover bills and provide basic necessities for her children. She is currently seeking assistance from Leeds City Council to secure a council house for her family. The voucher really benefited Mrs. V and her family, providing much-needed support in purchasing food and essentials for her young children and alleviating some financial burdens by helping to settle bills and debts.

Community Engagements

Improving the outcomes and wellbeing of the visually impaired BAME community in Leeds - Funded by Big Lottery

A dedicated community engagement worker continued to strengthen connections within local groups and promote awareness of health-related services, particularly ABA services through a combination of targeted outreach, collaborative partnerships, and digital engagement. We reached hundreds of individuals and reinforced our presence as a trusted community health partner. This report provides an overview of the key activities, outcomes, and lessons learnt during this reporting period.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

The primary objectives were to sustain and expand engagement with local communities, enhance awareness of ABA and eye health services, and facilitate connections to support pathways, collaborating with health networks, PCNs, and social care, to expand service delivery.

This role in community engagement and outreach allowed us to reach over 700 individuals through 30 eye care awareness sessions and actively promote our services through more than 150 events and digital media activities, connecting with approximately 1500 individuals through engagement. Participated in radio shows, a podcast, and an Instagram Live session during National Eye Health Week expanded the reach of ABA services.

With these health sessions, we reached individuals from under-represented communities through delivering sessions to various diverse groups such as Leeds Refugee Forum, Beeston Community Centre, Asha Women's Group and many more.

Cancer Awareness – Funded by VCSE

The Community Engagement Worker was trained by The Yorkshire Cancer Community to become a Cancer Champion and co-delivered cancer awareness sessions in collaboration with the organisation. In total, 11 Cancer health awareness sessions were delivered, reaching over 160 attendees from 15 different postcodes across Leeds. These sessions focused on the different types of cancer screening, the importance of early detection, conversations around cancer, raising general awareness, and preventive measures to reduce cancer risk. The sessions were delivered to a wide range of community groups that reflected diverse ethnic backgrounds, including Black, Asian, Middle Eastern, and African communities. To ensure accessibility, Easy Read PowerPoint presentations and flyers were used, with translated materials available in languages such as Hindi, Gujarati, Punjabi, Arabic, Bengali, and Sinhalese. Healthy refreshments, including fresh fruits, were provided at each session to encourage participation and promote wellbeing.

Diabetes and Blood Pressure Health awareness – Funded by Sovereign

The Sovereign Health Awareness Project supported individuals from diverse communities across Leeds who are at higher risk of long-term health conditions such as diabetes and high blood pressure, both of which can lead to vision loss if not properly managed. The project aimed to raise awareness about the strong link between these conditions and visual impairment, empowering participants with the knowledge to make informed decisions, manage their health proactively, and prevent complications. The sessions covered key health topics such as eye health, diabetes, high blood pressure, and general wellness. Participants learnt about the importance of regular eye check-ups, maintaining a balanced diet, managing weight, taking medications as prescribed, and the benefits of early detection. To ensure inclusivity, interpreters were provided for non-English speakers, and visual aids were used to support learning for all participants.

Throughout the project, we delivered health awareness sessions to over 30 community groups, reaching more than 300 individuals.

The feedback from community members and the positive outcomes of our efforts demonstrates the value of continued outreach and engagement in promoting health awareness and well-being.

Impact and Outcomes

Over 80% of participants reported increased understanding of eye health and the link between conditions such as diabetes and visual impairment.

Partnerships were strengthened with 10 Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and Adult Social Care, resulting in 12 direct referrals. Additionally, six referral pathways were developed with local organisations, including Afrikindness Community and Little London Community, generating 20 new service referrals.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Participants appreciated that the sessions were delivered in a friendly and approachable manner. Many reported gaining confidence in learning about cancer, especially around detection and understanding of symptoms. The use of leaflets, visuals, and clear presentations made the information accessible and engaging. Attendees highlighted the helpfulness of the pictures and the language used in the sessions. Preventive measures were well explained, and the inclusion of an interpreter was particularly valued by those who do not speak English, making the sessions inclusive and easy to follow.

Case Study

During our outreach efforts, we met Mrs A and her husband who is visually impaired. We assisted them in securing Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and Carer's Allowance, which has significantly improved their quality of life and financial situation. Additionally, they were in need of better housing, so our staff provided guidance on finding more suitable accommodations. To alleviate their financial strain during the cost-of-living crisis, we also offered supermarket vouchers through the Household Support Fund.

Case Studies and Quotes

"It was delivered in a friendly manner, gaining confident learning about cancer."

"I had no idea having diabetes and blood pressure could lead to visual impairment."

"I have a better idea of what to look out for and will maintain a healthy lifestyle."

Organisational Development - Funded by Big Lottery

We are undergoing significant changes within our organisation, primarily supported by the vital Reaching Communities funding. During this period, we revisited our core values, vision, and mission to ensure alignment with our principles as well as reviewing our internal systems. Reaching Communities funding helped us review our organisational structure and HR processes by implementing the Bright HR online system, which has become integral for staff management.

Additional funding from Wellsprings helped us review our strategic business plan, a key part of our growth strategy that reflects our commitment to our community. We carried out consultation with service users to gauge the impact of our service and also to identify the changing needs of our service users.

Inspired by the consultation and our new ambition, we are rebranding to better reflect our inclusive approach. Our team is working collaboratively on a new name, logo design, and colour scheme.

Despite experiencing challenges in securing funding, we succeeded in obtaining financial support from several small to medium sources, including Wellspring, Sovereign, VCSE, and Smallwood Trust. However, as an organisation, we continue to strive for and apply for funding for our services.

The dedicated position of the business development had a direct impact on our service delivery supporting staff with monitoring report writing to applying for future funding.

TRIPS/EVENTS ORGANISED

These activities not only provided joy and recreation but also helped service users build friendships, explore new places, and increase their sense of belonging.

- 1 International Health Yoga Day with 35 participants.
- 2 South Asian Heritage Month with 120 attendees.
- 3 Golden Acre park picnic, attended by 20 members and 2 carers.
- 4 Blackpool Trip with 63 people including service users, friends, families and relatives.
- 5 National Eye Health Week with 50 people with service users and partnered organizations.
- 6 Leicester Trip with 45 people including friends, carers, families and relatives.
- 7 A day trip to Meadowhall attended by 17 service users.
- 8 ABA Seaside Trip with 47 people.
- 9 Carers Day celebration to Harrogate
- 10 English speaking course 15 attendees.
- 11 End of Year celebration 30.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £6,264, including net payments of £1,821 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £8,085 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

Why ABA will maintain reserves:

ABA recognises possible delays in the receipt of grant and other income due. It therefore needs to maintain sufficient funds to provide a reasonable working balance to meet commitments as they become due.

ABA recognises that in case of emergencies / unforeseen demands, sufficient funds would provide the organisation to deal with such circumstances.

There is an inherent uncertainty in many of ABA's funding streams, which, should they end, would leave the organisation with contingent liabilities, specifically, but not exclusively, resulting from the employment of staff.

The trustees are mindful that, from time to time, in furtherance of their strategic aims, and after a thorough risk assessment, they might wish to invest in developing a new project or service on a pilot basis before full long-term funding has been secured.

With only a small staff team, the charity is particularly vulnerable to sickness of key staff. To protect the charity from this scenario, we aim to hold reserves to cover the CEO's post for 9 months, to cover the full SSP period of 28 weeks plus time to hand back.

The principle contingent liabilities of the organisation if a funding stream ended would be staff redundancy.

The level of reserves

Therefore, the target reserves level is best expressed in terms of payroll months. The trustees have assessed that the target level for reserves should be equivalent to 4-8 months' core staff payroll costs, plus the redundancy liability,

This equates to a range of £91,840 to £111,457.

The charity's actual free reserves at the year end were £89,276.

Approved by the board of trustees on 26/01/2026

Kuldeep Bajwa (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

27/01/2026

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)
Receipts and payments account
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants, contracts and donations	(2)	26,474	175,158	201,632	160,588
Sales, fees and contributions		5,983	500	6,483	5,166
Total receipts		32,457	175,658	208,115	165,754
Payments					
Salaries and on costs		37,914	103,985	141,899	149,993
Freelance work		41	84	125	-
Travel and transport		1,184	1,848	3,032	1,496
Catering costs		3,350	9,834	13,184	11,348
Events and activities		-	7,297	7,297	6,314
Hardship donations		-	8,500	8,500	4,525
Rent and room hire		-	4,447	4,447	3,409
Insurance		423	768	1,191	1,018
Office and administration		1,441	3,459	4,900	5,565
Equipment and resources		142	2,042	2,184	891
Accountancy		27	2,231	2,258	645
Training		358	761	1,119	955
Memberships		-	150	150	394
Advertising, events and publications		40	953	993	3,502
Consultancy		570	8,702	9,272	3,727
Recruitment		-	150	150	4,278
Website		6	352	358	2,252
Independent examination		792	-	792	792
Subcontracted delivery		-	-	-	13,581
Grants repaid		-	-	-	25,485
Total payments		46,288	155,563	201,851	240,170
Net receipts / (payments)		(13,831)	20,095	6,264	(74,416)
Transfers between funds	(3)	12,010	(12,010)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,821)	8,085	6,264	(74,416)
Fund balances brought forward		91,097	32,936	124,033	198,449
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	89,276	41,021	130,297	124,033

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2025

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	88,556	41,021	129,577	123,274
Cash in hand	720	-	720	759
Total cash funds	<u>89,276</u>	<u>41,021</u>	<u>130,297</u>	<u>124,033</u>

Debtors and prepayments

	2025
	£
Debtors	20,317
Prepayments	192
Other debtors	2,972
	<u>23,481</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

11 desktop computers
3 printers
2 laptops
3 second hand laptops for service users
1 netbook
3 tablets
General office furniture
Camera
Video camera
Projector
26 I pads
3 i phones

Liabilities

	2025
	£
Creditors	1,135
Accruals	1,020
	<u>2,155</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 26/01/2026

