



LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company Number (England and Wales): 3252691

Registered Charity Number: 1058631

Registered Office: 341 Evelyn Street, SE8 5QX

Trustees

Diana Fawcett – Chair until Jan 2021

Pawan Dhillon – Left Dec 2020

Mike Brooks – Treasurer

Jill Rutter – Left May 2021

Joanna Kindeberg – Left Jan 2021

Julia Glynn-Pickett – Left April 2021

Adam Lake

Rossen Roussanov

Claire Morris – Chair from Jan 2021

Eve Mosley

Drucilla Namirembe

Vicky Scott – Joined Oct 2020

Hilary Judge – Joined Oct 2020

Aferdita Pacrami – Joined Sep 2021

Jagdev Panesar – Joined Sep 2021

Auditors: Able and Young Ltd, Airport House, Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR0 0XZ

Legal and administrative details: The Trustee's annual report and financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charitable Company's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) FRS102.

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1. WELCOME FROM CHAIR AND CEO

CHAIR MESSAGE

I'm delighted to publish our Impact Report 2020/21 as one of my first acts as LRMN's new Chair of Trustees. It's a great honour to take the reins from Diana Fawcett, who has led the board for the past six years and ensured a smooth handover. Diana remains a valued member of the board, which will continue to benefit from her experience.

Just like you, LRMN has had a challenging year. The pandemic has been especially tough on the communities we serve – from delays in justice to rising destitution. But I am immensely proud of our response.

From the very beginning, we swiftly reacted to the Covid-19 crisis and adapted the delivery of our services to protect and continue to serve our clients. Despite the pandemic, we stayed on track in achieving our three-year strategic goals (see page 7) that focus on improving our organisational health, growing and developing our services, and building effective partnerships.

All of this would have been impossible without the tireless support of our funders, staff, volunteers, fellow trustees and our resilient clients. Thank you all for your continued support.

Dr Claire Morris, Chair of Trustees

CEO MESSAGE

This year was undoubtedly a year of change. Diana Fawcett stepped down from her role as Chair of Trustees after over six years. I, and everyone at LRMN, owe Diana massive gratitude for her support and service to us. Although I'm sad to see Diana step back, I'm convinced that our new chair, Claire Morris, will take LRMN into a bright future.

Looking back, 2020/21 and the Covid-19 pandemic revealed LRMN's resilience. As soon as the lockdown was announced, we quickly transformed our operation which enabled us to support our clients; including providing them advice and counselling over the phone and online. We provided £38,391 hardship funds and transformed our Migrant Hub into a foodbank. We provided funds for mobile data and wifi so our women members can access their weekly group activities including their Championship and Peer support training. It was inspiring to see so many volunteers lend their hand to our efforts, and the rise in generous donations towards our cause. Throughout the crisis, we carried on campaigning for more places of sanctuary - with two major successes as Lewisham Council and St Mary's Primary School gained Lewisham's first sanctuary awards.

The pandemic gave us the opportunity to get closer to our clients and staff, learning and growing from their experiences. We launched our client-led Community Forum that focuses on campaigning and improving LRMN. We strengthened our organisational health as our staff grew in numbers and gained new skills. And we forged new partnerships with organisations and individuals who share our goals.

We hope that the worst is behind us. But whatever the future holds, we have faith that LRMN will continue to support people to build a life here and make our neighbourhoods places of sanctuary.

Rosario Guimba-Stewart, LRMN CEO

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network (LRMN) was formed in 1991/92 and was incorporated and became a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee in 1996. It was established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is governed under its objects and powers. New updated Articles were adopted on 14th April 2016.

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees

The management of LRMN is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of its Articles of Association.

Under the requirement of the Articles of Association, each Trustee shall be appointed for a fixed term of office. Each fixed term may not exceed three years. Each director whose term of office comes to an end at the end of a fixed term in accordance with these articles is eligible for re-appointment as a director unless he or she has ceased to be eligible for such re-appointment by reason of another provision of these articles. Provided that no director shall be re-appointed for a term which would cause his or her aggregate term of office to exceed 9 years. New Trustees are selected following a formal selection process.

The board aims to ensure that it is diverse, includes service user experience and reflects the communities we serve.

Induction and Training of Board of Trustees

Newly elected Board of Trustees are formally welcomed and provided with a structured induction programme and LRMN information (Welcome Pack). Arrangements are made to meet with staff and current Trustees. On-going training is available to existing and new members.

Risk Management

LRMN regularly carries out detailed risk assessments and addresses every area that is likely to pose a threat to the organisation, Board of Trustees, staff, visitors and users. Risks are divided in two: Strategic Risks which the Board of Trustees regularly review in meetings and Operational Risks which the staff, led by the CEO,

examine in staff meetings. Any significant Operational risks are escalated to the Strategic risk register. At the outbreak of COVID-19 crisis, LRMN developed and regularly reviewed its COVID-19 Risk register.