Kuldeep Bajwa (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

2 Grants, contracts and donations	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Henry Smith Charity	-	70,000	70,000	25,000
Leeds City Council	-	1,150	1,150	-
Leeds City Council (LCC) contract	26,450	11,250	37,700	36,656
Leeds Community Foundation	-	3,114	3,114	4,685
Leeds Older Peoples Forum (LOPF)	-	10,000	10,000	30,200
National Lottery Community Fund	-	31,250	31,250	31,250
NHS	-	10,897	10,897	-
Smallwood Trust	-	9,797	9,797	-
Sovereign Health Care	-	3,425	3,425	-
Touchstone	-	21,275	21,275	32,117
Wellsprings Together	-	3,000	3,000	-
Councillors contributions	-	-	-	550
Other donations	24	-	24	130
	<u>26,474</u>	<u>175,158</u>	<u>201,632</u>	<u>160,588</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Big Lottery Fund	11,542	31,250	39,690	-	3,102
Councillors Contribution	313	-	-	-	313
David Oluwale Memorial	-	500	-	-	500
Henry Smith Charity	1,854	70,000	54,227	(7,000)	10,627
Leeds Mind	374	-	-	-	374
Live Well Leeds	11,235	21,275	27,307	-	5,203
LOPF - Household Support	-	10,000	8,500	(1,500)	-
Lunch club	803	3,114	3,917	-	-
LCC MICE	-	1,150	1,150	-	-
RNIB	274	-	-	-	274
Sir George Martin	353	-	330	-	23
Smallwood Trust	-	9,797	-	-	9,797
Sovereign Health Care	-	3,425	1,877	(450)	1,098
Thomas Pocklington Trust	6,188	-	6,188	-	-
LCC UKSPF	-	11,250	7,621	(1,125)	2,504
NHS VCSE	-	10,897	2,206	(1,635)	7,056
Wellsprings	-	3,000	2,550	(300)	150
	<u>32,936</u>	<u>175,658</u>	<u>155,563</u>	<u>(12,010)</u>	<u>41,021</u>

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2025

3 Restricted funds continued

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Big Lottery Fund	Funding for a 2 year project to enable people living with visual impairments from South Asian and other BAME communities to access support through a variety of activities and also to enable the charity to develop plans for its longer term financial stability.
Councillors Contribution	Towards events at the Civic Hall.
David Oluwale Memorial	Towards service users partaking in cultural day.
Henry Smith Charity	Towards the running costs of a 1-2-1 support, advocacy and advice service for vulnerable BAME individuals with visual impairment in Leeds.
Leeds Mind	To provide activities and support service users with mental health.
Live Well Leeds	To provide support to unpaid carers from diverse communities.
LOPF - Household Support	To provide support to those struggling with cost-of-living crisis.
Lunch club	To provide freshly cooked food to blind and partially sighted people.
LCC MICE	To celebrate South Asian Heritage Month.
RNIB	To deliver training 'Living with sight loss'.
Sir George Martin	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
Smallwood Trust	To help build financial resilience of women.
Sovereign Health Care	For health care provision.
Thomas Pocklington Trust	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
LCC UKSPF	To help towards supporting community cohesion.
NHS VCSE	Towards the cost of health awareness.
Wellsprings	Towards the cost of strategic development.

The transfers relate to a contribution to overhead costs.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ASIANS (LEEDS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1042621

Accounts

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Charity number 1042621

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024



Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 10
Examiner's report	11
Receipts and payments account	12
Statement of assets and liabilities	13
Notes to the accounts	14 to 16

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Kuldeep Bajwa	Chair	
Leena Inamdar	Chair	Resigned 25 April 2023
Shindi Dahri	Treasurer	
Janice Brown	Secretary	
Cllr Eileen Taylor		Resigned 23 January 2025
Catherine Mahoney		
Annette Morris		Deceased July 2024
Ballu Patel		Resigned 23 January 2025
Ummer Daraz		Appointed 23 January 2024
Asghar Khar		Appointed 25 November 2024

Charity number 1042621 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

Touchstone Support Centre
53-55 Harehills Avenue
Leeds
LS8 4EX

Bankers

Santander UK plc
55 Otley Road
Headingley, Leeds
LS6 3AB

Virgin Money
6 Otley Road
Headingley, Leeds
LS6 2AA

Independent examiner

Simon Bostrom FCIE

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted on 13 October 1994 as amended on 26 November 2010.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

The charity's objects

To promote the welfare of blind and partially sighted people of Asian origin and /or other BME communities resident in the city of Leeds and its neighbourhood.

The charity's main activities

- * Visit clients at their homes
- * One to one support and provide advice and information on various issues including benefits
- * Drop-in sessions for clients to access support closer to their homes
- * Luncheon club to access freshly cooked food
- * Support to carers
- * Support to patients after hospital care

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need by reason of disability.

Achievements and performance

ABA Chairperson's report – Ms Kuldeep Bajwa

This has been a really great year for ABA. We have worked on several different projects like the Aasra, Sahara, and the Roshni Project, which support individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds with sight loss and their carers. We find a lot of people we work with experience health complications due to not knowing where to go for the support they need or what they need. For example, the Roshni Project aims to bridge the gap for our service users to understand what is available to them.

ABA works with service users in different ways to ensure that the information gets to our diverse communities in Leeds via the different projects we are funded to deliver. ABA has a lot of projects which allow us to find different ways to ensure we can share the information with diverse communities about what they can do and where they are able to receive statutory services to improve their quality of life.

As you can see from the CEO's report the outline of the different projects and events such as "The Chai Project" and the South Asian Heritage Month were delivered successfully in liaison with varied partners including the Leeds Playhouse, Leeds City Council and the Police. All of which demonstrated the diversity of the work carried out by ABA.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff who have worked tirelessly in ensuring that ABA delivers a very high-quality service to our service users, and to our CEO who has worked hard to ensure that ABA is continuously funded to carry on the good work of ABA.

To our funders, thank you for allowing ABA to grow by funding us.

ABA CEO's report – Mrs Debbani Ghosh

This year, we have a lot to celebrate and share, thanks to the dedication and generosity of our staff, volunteers, and funders. We have also observed the challenges that our sector is currently facing and because of these obstacles, our efforts to secure funding and maintain our services have become increasingly difficult. Nevertheless, ABA has demonstrated remarkable resilience, adaptability, and teamwork in addressing these challenges. While our usual aim has been to achieve service outcomes that avert social isolation, we have now placed a greater focus on economic well-being. This shift is highly appropriate given the current cost of living crisis. As a result, we have increased service users' access to welfare rights and benefits, and certain funds, such as household support funds, have been particularly beneficial to those struggling to meet their needs.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

This year has seen many highlights, including trips to the seaside, the International Day of Older Disabled People, and the End of Year celebration. However, if I had to choose one standout experience, it would be the group activities that focused on co-production and engagement within the community. One of the most uplifting moments was when we collaborated to create a blanket for charity. This project truly captures our greatest achievement of the year, as reflected in the feedback we received:

"Making a 'chakra' blanket for charity was our idea, but it was wonderful that ABA provided the wool for us to make the squares. We worked together, chatted, and laughed. It was my favourite activity."

One of the most successful events was South Asian Heritage Month, which was attended by nearly 200 people, including many distinguished guests from Leeds and beyond. This event, held at the Civic Hall in Leeds, provided a platform for our service users to take pride in their identity and the contributions made by immigrants in the city.

Our service users are at the heart of everything we do at ABA. We consistently listen to their requests within the group, and once those requests are acknowledged, we follow up on any feedback received. Although we were unable to bring the forum back to its full capacity since COVID-19, we continue to engage in consultations online, in-person, or in group settings.

Finally, I would like to thank the Trustees for their clear leadership and direction, which enable me to focus on creating a better future for our organisation.

Leeds Playhouse – The Year of Culture Celebration

As part of the Leeds 2023 Year of Culture, the Leeds Playhouse hosted an event called "Takeover by Older People." In April 2023, ABA facilitated a session titled "Make Your Own Chapati." During this session, service users demonstrated how to make authentic chapatis using family recipes. Attendees had the opportunity to observe the process, taste the finished products, and even try their hand at making chapatis themselves. A recipe was shared along with helpful tips for beginners.

The session also covered budgeting aspects such as buying bulk, looking for offers on chapati flour, storing flour, online shopping for gluten-free options, avoiding impulse purchases, and freezing dough and chapatis. Additionally, participants were encouraged to explore other recipes that use chapati flour, such as parathas and puris.

The event involved 30 participants, including service users, guests, volunteers, and ABA staff.

The Chai Project – funded by Awards for All

ABA was awarded for The Chai Project. In a joint initiative to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, ABA partnered with the Balbir Singh Dance Company.

We delivered the project in three phases and completed it in three months. Service users had the opportunity to see and smell the tea before it was brewed. The groups discussed various brewing practices, from using a kettle to boiling tea in a pan. The facilitator shared information about different types of tea, including black, green, and herbal tea, along with their benefits.

The concluding celebration event was held on July 12, 2023, at the Bridge Community Centre in Leeds. A total of 30 participants, including service users, guests, volunteers, and ABA staff, attended the event.

South Asian Heritage Month

South Asian Heritage Month (SAHM) celebrates the rich cultural diversity of South Asian communities, highlighting their contributions to society, history, and traditions. ABA initiated the celebration of SAHM on 15th of August. This event promoted awareness of South Asian heritage through storytelling, music, art, dance, and the setting up of the Spice Corner. All people enjoyed SAHM. The event was followed by warm food at Leeds Civic Hall.

Nearly 200 people attended the event, and 126 participated, including service users, guests, delegates, volunteers, and ABA staff

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

International Day of Older People

International Day of Older People, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the issues affecting the elderly and celebrating their contributions. ABA secured funding and in partnership with Sikh Elders hosted a sports day at Ramgarhia Sports Centre for service users and their families. Activities were planned to meet the needs of the elderly, including egg and spoon races (we used ping pong balls) and playing catch with small bean bags. It was amazing to hear stories of games/sports that brought back wonderful childhood memories - service users talked of games like hide and seek, hopscotch, and football. We had nearly 50 people who enjoyed taking part as well as watching and cheering others on. Lunch and refreshments were served.

Forum Central Household Support Fund (HSF)

In December 2023, ABA applied for a second round of funding from the Forum Central Household Support Fund (HSF) and was awarded funding to assist vulnerable households facing significant increases in living costs, helping them meet immediate needs and addressing challenges related to energy and water bills, food, and other essentials.

As a result, ABA provided support to 40 service users in the form of supermarket vouchers.

Roshni Project - Overview of the Project

The Henry Smith Project, led by ABA, supports individuals from culturally diverse and deprived communities facing sight loss or at risk of vision loss. The project addresses health complications caused by a lack of accessible information and healthcare by providing personalized support, advocacy, and promoting social inclusion. Between April 2023 and March 2024, ABA engaged the community through various methods, including face-to-face sessions, home visits, and outreach events, focusing on emotional and practical support, such as accessing benefits and navigating healthcare.

Key aspects included promoting eye health awareness through community group sessions and weekly luncheon gatherings. These served as social outlets while providing valuable information on managing health and finances. ABA also collaborated with local organisations to host events that raised awareness and built a supportive network for those experiencing sight loss.

Activities Organised:

Luncheon Groups: Held twice weekly, these groups provide hot vegetarian meals, an opportunity to socialise, and access to workshops on topics such as eye health, cost of living, healthy living, etc. This year, we served 1590 hot vegetarian meals while providing workshops on eye health and healthy living.

Health Awareness Roadshows: We organised four roadshows covering blood pressure checks and assistive technology, which were attended by over 250 people. These roadshows were organised in partnership with local organisations and other stakeholders.

Group Sessions: 78 total sessions from April 2023 to March 2024 focused on glaucoma awareness, budgeting, and well-being, as well as raising awareness of the importance of regular eye check-ups by visiting their opticians or Ophthalmologists at the eye clinics.

Advocacy Support: The team assisted 69 individuals with tasks like applying for benefits and renewing bus passes. Key figures include 9 successful PIP applications and numerous successful applications for carer's allowance, a blue badge, capacity for work and child benefits, along with 27 signposts to other organisations.

Trips: Organised a summer trip to Bridlington in August 2023 with 33 participants and their families.

Overall, the project has significantly impacted the community by providing essential support and fostering connections among those affected by sight loss.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Service User Case Study

G has been a long-term service user with diabetes that affected her feet and eyes, and she was recently diagnosed with cancer. She became isolated due to her health condition and fear of infection, particularly during her chemotherapy treatment. ABA staff supported G by booking hospital appointments, arranging interpreters, and organizing home visits. Staff ensured that she had both emotional and practical support, regularly checked in on her well-being, and arranged hospital transport for chemotherapy sessions. The ongoing contact has helped G feel less isolated and more confident about managing her care.

Service User Case Study

Mrs. B, aged 84, faced multiple health challenges, including diabetes, blood pressure issues, and macular degeneration. She was admitted to hospital for five weeks and later received carer's allowance for her personal care. ABA support workers provided essential information and emotional support to her and her family about Direct Payments, ensuring they were fully informed about their options. Although they ultimately chose not to proceed with Direct Payments, the family was grateful for the ongoing assistance.

Preventing Sight Loss – Funded by Big Lottery Fund

ABA secured funding from the Big Lottery Fund to strengthen operational activities and improve community engagement by recruiting two individuals for this project: a Business Development Officer and a Community Engagement Worker.

This year, we reviewed and enhanced our HR systems to support staff well-being and monitored HR-related documents. The Business Development Manager played a key role in this process, which was crucial during a challenging period.

Until September 2023, the Business Development Manager worked with a recruitment agency but later took over responsibilities for advertising and conducting interviews. By March 2024, following renewed funding from the Henry Smith Fund, two part-time Support Workers were hired, accompanied by new job descriptions and salary structures. This period was particularly challenging for recruiting and retaining staff due to the competitive job market. Out of the 15 individuals involved in the recruitment process, only five remain, indicating a high attrition rate and significant resource loss.

To improve our visibility, we are diligently working on enhancing our website to ensure better accessibility and a more user-friendly experience. The Business Development Manager has also focused on identifying long-term contracts and funding for the sustainable future of ABA. Funding from Live Well Leeds was secured for the Carers Project, and a successful appointment was made for the Carers Coordinator position. The Business Development Manager has been at the forefront of most funding applications this year, demonstrating her commitment and leadership in securing the project's financial stability.

Community engagements

Throughout the year, our outreach activities have been both successful and impactful, positively influencing individuals and the broader community. The dedicated efforts of our Community Engagement worker, who actively engages with diverse groups, have significantly strengthened connections, provided essential support, and promoted our services. This has resulted in meaningful and lasting benefits for those we serve.

Our focus on promoting ABA services and health awareness has led to 25 sessions, reaching over 670 individuals in various community groups. We delivered health awareness presentations to groups including the Leeds Refugee Forum, Beeston Community Centre, Asha Women's Group, Shantona, Nuban Community Group, Women's Health Group Lincoln Green, Bahar Community Group, the Middle Eastern and Mediterranean Community (MEMEC), Better Health Group Barca Leeds, Hong Kong Community Group, Red Lychee Group, and Beetey Din Community Group, among others. These often hard-to-reach and isolated groups have greatly benefitted from our consistent efforts to engage and connect with the community.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Our community engagement efforts successfully connected over 61 individuals with our services through collaborations with Primary Care Networks (PCNs), Adult Social Care, health awareness initiatives, networking, and community outreach. We established partnerships with 10 to 15 PCNs across Leeds, including Woodhouse, Bellbrooke Surgery (LS8 and LS9), Middleton & Hunslet, Armley PCN Network, as well as Seacroft PCN and developed referral pathways with community groups and organisations.

Aasra Carers' Project – Funded by Live Well Leeds

Overview of the Project

The Aasra Project provides vital support to unpaid carers, especially those from diverse communities, who often face significant challenges in their caregiving roles. These challenges include isolation alongside physical and emotional exhaustion and the difficulty of balancing caregiving with work and family responsibilities, which can leave little time for self-care. Recognising the importance of carers' well-being, the project offers a variety of services designed to alleviate these pressures, ensuring that carers receive the support they need to continue in their roles without compromising their own health and emotional stability.

The Aasra Project, launched in the summer of 2023, is a relatively new initiative aimed at providing crucial support to unpaid carers. Initially, the project offered only one-on-one telephone-based guidance, prioritising personalised care. However, in November 2023, structured support groups were introduced, providing a new layer of assistance.

The core mission of the Aasra Project is to evolve and grow in response to the changing needs of carers, with a strong focus on promoting their mental and physical well-being. Despite this, carers often face significant barriers, particularly in cultures where caregiving is seen as a family obligation. In such contexts, seeking external help can be viewed as inappropriate or even stigmatised, which adds further stress to their role. The Aasra Project aims to address these challenges by enhancing the availability of support and making it more accessible.

Similarly, another obstacle faced by the carers from diverse backgrounds is the lack of awareness about the range of services available, including respite care, financial assistance, and legal rights. This gap is often the result of poor outreach efforts or a lack of resources in languages that carers are most comfortable with.

The introduction of support groups has created a space where carers can share their experiences, challenges, and coping strategies with others in similar situations. These groups foster social interaction, reduce isolation, and provide a sense of community, allowing carers to feel supported and connected.

Activities organised

Engaging in arts and crafts, massage therapy, yoga, and Pilates has significantly benefited carers and service users.

For example, Arts & Crafts sessions have helped carers reduce stress, promote relaxation, and enhance mindfulness while fostering a sense of accomplishment. These therapeutic activities have also aided service users in managing their mental health.

Service users have enjoyed massage therapy, which offers deep relaxation and relief from physical tension, especially around the neck and shoulders. This treatment alleviates discomfort and emotional stress, promoting overall balance and well-being.

Other popular activities were Yoga and Pilates, which uplifted participants through stretching and breath control. These activities effectively promote relaxation, release tension, and improve flexibility and mental calmness.

Together, these activities foster a holistic mental and physical health approach for both carers and service users.

During this period, we conducted 25 sessions and provided one-on-one support to 25 individuals regarding their enquiries about benefits, carer's allowance, form filling, and more. Additionally, we carried out 21 outreach activities to promote our services and raise awareness of the Aasra project through various events and roadshows.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Service User Case Study

The service user (SU) is a caregiver for her daughter, who has mobility and disability challenges. After resigning from her full-time job to provide care, the SU is facing financial stress and struggling to manage household expenses for her five children. She is also on the waiting list for council housing but lacks guidance on navigating this process, increasing her stress.

Through ABA, the SU received valuable support in several areas:

ABA facilitated the SU's application for council housing, reducing her stress significantly. After moving in, the SU lacked essential items. ABA worked with external agencies to secure free furniture, alleviating her financial and mental burden, including helping her with Household Support Fund, providing food vouchers to ease her family's financial strain.

ABA's assistance significantly lowered the SU's stress and anxiety about her family's basic needs. Joining ABA's carer support group also provided her with an outlet for self-care and socialization. Over time, the SU built a trusting relationship with ABA, feeling comfortable seeking further help, which boosted her confidence and emotional well-being.

Testimonies:

"Thank you for everything" ...

"I enjoyed the yoga activities so much"

"I don't want to leave this group; I wish I could stay"

Sahara Project – Funded by BID Services

Overview of the Project

The project was set-up to deliver services to South Asian visually impaired people and their carers and is funded by BID Services, a Sensory Support Service in Leeds to provide comprehensive information sessions, activities and advocacy. The name itself suggests support (Sahara =Support). The word is associated in Hindi with the meaning of comfort or encouragement i.e providing assistance. As part of this project we run one session on Tuesdays at Chapeltown BAME Centre, Reginald Terrace. These sessions are very popular among service users. They get information and support in a friendly, sociable environment. They also receive advice on benefits and accessing various services/events within Leeds.

Activities organised

The range of activities offered in the community has proved to be incredibly beneficial, fostering creativity, health, and connection among participants. The Bead and Strings Workshop and Card Making Session facilitated artistic expression, allowing individuals to explore their creativity while developing fine motor skills. Similarly, the Cross Stitching and Origami sessions provided a serene environment for relaxation and mindfulness, which is essential for mental well-being. The Flower Arranging with Healing Music and Paper Flower Making not only beautified spaces but also promoted emotional wellness through the therapeutic power of art and nature. Cultural awareness was celebrated during events like the Asian Heritage Month and Black History Month activities, enriching participants with knowledge and fostering a sense of community. The "Eyes and Nature" Walk further enhanced this connection with nature, promoting mindfulness and appreciation for the environment. Workshops like Stone Painting and Spoon Colouring encouraged creativity in a relaxed setting, while sessions for crochet squares for charity blankets and cushion cover embroidery illustrated the spirit of giving back to the community.

During Christmas, service users planned for a meal out and a Candle Decoration workshop that added a festive touch, bringing people together to celebrate and share joy. Overall, these activities have not only cultivated individual skills and well-being but have also strengthened community bonds, highlighting the profound impact of creative and cultural engagement in enhancing our lives.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Outreach and roadshows

Outreach and promotion of services play a crucial role in engaging diverse audiences and fostering community participation. Effective outreach strategies, such as using social media and local community engagement raise awareness about significant events and initiatives, like Asian Heritage Month and Black History Month.

We have worked with various partners and community groups in different parts of Leeds, ensuring that everyone has access to meaningful experiences and resources. To enhance the events and provide additional value to the community, stall holders such as NHS and many community organisations, resulting in approximately 34 stalls offering health information.

This year, we have supported 62 individuals with various services, including one-to-one support and 240 advocacy sessions. We have worked closely with individuals, providing comprehensive support with aids and equipment. 93 sessions were delivered, including various activities and information sessions. We organised six events, including four roadshows, and we engaged with 545 people through these events demonstrating successful outreach.

60% of these people have been supported with translation support on letters, communication received by a medical or a council service; others have been offered individual attention in group activities, whether to listen to their needs/concerns or assist with the activity.

Co-production

Our outcomes were achieved through a combination of increased community awareness and participation in various workshops, fostering social connections and creativity among service users.

With increased conversation and engagement, we have noticed a significant increase in participation across creative workshop leading to individuals experiencing a renewed sense of accomplishment and connection within the community. Service users consistently provided positive feedback about the social impact of these activities, as they enhanced mental health and fostered a sense of contribution through service users' forum. Additionally, throughout all activities, service users felt empowered through co-production and active participation, which was key to achieving these positive outcomes.

Case Study - 2

Mr HB was referred by one of our partner organisations (Linking Leeds). He is man of Arab ethnicity and speaks very little English. He was feeling very isolated, low and lacking friends or companionship. A referral form was first completed for him, followed by an assessment on his needs. He was informed about the different groups that ABA ran including the times, days and locations. He chose a group on Monday morning at Mary Sunley House. The Support Worker went with him for the first time to introduce him to the other participants so that he did not feel nervous. It did not take him long to feel part of the session as other residents and attendees made him feel welcome. Despite the language differences, he engaged with body language, laughter and empathy. The hot lunch provided was welcomed by him and enabled further connection with the other group members. Following this the Support Worker arranged to put in place in a support plan. He was very happy with the support received.

Case Study – 1

JA is a South Asian woman. She had been suffering with low vision and other health issues such as diabetes blood pressure for several years. Like many women in her community, she neglected her health issues along with her eye condition due to lack of awareness and limited access to support groups and other health services.

She was referred to ABA. JA faced numerous challenges in addressing her health issues. She felt isolated and disconnected with the community, leading to feeling of loneliness and low self-esteem. She joined the Sahara group. She attended various wellbeing activities in the Sahara group each week.

Improved Health and wellbeing- Through attending groups and taking part in well-being activities she learnt to manage her stress and anxiety. She said she felt more relaxed and calmer. Engaging in art and craft sessions allowed her to express herself creatively.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Limited health awareness- JA said she has been experiencing health issues such as diabetes and high blood pressure. By participating in regular health workshops with ABA, JA learnt about the importance of a healthy diet, exercise, medications and regular check-ups to manage her diabetes and high blood pressures. As a result of her participation in the health groups, JA experienced a significant improvement in her health and overall wellbeing. By applying the knowledge gained from the workshops she was able to better control her diabetes and high blood pressure. She shared the knowledge with family and friends and felt more confident about herself.

Increased social network- JA said she was socially isolated before. When she started ABA's Sahara group she made good friends from the same community. She took part in the group discussions. She attended ABA roadshows which helped her to gain more knowledge.

JA said all these group activities and wellbeing sessions boost her confidence and self-esteem. She feels more positive now.

Volunteering with ABA - Encouraged by the supportive atmosphere of the ABA service JA decided to take a step further and explore volunteering opportunities. She participated in volunteering training. She made a great connection with other service users. These connections provided her emotional support and passion towards her work. Engaging in volunteering activities further boosted her confidence and self-esteem. She would like to help other service users who are suffering with the same situation.

"ABA has changed my life mentally and physically. I have improved my health wellbeing. I would like to recommend ABA service for other people who need the support."

Financial review

The net payments for the year were £74,416, including net receipts of £3,282 on unrestricted funds and net payments of £77,698 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

The reserves policy is to aim to hold reserves equivalent to 6 months' payroll costs. This would equate to approximately £55,000.

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £91,097.

Approved by the board of trustees on 27/1/2025.....

Signed: *K Bajwa* (Trustee)

Name: *Kuldeep Bajwa*

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 12 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Simon Bostrom FCIE

Date:

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Receipts and payments account

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants, contracts and donations	(2)	36,786	123,802	160,588	245,956
Sales, fees and contributions		5,166	-	5,166	2,841
Total receipts		41,952	123,802	165,754	248,797
Payments					
Salaries and on costs		40,920	109,073	149,993	108,989
Freelance work		-	-	-	2,093
Travel and transport		32	1,464	1,496	2,726
Catering costs		744	10,604	11,348	7,767
Events and activities		741	5,573	6,314	5,097
Hardship donations		-	4,525	4,525	5,577
Rent and room hire		-	3,409	3,409	874
Insurance		204	814	1,018	1,180
Office and administration		1,414	4,151	5,565	6,332
Equipment and resources		349	542	891	2,368
Accountancy		189	456	645	2,817
Training		360	595	955	3,341
Memberships		126	268	394	384
Advertising, events and publications		-	3,502	3,502	7,087
Consultancy		992	2,735	3,727	549
Recruitment		58	4,220	4,278	11,334
Website		449	1,803	2,252	1,685
Other expense		-	-	-	30
Independent examination		198	594	792	600
Subcontracted delivery		-	13,581	13,581	12,000
Grants repaid		-	25,485	25,485	-
Total payments		46,776	193,394	240,170	182,830
Net receipts / (payments)		(4,824)	(69,592)	(74,416)	65,967
Transfers between funds	(3)	8,106	(8,106)	-	-
Net movement in funds		3,282	(77,698)	(74,416)	65,967
Fund balances brought forward		87,815	110,634	198,449	132,482
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	91,097	32,936	124,033	198,449

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	90,338	32,936	123,274	198,139
Cash in hand	759	-	759	310
Total cash funds	91,097	32,936	124,033	198,449

Debtors and prepayments

Other debtors

2024
£
4,072
4,072

Assets retained for the charity's own use

11 desktop computers
3 printers
2 laptops
3 second hand laptops for service users
1 netbook
3 tablets
General office furniture
Camera
Video camera
Projector
26 I pads
3 i phones

Liabilities

Creditors
Accruals

2024
£
738
792
1,530

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on

Signed: K Bajwa (Trustee)

Name: Kuldeep Bajwa

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Grants, contracts and donations	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Henry Smith Charity	-	25,000	25,000	52,500
Leeds City Council (LCC) contract	36,656	-	36,656	32,042
Leeds Community Foundation	-	4,685	4,685	4,360
Leeds Older Peoples Forum (LOPF)	-	30,200	30,200	82,345
National Lottery Community Fund	-	31,250	31,250	63,135
Touchstone	-	32,117	32,117	-
Leeds City Council (LCC) Covid-19	-	-	-	3,250
Leeds Mind	-	-	-	1,000
National Lottery Community Fund (A4A)	-	-	-	5,500
Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)	-	-	-	1,500
Councillors contributions	-	550	550	-
Other donations	130	-	130	324
	<u>36,786</u>	<u>123,802</u>	<u>160,588</u>	<u>245,956</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Awards for All	15,485	-	3,001	(12,484)	-
Big Lottery Fund	35,817	31,250	55,525	-	11,542
Councillors Contribution	-	550	237	-	313
Forum Central	125	5,000	4,557	(568)	-
Henry Smith Charity	15,674	25,000	49,304	10,484	1,854
Leeds Mind	374	-	-	-	374
Live Well Leeds	-	32,117	20,882	-	11,235
LOPF - IDOP	-	200	200	-	-
LOPF - Enhance Funding	35,218	25,000	54,680	(5,538)	-
Lunch club	-	4,685	3,882	-	803
RNIB	1,000	-	726	-	274
Sir George Martin	353	-	-	-	353
Thomas Pocklington Trust	6,588	-	400	-	6,188
	<u>110,634</u>	<u>123,802</u>	<u>193,394</u>	<u>(8,106)</u>	<u>32,936</u>

Fund name

Awards for All

Purpose of restriction

Towards the 'Fair Ride' transport project. Funding was awarded during COVID-19, and the project was not delivered due to the circumstances. The funder gave the go ahead for the funds to be utilised as appropriate and so the remaining balance of £12,484 was transferred into the Henry Smith fund to extend that work.

Big Lottery Fund

Funding for a 2 year project to enable people living with visual impairments from South Asian and other BAME communities to access support through a variety of activities and also to enable the charity to develop plans for its longer term financial stability.

Councillors Contribution

Towards events at the Civic Hall.

Forum Central

Housing Support Fund to be distributed to vulnerable people struggling due to the increase in cost of living. The transfer relates to a contribution to overheads.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2024

3 Restricted funds continued

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Henry Smith Charity	Towards the running costs of a 1-2-1 support, advocacy and advice service for vulnerable BAME individuals with visual impairment in Leeds.
Leeds Mind	To provide activities and support service users with mental health.
Live Well Leeds	To provide support to unpaid carers from diverse communities.
LOPF - IDOP	Towards the International Day of Older People.
LOPF - Enhance Funding	Contract to work with the elderly BAME community in Leeds to support them to stay well at home, and have improved health and well being through a person-centred approach and a culturally appropriate service. Whilst being contractual, the funding is also restricted. The transfer relates to a contribution to overheads.
Lunch club	To provide freshly cooked food to blind and partially sighted people.
RNIB	To deliver training 'Living with sight loss'.
Sir George Martin	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
Thomas Pocklington Trust	To support the organisation during Covid-19.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 12 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Name: Simon Bostrom FCIE

27/01/2025

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ASIANS (LEEDS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1042621

Accounts

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Charity number 1042621

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023



Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 7
Examiner's report	8
Receipts and payments account	9
Statement of assets and liabilities	10
Notes to the accounts	11 to 13

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Kuldeep Bajwa	Chair	
Leena Inamdar	Chair	Resigned 25 April 2023
Charles McNeil	Vice Chair	Resigned 31 January 2023
Shindi Dahri	Treasurer	
Janice Brown	Secretary	Appointed 26 July 2022
Cllr Eileen Taylor		
Catherine Mahoney		
Annette Morris		Appointed 26 June 2022
Ballu Patel		Appointed 28 February 2023

Charity number 1042621 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address	Bankers	
Touchstone Support Centre 53-55 Harehills Avenue Leeds LS8 4EX	Santander UK plc 55 Otley Road Headingley, Leeds LS6 3AB	Virgin Money 6 Otley Road Headingley, Leeds LS6 2AA

Independent examiner

Simon Bostrom ACIE

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted on 13 October 1994 as amended on 26 November 2010.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To promote the welfare of blind and partially sighted people of Asian origin and /or other BME communities resident in the city of Leeds and its neighbourhood.

The charity's main activities

- * Visit clients at their homes
- * One to one support and provide advice and information on various issues including benefits
- * Drop-in sessions for clients to access support closer to their homes
- * Luncheon club to access freshly cooked food
- * Support to carers
- * Support to patients after hospital care

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need by reason of disability.

Achievements and performance

Roshni Project (Henry Smith) Report - 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

A new part-time member joined the Henry Smith project in March 2022 making a full time post.

With groups reopening (MC Sept 2021 & MS May 2022), face-to face interactions, 1-2-1 support, office and community venue drop-ins, service users felt less vulnerable and isolated and once again had access to information, benefit support and advocacy. A total of 84 face-to-face sessions were delivered at the two venues and staff supported 16 drop-ins. Staff restarted home visits in October 2022 and have completed 13 in the reporting period.

During the reporting period, staff have supported 61 individuals on a 1:1 basis with advocacy, completed 18 applications for benefits including Attendance Allowance, PIP, renewals, appeals, Carers Allowance with all 18 being successful.

A total of 21 people were signposted to various organisations including; Adult Social Care, Universal Credit helpline, Engage Leeds, Sikh Elders, Chapelton Youth Development Centre, Befriending, Anchor Housing, Food Banks, Green Doctor and ECLIO.

Funding for Lunch clubs from Leeds City Council was secured for Muir Court and Mary Sunley in April 2022 (£1,555 for each group). During the reporting period 44 hot meals were provided and served by ABA staff at Muir Court and 40 at Mary Sunley.

Trips - to reduce social isolation and promote health and well being

Trip to Malham in partnership with Yorkshire Dales National Park July 2022 - 10 services.

Seaside trip to Lytham St Annes on 15 Sept 2022 - 35 attended

Roadshows/events

Eye Health Week in Sept 2022, ABA organised and hosted a roadshow in Hamara Centre in collaboration with external organisations.

The first of a series of health roadshows hosted by ABA to raise and promote staying healthy and wellness was held at Ramgarhia Sports Centre in March 2023 and local partners participated in the event. The event was a great success with 80+ people attending the day.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

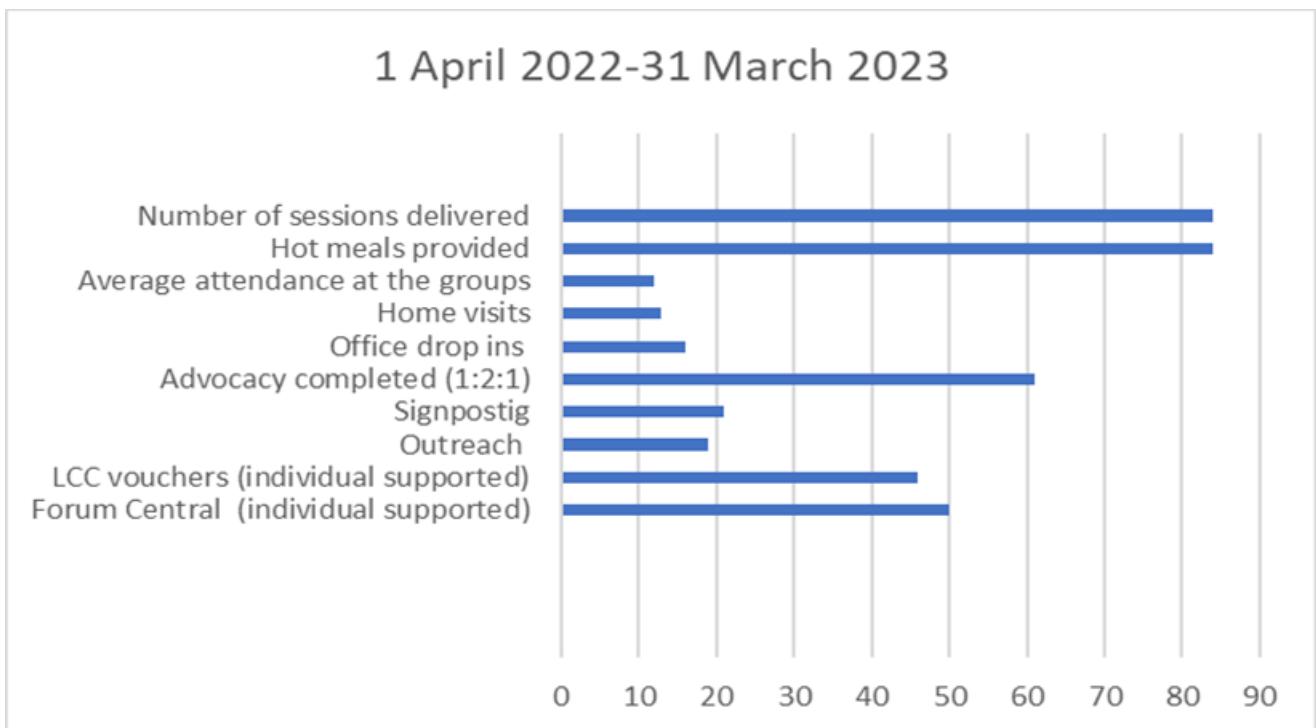
Achievements and performance continued

ABA took part in the 1001 Stories 2023 Year of Culture project organised by Leeds Playhouse. The aim of the project was to collect a range of experiences from the people of Leeds and to demonstrate that the stories of older people (60+) have cultural value.

ABA took part in The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) that invited everyone across the UK to plant trees to mark Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. We sponsored 6 trees to be planted at the new nature reserve in Nov 2022 with the Make-it-Wild project in the nature reserve in Kirk Hammerton in the Vale of York.

An extra £1248 was awarded to ABA from Leeds City Council to help our most vulnerable service users who were struggling to buy food or having to make difficult choices between food and fuel bills with supermarket vouchers. ABA supported 46 service users.

ABA applied for further funding in Feb 2023: Forum Central Household Support Fund (HSF) and was awarded £5000; we supported 50 service users with supermarket vouchers.



Chai Project

Community Funds on 21 June 2022 awarded £5500.

ABA partnered up with Balbir Singh Dance Company in a joint project to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. 6 sessions were delivered successfully at the 3 venues with an average of 12 service users participating at each session.

Living Well With Sight Loss (LWWSL)

NJ has completed the facilitation/content training, including: Challenging Behaviours in January 2023.

Shadowing an RNIB facilitator delivering a telephone course in March 2023. 2 day course planned for October 2023 and will be co-delivered with RNIB.

International Day of Older People 2022

£300 grant received to celebrate International Day.

2 celebrations were organised for service users and participants from around Leeds to join in with the celebrations. 30 people aged 60+ attended the events.

Service users shared stories about themselves and the significance and influence of resilient women in their own lives.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance continued

Training completed in the reporting period

L2 Food Hygiene & Safety for Catering July 2022

Introduction to Welfare Benefits July 2022

Benefits and Mental Health Nov 2022

Benefits for Older people October 2022

RNIB Facilitation Training Jan 2023

Enhance 2022-2023

This has been a challenging year for Enhance. The first quarter had no referrals due to time spent recruiting staff. The positions were advertised three times in this quarter and the Co-ordinator was appointed whilst the other roles remained vacant. The CEO attended one meeting with the Chapeltown NT, with a few more scheduled. In the second quarter, a support worker was recruited, working in partnership with HAMARA. The support worker started in October; the aim was to get another two support workers in post. The Co-ordinator attended the induction and meetings with the Seacroft Neighbourhood team. She shadowed the Chapeltown Neighbourhood team before attending a handover session the following month. She also got in touch with providers to form the network and understand how ENHANCE has been working for them.

The aim was to start taking referrals in October. In the meantime, Enhance was promoted through social media and the roadshow as part of Eye week. Recruitment was handed over to an agency for the support worker role. LOPF information was overwhelming in the first quarter and inconsistent in the second quarter: the dates of the training provided by LOPF through Eventbrite and the dates on zoom didn't match at times and was extremely confusing.

ABA Leeds started taking referrals in October 2022. Of the 9, 8 were active. These included one case of a couple, both of whom have been recently discharged from the hospital. They were helped with light cleaning, cooking refreshments/light meals, hospital visits, and getting them out and about. Another service user who suffered from arthritis was helped with cutting vegetables, light cleaning and support with IT to access study materials. Three other service users were provided with befriending services. The other service user was helped to access social groups in addition to befriending services. A further area of support for another referral was mental health as she suffered from anxiety. One referral from the neighbourhood team didn't work very well as when the service user was approached, consent had not been sought and assistance was declined.

None remained on the waiting list as follow-up was successfully achieved within 1 to 3 days of the initial conversation. Outreach with organisations continued, whilst hospitals and communities were encouraged to promote the project. This is one case study from this quarter: ABA staff worked with a couple who had been discharged from the hospital after multiple surgeries. The husband was diagnosed with cancer in August and was undergoing treatment. The wife was the carer for the husband and was also very poorly. They were referred to ABA by their family friend.

The task for ABA's Enhance staff was to help the couple by preventing them from reaching a health condition worse than that which they were initially facing and to prevent readmission to the hospital.

Staff worked closely with the couple to provide them with help around the house, light cleaning and help with preparing light refreshments. They provided them with befriending services which helped the wife's mental health as she quoted. Our support worker also accompanied her on short walks which she mentioned helped her with her eating habits.

Our support worker also regularly accompanied the husband for his Chemotherapy sessions at the hospital. Staff also did a financial assessment to see if they were eligible for any benefits and helped the wife with applying for carers allowance. They recently had some repairs that had to be done around their house. Support staff referred them to Care and Repair for this but soon found out they were not eligible for their service and hence got them in touch with other repair contractors and repairs were scheduled to be done by the end of the month. By not having to accompany the husband for his treatment and by having access to help, the wife avoided ill health and the risk of being admitted to the hospital. Knowing that they had access to constant help assisted them with their mental health.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance continued

Working with neighbourhood teams continued to be challenging. Little communication was received from the NTs. Even though staff made it a point to mail NTs and let them know about the service users who were being assisted, just in case it might help them receive some support from the NTs, specially those really unwell, but no response was came from the NTs.

The one referral received from an NT (cited earlier) had not had consent approved and therefore was declined. ABA recorded it was not alone in struggling with NTs; other delivery partners experienced this too. Consequently, it was fed back that the process needed to be more stream lined, which would assist with referrals from NTs, rather than sourcing our own referrals.

In the last quarter, ABA had around another 8 referrals, four of these were discharged, but the remaining four continued to be assisted as they were service users with additional needs.

A further two/three individuals were provided with support on rare occasions – more “on demand” such as assistance with hospital appointments.

Some referrals this quarter were self-referrals; others were from third sector organisations: four referrals from Leeds Irish Health and Homes and one directly from a St James’s hospital ward.

Outreach continued to be done and began to produce results in terms of a few referrals. Several health events were attended.

Finally, ABA staff began working with a video agency to produce an Enhance video to be shared with our audience, stakeholders and the wider sector, but this had to be put on hold as news about Year 2 Enhance was awaited.

This case study demonstrated successful prevention of re-admission to hospital: A service user Mrs M, who was undergoing several treatments, including for cancer, was assisted. She had a lot of anxiety as she was in and out of hospital almost every single day. This had taken a huge toll on her mental health. Given her anxiety, she was provided with befriending services, which helped build her confidence. She feared going out alone, and the support worker accompanied her on walks, taking her out to reduce her fear and anxiety. She was then referred to Maggie Leeds, accompanied by the support worker and briefed on what kind of support was available for her, which helped enormously.

ABA’s service helped her with her anxiety which could have led to a hospital admission but being part of the project enabled her to build her confidence and resilience, thereby keeping her out of hospital.

Sahara Group 2022-2023

This group runs on a Tuesday and continues to have regular users attending. They have acquired crotchet skills from a teacher enlisted by Association of Blind Asians (ABA). It is very uplifting to observe the engagements as one very competent attendee teaches her peers how to crotchet and also knit. They have collaborated on making the crotchet blanket, which they wish to donate to the hospital’s baby unit. As their confidence increases in this activity, they are able to suggest other areas, which improve their mental as well as physical activity. Over the year there have been 450 contacts with service users. These interactions have taken place over nearly 90 sessions which focus on reducing isolation, improving confidence and health, and providing advocacy, signposting and resource-sharing opportunities. Various activities and engagements have enabled these outcomes to be achieved. These have included the craft sessions (knitting, crotchet, cross-stitch), a Chai celebration and several musical, dance and movement offerings.

Referrals were regular at the beginning of the year, but decreased when a staff member left in February. Now they are beginning to pick up again as the Community Engagement Co-ordinator is being very active in outreach work. The referral profile continues to be at the older end of the spectrum as the younger service user has yet to be sought out since the Youth Co-ordinator left and two young adults were re-assessed at the beginning of the year. One of them expressed their mental health problems, and staff were proactive in offering support to meet their needs best. Another young person was supported to access the Living with Sight Loss course with RNIB.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance continued

This encouraged the young person to enrol in ABA's young people group as well share her experiences on her journey to be independent. In one exceptional case 1:1 support was provided: staff worked with a service user who had isolated herself. The goal was to get her out of the house by meeting her within the community and going for a short walk. This had a positive impact. Focus continued on the end goal for the service user to attend a group or activity which would help her to reduce her anxiety and become less isolated. Meanwhile, ABA has continued to explore different options to increase the accessibility of the information provided. This often includes contact via phone, texting, face-to-face and on social media. This always includes options for translation, transcription and making content easy to read. In the January quarter, for example, ABA staff began to learn more about accessible social media practice. This led to the first Podcast produced by the organisation which increased confidence amongst service users and the wider community.

Ongoing support in both Punjabi and Bengali has ensured equity of access to sensory loss services. Users were reminded of energy assistance available eg. Warm Home Discount. Most are conversant with booking and using the Access Bus; others drive. Users were offered support to fill in any forms if needed. Significant outcomes have been achieved in enhancing quality of life via the group activities and making a positive contribution as service users are grateful in being able to keep their minds active. In addition, service users are given increased choices and control whilst engaging with ABA; all of which is provided in an environment which is free from discrimination and harassment. This allows for relaxed communication in their mother tongue, comfortable engagement with bilingual facilitators and an opportunity to reminisce as well as recollect.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £65,967, including net receipts of £8,787 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £57,180 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £87,815.

The reserves policy is to aim to hold reserves equivalent to 6 months' payroll costs. This would equate to approximately £55,000.

Approved by the board of trustees on 23/01/2024

Kuldeep Bajwa (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom ACIE

26/01/2024

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)
Receipts and payments account
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants, contracts and donations	(2)	32,366	213,590	245,956	150,137
Sales, fees and contributions		2,841	-	2,841	426
Total receipts		35,207	213,590	248,797	150,563
Payments					
Salaries and on costs		19,278	89,711	108,989	85,136
Freelance work		100	1,993	2,093	1,665
Travel and transport		677	2,049	2,726	691
Catering costs		627	7,140	7,767	1,781
Events and activities		857	4,240	5,097	5,397
Hardship donations		-	5,577	5,577	-
Rent and room hire		-	874	874	2,790
Insurance		425	755	1,180	965
Office and administration		1,323	5,009	6,332	4,407
Equipment and resources		214	2,154	2,368	15,514
Accountancy		892	1,925	2,817	188
Training		550	2,791	3,341	876
Memberships		171	213	384	457
Advertising, events and publications		653	6,434	7,087	4,038
Consultancy		-	549	549	7,200
Recruitment		2,688	8,646	11,334	709
Website		565	1,120	1,685	1,361
Other expense		-	30	30	185
Independent examination		-	600	600	600
Subcontracted delivery		-	12,000	12,000	-
Total payments		29,020	153,810	182,830	133,960
Net receipts / (payments)		6,187	59,780	65,967	16,603
Transfers between funds		2,600	(2,600)	-	-
Net movement in funds		8,787	57,180	65,967	16,603
Fund balances brought forward		79,028	53,454	132,482	115,879
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	87,815	110,634	198,449	132,482

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2023

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	87,505	110,634	198,139	132,334
Cash in hand	310	-	310	148
Total cash funds	<u>87,815</u>	<u>110,634</u>	<u>198,449</u>	<u>132,482</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Simple list - no need for values

11 desktop computers

3 printers

2 laptops

3 second hand laptops for service users

1 netbook

3 tablets

General office furniture

Camera

Video camera

Projector

26 I pads

3 i phones

Liabilities

Accruals

2023

£

792

792

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 23/01/2024

Kuldeep Bajwa (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

2 Grants, contracts and donations	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Henry Smith Charity	-	52,500	52,500	57,500
Leeds City Council (LCC) Covid-19	-	3,250	3,250	9,750
Leeds City Council (LCC) Social Services	32,042	-	32,042	50,251
Leeds Community Foundation	-	4,360	4,360	-
Leeds Mind	-	1,000	1,000	-
Leeds Older Peoples Forum (LOPF)	-	82,345	82,345	-
National Lottery Community Fund (A4A)	-	5,500	5,500	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	63,135	63,135	-
Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)	-	1,500	1,500	-
Albert Hunt Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Barchester Fund	-	-	-	1,000
Independent Age	-	-	-	14,789
Jimbos Fund	-	-	-	12,999
Wesleyan	-	-	-	1,764
Other donations	324	-	324	84
	<u>32,366</u>	<u>213,590</u>	<u>245,956</u>	<u>150,137</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Albert Hunt Trust	1,025	-	1,025	-	-
Awards for All	9,985	5,500	-	-	15,485
Big Lottery Fund	-	63,135	27,318	-	35,817
Forum Central	-	5,000	4,275	(600)	125
Henry Smith Charity	23,258	52,500	58,084	(2,000)	15,674
Independent Age	5,194	-	8,393	3,199	-
Jimbos Fund	718	-	718	-	-
LCC Covid-19	2,239	3,250	4,000	(1,489)	-
Leeds Mind	-	1,000	626	-	374
LOPF	-	300	300	-	-
LOPF Enhance Funding	-	77,045	41,827	-	35,218
LCC Luncheon Club	1,120	4,360	5,480	-	-
RNIB	-	1,500	-	(500)	1,000
Sir George Martin	353	-	-	-	353
Thomas Pocklington Trust	7,798	-	-	(1,210)	6,588
Wesleyan	1,764	-	1,764	-	-
	<u>53,454</u>	<u>213,590</u>	<u>153,810</u>	<u>(2,600)</u>	<u>110,634</u>

Fund name

Albert Hunt Trust

Purpose of restriction

To provide 1-2-1 counselling sessions for service users who need urgent or specific wellbeing support.

Awards for All

Towards the 'Fair Ride' transport project.

Big Lottery Fund

Funding for a 2 year project to enable people living with visual impairments from South Asian and other BAME communities to access support through a variety of activities and also to enable the charity to develop plans for its longer term financial stability.

Forum Central

Housing Support Fund to be distributed to vulnerable people struggling due to the increase in cost of living.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

3 Restricted funds continued

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Henry Smith Charity	Towards the running costs of a 1-2-1 support, advocacy and advice service for vulnerable BAME individuals with visual impairment in Leeds.
Independent Age	To enable elderly BAME individuals with visual impairment to engage in community support and provision.
Jimbos Fund	To provide digital equipment and know how to elderly members of the community support and improve confidence and independence.
LCC Covid-19	Covid-19 harm minimisation funding.
Leeds Mind	To provide activities and support service users with mental health.
LOPF	Celebration for International Day of Older Persons.
LOPF Enhance Funding	Contract to work with the elderly BAME community in Leeds to support them to stay well at home, and have improved health and well being through a person-centred approach and a culturally appropriate service. Whilst being contractual, the funding is also restricted.
LCC Luncheon Club	To provide freshly cooked food to blind and partially sighted people.
RNIB	To deliver training 'Living with sight loss'.
Sir George Martin	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
Thomas Pocklington Trust	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
Wesleyan	To support service provision.

The transfers in each case relate to management charges / contribution to overheads.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ASIANS (LEEDS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1042621

Accounts

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Charity number 1042621

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022



West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 5
Examiner's report	6
Receipts and payments account	7
Statement of assets and liabilities	8
Notes to the accounts	9 to 11

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2022

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Leena Inamdar	Chair	
Charles McNeil	Vice Chair	
Shindi Dahri	Treasurer	
Kuldeep Bajwa		
Ballu Patel		Resigned 31 October 2021
Eileen Taylor		
Catherine Mahoney		Appointed 28 February 2022
Annette Morris		Appointed 26 June 2022
Charity number	1042621	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

Touchstone Support Centre
53-55 Harehills Avenue
Leeds
LS8 4EX

Bankers

Santander UK plc 55 Otley Road Headingley, Leeds LS6 3AB	Virgin Money 6 Otley Road Headingley, Leeds LS6 2AA
---	--

Independent examiner

Stephen Procter

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted on 13 October 1994 as amended on 26 November 2010.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To promote the welfare of blind and partially sighted people of Asian origin and /or other BME communities resident in the city of Leeds and its neighbourhood.

The charity's main activities

- * Visit clients at their homes
- * One to one support and provide advice and information on various issues including benefits
- * Drop-in sessions for clients to access support closer to their homes
- * Luncheon club to access freshly cooked food
- * Provide training for service users
- * Produce regular newsletter in community languages

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need by reason of disability.

Achievements and performance

As we started to recover from the first lockdown, we were hit again with the second lockdown. We, as a team reflected and adapted to different methods to continue the service without much disturbance.

While we reflect on what was a very different year, we are very proud to say we were able to secure funding to support our service users coming out of lockdown. Despite not being successful with some funding, however, we were able to secure funding to support all of our services as well as other services helping them to come out of lockdown.

In this year, we delivered 1-2-1 counselling support and a gardening project to help them overcome loneliness and be more resilient. We also delivered several well-being and exercise sessions either via online or face-to-face.

Jimbo's fund funded 26 Ipads to help and support our service users with digital access. Independent AGE funding for the Gardening project started in partnership with a local school and we delivered sessions to help reduce isolation and increase awareness on sensory plants.

LCC Harm Minimisation funding was secured in March that helped us create a video promoting resilience of our service users during lockdown. Further LCC Harm minimisation funds was secured to continue to support service users and raise awareness on C19 vaccination.

- Barchester funding received – to deliver the gardening project (project started)
- We secured £250 to organise a picnic
- Albert Trust – started delivering counselling to 8 people offering 6 sessions each
- Living with sight loss application submitted - £1500 (Visionary)

SAHARA Project

This year, as most health services were accessed online due to emerging Corona variants, ABA maintained the service users referred at the onset of Covid and the existing members on the register. We did this by continuing with the weekly online health and mental well-being classes. ABA carried out online feedback sessions after group activities, and the service users unanimously agreed that they did not feel confident about travelling on public transport. The cold weather was another hurdle for them to come out. It was decided by the team that we would recommence face-to-face activities in the new year. As a result of conditions, ABA had difficulty reaching community centres (they abided by their Covid rules not allowing access to have an information stall). We received self-referrals from people who may have heard of us through family and friends. An example of cases we dealt with: MR NH registered blind and with multiple health conditions, received advocacy support in getting a referral to adult social care and access to benefits accessible for a blind person.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance (continued)

SAHARA Project (continued)

Funding for this project from BID, 10% cuts confirmed from October 2021.

A Snapshot of support provided:

No people attended/were supported through group drop-ins and online activities - 1071

Number of people signposted - 15

No advocacy cases - 30

New referrals -17

Roshni Project

Working from home as a result of COVID-19 affected how we worked with the community and service users. This was difficult at first because people were very isolated, scared, and in many cases unsure of what to do, which made our work even more important. We made wellbeing phone calls to ensure we reached out to all our service users, and through those we were able to establish where additional support was needed. . Most of the support was then offered through phone calls and zoom due to Covid restrictions.

ABA delivered 42 online sessions in this period with an average attendance of 9 per session, including group discussion and information sharing, baking, health & well-being , exercise, and budgeting in partnership with Leeds Learning Partnerships. Face-to-face group sessions restarted in September 2021 at Muir Court and 18 sessions were provided in this period, with an average attendance of 12 per session. The face-to-face sessions were welcomed by and well attended and everyone abided by Covid rules by wearing masks, sitting a little apart and using hand sanitizer.

Various exercise and information sessions were delivered by facilitators. Mary Sunley planned to restart in April/May 2022 due to room booking and a change of management at the Centre. Monday's online sessions continued. Online sessions organised included a myth busting play regarding the vaccine in native languages which 15 attended online. A budgeting course was arranged and attended by 18 people via zoom, a Diabetes workshop attended by 21 via zoom, cancer awareness attended by 25, safer Leeds attended by 18 an eye health session and a session from Yorkshire Water (advice on money-saving schemes) attended by 30 via zoom in total. Signposting and referring was done when needed to ASC, 15 signposted to mental health services, Safer Leeds, Diabetes UK, Dementia Services and CAB.

As well as continuing outreach via emails and phone calls due to restrictions we did a face to face session in Asha awareness on eye health and budgeting - increase in energy bills, cost of living and eating health to maintain health especially for diabetics/blood pressure eye session/budgeting. At many outreach events we get many referrals but when they are contacted some do not seem to be interested.

New referrals have been very low in this period due to many restrictions but through our phone calls and media channels we have been able to outreach to some but not many and referrals were at 10 people. Advocacies were at 411 entries and some may have been missed due to new staff not always entering theirs on the system. examples of the advocacies are help with benefits applying and chasing up, blue badge, bus pass and hospital appointments rearranging etc. Regular outcome stars have been updated and any change in need has been recorded and acted upon.

Number of people signposted -15 signposted to mental health services, Safer Leeds, Diabetes UK, Dementia Services and CAB.

Number advocacy case - 411

New referrals – There was no outreach during lockdowns which impacted on new referrals. However, via online classes, we had 10 new referrals via word of mouth by existing service users.

Staff attended Conference / Events /Meetings

Staff attended and represented ABA at a wide range of forums and meetings ranging from local LCPs, PSI network, Social forum, Digital Inclusion, Dementia Forum, Diabetes Stakeholder meetings and many more.

ABA took part in Leeds first AGE Proud event and delivered two workshops and took part in creating flowers for West Yorkshire playhouse. Our members created 200+ flowers to be displayed.

ABA was invited to jointly do a presentation with Glaucoma UK to raise awareness on Glaucoma.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance (continued)

Staff attended Conference / Events /Meetings (continued)

Our service users took part in 'What it is like for me?' and 'The Big Chat' projects by Health Watch – ABA service users to talk about the language barrier.

Attended Leeds Museum accessibility group to carry out an accessibility audit for one of their areas

Outreach/Training

ABA had been busy delivering various sessions and being out and about promoting National Eye Health Week. Some of the topics were covered: Eye Health Cancer awareness, The importance of regular eye check-ups, Dementia, Diabetes and Sight loss etc.

We attended various events – Armley Festival, Beeston Festival, Indian Food Festival and LCP learning forum.

Coming out of lockdown – a video has been produced to showcase the resilience of our service users on how they are overcoming loneliness and difficulties they faced during C19 lockdown.

We delivered 4 weeks' Diabetes and Food workshops – which were very well attended.

We were one of 30 chats that were organised by Leeds Healthwatch and our service users shared their stories to LCC health and social care staff and decision makers and carried out a consultation to find out how much our service users are aware of direct payments.

Website / IT

The website was fully redesigned and improvements made to make it more accessible to VI people. We have incorporated individual Giving and Fundraising activities during Ramadan adding Zakat calendar and promoting via different avenues to raise funds, however the response is low. All our computers and software are getting upgraded this year.

Staff training

Staff attended various training ie Strategic Leadership workshops over 4 weeks with VAL, Benefits, Social media, applying for small funds etc.

Staffing and Trustees

There was a change in staffing. Two have resigned due to personal reasons, however, we are currently recruiting for these positions and other new positions that became available. Two new trustees were recruited in the year.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £16,603, including net receipts of £7,340 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £9,263 on restricted funds, after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £79,028.

The reserves policy is to aim to hold reserves equivalent to 6 months' payroll costs. This would equate to approximately £42,000.

It is recognised that the reserves are well in excess of the current policy figure and this will be addressed in the coming year. At the same time the policy itself will be reviewed.

Approved by the board of trustees on 20/01/2023

Kuldeep Bajwa (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stephen Procter

23/01/2023

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Receipts and payments account

for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants, commissioning and donations	(2)	50,335	99,802	150,137	101,072
Sales, fees and contributions		426	-	426	-
Total receipts		50,761	99,802	150,563	101,072
Payments					
Salaries and on costs		37,005	48,131	85,136	61,374
Freelance work		595	1,070	1,665	517
Travel and transport		149	542	691	628
Catering costs		603	1,178	1,781	1,005
Events and activities		934	4,463	5,397	2,669
Rent and room hire		1,000	1,790	2,790	3,229
Insurance		355	610	965	923
Office and administration		1,163	3,244	4,407	3,430
Equipment and resources		1,836	13,678	15,514	1,034
Accounting and independent examination		362	426	788	698
Training		398	478	876	1,253
Memberships		125	332	457	213
Advertising, events and publications		-	4,038	4,038	1,670
Consultancy		3,600	3,600	7,200	4,874
Recruitment		60	649	709	230
Website		693	668	1,361	44
Other expense		13	172	185	444
Total payments		48,891	85,069	133,960	84,235
Net income / (expenditure)		1,870	14,733	16,603	16,837
Transfers between funds		5,470	(5,470)	-	-
Net movement in funds		7,340	9,263	16,603	16,837
Fund balances brought forward		71,688	44,191	115,879	99,042
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	79,028	53,454	132,482	115,879

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2022

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	78,880	53,454	132,334	115,379
Cash in hand	148	-	148	500
Total cash funds	<u>79,028</u>	<u>53,454</u>	<u>132,482</u>	<u>115,879</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

11 desktop computers
3 printers
2 laptops
3 second hand laptops for service users
1 netbook
3 tablets
General office furniture
Camera
Video camera
Projector
26 I pads
3 i phones

Liabilities

Independent examination	£
	<u>600</u>
	<u>600</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 20/01/2023

Kuldeep Bajwa (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2022

2 Grants and donations	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Albert Hunt Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-
Barchester Fund	-	1,000	1,000	-
Henry Smith Charity	-	57,500	57,500	30,000
Independent Age	-	14,789	14,789	-
Jimbos Fund	-	12,999	12,999	-
Leeds City Council (LCC) Covid-19	-	9,750	9,750	-
Leeds City Council (LCC) Social Services Wesleyan	50,251	-	50,251	51,683
Leeds Community Fund (LCF) Resilience	-	1,764	1,764	-
Sir George Martin	-	-	-	8,290
Thomas Pocklington Trust	-	-	-	1,000
Other donations	-	-	-	10,000
	84	-	84	99
	<u>50,335</u>	<u>99,802</u>	<u>150,137</u>	<u>101,072</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
Albert Hunt Trust	-	2,000	775	(200)	1,025
Awards for All	9,985	-	-	-	9,985
Barchester Fund	-	1,000	850	(150)	-
Henry Smith Charity	24,446	57,500	58,688	-	23,258
Independent Age	-	14,789	8,895	(700)	5,194
Jimbos Fund	-	12,999	11,101	(1,180)	718
LCC Covid-19	-	9,750	4,760	(2,751)	2,239
LCC Luncheon Club	1,120	-	-	-	1,120
LCF Resilience	489	-	-	(489)	-
Sir George Martin	353	-	-	-	353
Thomas Pocklington Trust	7,798	-	-	-	7,798
Wesleyan	-	1,764	-	-	1,764
	<u>44,191</u>	<u>99,802</u>	<u>85,069</u>	<u>(5,470)</u>	<u>53,454</u>

Fund name

Albert Hunt Trust

Purpose of restriction

To provide 1-2-1 counselling sessions for service users who need urgent or specific wellbeing support.

Awards for All

Towards the 'Fair Ride' transport project.

Barchester Fund

To deliver outdoor group based activities including a gardening group.

Henry Smith Charity

Towards the running costs of a 1-2-1 support, advocacy and advice service for vulnerable BAME individuals with visual impairment in Leeds.

Independent Age

To enable elderly BAME individuals with visual impairment to engage in community support and provision.

Jimbos Fund

To provide digital equipment and know how to elderly members of the community support and improve confidence and independence.

LCC Covid-19

Covid-19 harm minimisation funding.

LCC Luncheon Club

To provide freshly cooked food to blind and partially sighted people.

LCF Resilience

To support the organisation during Covid-19.

Sir George Martin

To support the organisation during Covid-19.

Thomas Pocklington Trust

To support the organisation during Covid-19.

Wesleyan

To support service provision.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

3 Restricted funds (continued)

Transfers are all in respect of agreed central management costs and closure of funds at the end of the agreed work.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ASIANS (LEEDS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1042621

Accounts

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Charity number 1042621

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021



Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 4
Examiner's report	5
Receipts and payments account	6
Statement of assets and liabilities	7
Notes to the accounts	8 to 10

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2021

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position
Leena Inamdar	Chair
Charles McNeil	Vice Chair
Shindi Dahri	Treasurer
Kuldeep Bajwa	
Ballu Patel	
Eileen Taylor	

Charity number

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1042621, on 7 December 1994.

Principal address

Touchstone Support Centre
53-55 Harehills Avenue
Leeds
LS8 4EX

Bankers

Santander UK plc 55 Otley Road Headingley, Leeds LS6 3AB	Virgin Money 6 Otley Road Headingley, Leeds LS6 2AA
---	--

Independent examiner

Stephen Procter

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted on 13 October 1994 as amended on 26 November 2010.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2021

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To promote the welfare of blind and partially sighted people of Asian origin and /or other BME communities resident in the city of Leeds and its neighbourhood.

The charity's main activities

- * Visit clients at their homes
- * One to one support and provide advice and information on various issues including benefits
- * Drop-in sessions for clients to access support closer to their homes
- * Luncheon club to access freshly cooked food
- * Provide training for service users
- * Produce regular newsletter in community languages

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need by reason of disability.

Achievements and performance

ABA works with BAME individuals throughout Leeds with visual impairments, whom are elderly and all of whom are vulnerable and isolated. We focus on preventing sight loss and increasing the confidence, networks, resilience and independence so that ultimately everyone is empowered to live the life they want.

Pre pandemic we provided a range of group-based and 1-2-1 sessions which couldn't be accessed elsewhere. The weekly group sessions provided essential and completely unique opportunities for individuals to share anxieties in a safe group with people who understood their worries. Within these sessions we were able to share key information in an informal way on issues such as; the impact of diet on visual impairments; the latest research findings on arthritis; and activities such as arts and craft to promote feelings of usefulness. Importantly, these multi-lingual, culturally appropriate sessions also gave respite time for carers. Previously, these sessions have been delivered within the community, recently they have been delivered online, with sadly not everyone being able to attend.

During the year, however, we have been able to:

- Set up and offer extended online services.
- Secure funding to provide emergency services under the lockdown.
- Organise an online event for International Yoga Day.
- Organise an online eye awareness session, attended by around 50 people from throughout the UK.
- Take part in the RAMADAN Campaign to raise awareness on sight loss and importance of eye drops which was broadcasted over 100+ channels.
- Run an extensive radio campaign to raise awareness of our services, over three months with local Asian Radio and attended Akash Radio to raise awareness of sight loss.
- Support service users to take part in the Census and provided accessible information and sessions in many community languages.
- Run information sessions on scams and frauds, mental health, eating for eyes, glaucoma and a live healthy cooking session.
- Cook and provide food to our vulnerable and housebound service users for over three months.
- Secure 3 years funding from the Henry Smith Charity and employ new members of staff.
- Secure Covid 19 harm minimisation funding to eliminate hesitation on C19 vaccine within our service users.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2021

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £16,837, including net receipts of £19,485 on unrestricted funds and net payments of £2,648 on restricted funds, after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves at the year end were £71,688.

The reserves policy is to aim to hold reserves equivalent to 6 months' payroll costs. This would equate to approximately £30,000.

It is recognised that the reserves are well in excess of the current policy figure and this will be addressed in the coming year when services are resumed as normal.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees on 28/01/2022

Dr Leena Inamdar (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stephen Procter

31/01/2022

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Receipts and payments account

for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants, commissioning and donations	(2)	51,782	49,290	101,072	127,042
Sales, fees and contributions		-	-	-	17,727
Other income		-	-	-	2,497
Total receipts		<u>51,782</u>	<u>49,290</u>	<u>101,072</u>	<u>147,266</u>
Payments					
Salaries and on costs	(3)	37,807	23,567	61,374	92,490
Freelance work		100	417	517	-
Travel and transport		-	628	628	4,061
Catering costs		18	987	1,005	7,354
Events and activities		830	1,839	2,669	18,123
Rent and room hire		810	2,419	3,229	6,046
Insurance		400	523	923	935
Office and administration		1,357	2,073	3,430	4,666
Volunteer expenses		-	-	-	276
Equipment and resources		26	1,008	1,034	594
Accounting and independent examination		428	270	698	2,604
Training		284	969	1,253	254
Memberships		93	120	213	8
Advertising, events and publications		1,650	20	1,670	1,147
Consultancy		1,200	3,674	4,874	2,925
CRB checks		-	-	-	234
Recruitment		-	230	230	-
Website		44	-	44	5,997
Other expense		175	269	444	197
Total payments		<u>45,222</u>	<u>39,013</u>	<u>84,235</u>	<u>147,911</u>
Net receipts / (payments)		6,560	10,277	16,837	(645)
Transfers between funds		12,925	(12,925)	-	-
Net movement in funds after transfers		<u>19,485</u>	<u>(2,648)</u>	<u>16,837</u>	<u>(645)</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>52,203</u>	<u>46,839</u>	<u>99,042</u>	<u>99,687</u>
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	<u>71,688</u>	<u>44,191</u>	<u>115,879</u>	<u>99,042</u>

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2021

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Santander	70,437	44,191	114,628	97,727
Virgin Money	751	-	751	751
Lunch Club cash	51	-	51	51
Main account cash	449	-	449	513
Total cash funds	<u>71,688</u>	<u>44,191</u>	<u>115,879</u>	<u>99,042</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Seven desktop computers
Three printers
Two laptops
Three second hand laptops for service users
One netbook
Three tablets
General office furniture
One camera
Video camera
Projector

Liabilities

	£
Independent examination	600
	<u>600</u>

Approval of the accounts

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 28/01/2022

Dr Leena Inamdar (Trustee)

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2021

2 Grants, commissioning and donations	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Leeds City Council (LCC) Social Services	51,683	-	51,683	51,683
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	57,557
Leeds Community Fund (LCF) Resilience	-	8,290	8,290	-
LCF Time to Shine (Fair Ride)	-	-	-	4,000
LCF Ideas That Change Lives (Fair Ride)	-	-	-	-
Awards for All	-	-	-	10,000
Metcalfe Smith	-	-	-	2,000
Peoples Health Trust	-	-	-	1,656
Henry Smith Charity	-	30,000	30,000	-
Sir George Martin	-	1,000	1,000	-
Thomas Pocklington Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-
Donations	99	-	99	146
	<u>51,782</u>	<u>49,290</u>	<u>101,072</u>	<u>127,042</u>

3 Staff costs and numbers	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross salaries	58,796	86,090
Social security costs	4,158	5,287
Employment allowance	(4,000)	(3,000)
Payroll charges	540	914
Pensions	1,880	3,199
	<u>61,374</u>	<u>92,490</u>

The average number employees during the year was 3.8, being an average of 2.3 full time equivalent (2020: 6, 3.4 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme	2021	2020
	£	£
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	1,880	3,199
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	-	-
Amount of any contributions prepaid at the year end	-	-

4 Restricted funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
LCC Social Services	9,925	-	-	(9,925)	-
Lottery Community Fund	25,794	-	25,794	-	-
LCC Luncheon Club	1,120	-	-	-	1,120
LCF Resilience	-	8,290	7,801	-	489
Awards for All	10,000	-	15	-	9,985
Henry Smith Charity	-	30,000	2,554	(3,000)	24,446
Sir George Martin	-	1,000	647	-	353
Thomas Pocklington Trust	-	10,000	2,202	-	7,798
	<u>46,839</u>	<u>49,290</u>	<u>39,013</u>	<u>(12,925)</u>	<u>44,191</u>

Association of Blind Asians (Leeds)

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2021

4 Restricted funds (continued)

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
LCC Social Services	To provide activities and services for blind and partially sighted people. (Commissioning for running costs and service provision - funding is unrestricted therefore transfer of balance.)
Lottery Community Fund	To provide advocacy, one to one support and information in accessible formats for blind and partially sighted people.
LCC Luncheon Club	To provide freshly cooked food to blind and partially sighted people.
LCF Resilience	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
Awards for All	Towards the 'Fair Ride' transport project.
Henry Smith Charity	Towards the running costs of a 1-2-1 support, advocacy and advice service for vulnerable BME individuals with visual impairment in Leeds. (Transfer in respect of agreed contribution to central management costs.)
Sir George Martin	To support the organisation during Covid-19.
Thomas Pocklington Trust	To support the organisation during Covid-19.

5 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.