Organisational structure and the decision making process

The Board of Trustees meets every quarter and is responsible for the strategic direction of LRMN. Each Trustee is a member of at least one sub-committee namely Finance, Risk and Compliance, Organisational Development, and Fundraising and Marketing. Each sub-committee develops a plan for the activities within their remit and these form part of the Board annual plan, progress against which is monitored regularly.

LRMN employs a CEO who works closely with the Board of Trustees and is responsible for the day to day management of the organisation. We empower refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants facing destitution and vulnerable situations by advocating for their rights, campaigning for change, supporting their wellbeing and offering emergency assistance. Supporting the CEO in her management of the organisation is the Head of Operations, who manages administration staff, volunteers and four team managers. Team managers are responsible for immigration, housing and welfare advice, women's wellbeing and community wellbeing and mental health. A Fundraising, Communications and Campaigns manager also supports the CEO in her work. LRMN also employs a variety of freelance staff, supporting our services.

The 6 managers of LRMN and the CEO form the management team and meet formally every 8 weeks. A staff meeting is held every month, managers conduct staff supervision meetings every 4-8 weeks and staff performance appraisal is held annually.

Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

Company and charity law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees (who are also directors of Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network for the purposes of company law) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give an accurate view of the state of affairs of LRMN and of the surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently
- observed the methods and principles of charities SORP
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures
- disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepared the financial statements on an on-going concern basis (unless it is inappropriate to assume that LRMN will continue on that basis).

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that LRMN has appropriate financial control systems. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of LRMN and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of LRMN and hence for taking reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Members of the Board of Trustees are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report. In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant information of which LRMN's Auditor is unaware, and
- as the directors of LRMN they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that LRMN's Auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on LRMN's website.

3. PUBLIC BENEFIT

Vision

To have a fair, just and equal society where all people can live in harmony with each other and in a state of positive well-being.

Mission

To empower refugees, asylum seekers and migrants to know and exercise their rights, thrive, make a positive contribution, integrate and take control of their lives.

Strategic Goals

Grow and improve our services

We aim to offer joined up and holistic services to our clients that are driven by their needs. Key to this is client feedback and involvement in decision making across LRMN.

Develop effective and relevant partnership, collaboration and influence

We want to work in collaboration with others to offer the best service and advocate for migrant and refugee rights.

Better governance, management, financial and organisational health

We are bolstering our leadership and governance to ensure our services are well financed, managed and monitored – underpinned by accountability.

Engaging people with lived experience

LRMN is committed to diversity and inclusion, focusing on including our clients and others with lived experience in designing and delivering our services.

A holistic approach

Sometimes regularising your immigration status can be the last thing on your priority list. Leah* was battling mental health issues and didn't renew her status in time. Suddenly, all the benefits she relied on to keep her afloat, stopped. She spiralled into destitution and was soon facing over £10,000 in rental debt.

LRMN stepped in to offer the holistic service she needed. We helped her regain her immigration status, prevented further debt and reinstated her benefits, and we gave Leah foodbank vouchers and a mobile phone.

Leah is just one of the many clients we see who easily fall out of status, changing the course of their lives. Maintaining the right to remain in the UK is often expensive, strict and complex. We help our clients change course and get their status back.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

LRMN's charitable purpose is enshrined in its objects, which include 'the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness', especially through advice, support and information given to our clients.

The Trustees ensure that this purpose is carried out for the public benefit by delivering services that are valued by our refugee, asylum seeking and migrant clients. These enable those with immigration, housing and welfare and other issues to access the right legal advice, those with health issues, both mental and physical to access the right health services for quality treatment, women who have survived gender-based violence and men to receive counselling and therapeutic support, and those seeking employment or furthering their skills are supported.

Our services are free, confidential and independent, thanks to the support received from statutory and charitable sources and individual donors.

4. ADVOCATING FOR PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

Advising on Immigration

Our team of immigration advisors provided advice and casework support to 652 people in 2020/21 And - despite a global pandemic - we assisted 183 people to regularise their immigration status, helped 65 people avoid high Home Office fees and helped 29 people change the conditions attached to their immigration status ' to help them access public funds in 2020/21. As part of our Young Londoners project, we gave advice to 58 young people without regular immigration status and helped 40% to gain immigration status.

Everyone in

In 2020/21, we launched a project supporting people facing homelessness and poverty - including those cut off from public safety nets. To support the

government's 'Everyone In' policy of housing rough sleepers during the pandemic, we gave immigration advice to 81 people temporarily housed in London hotels.

From bad to worse

Much of our casework in 2020/21 dealt with the worsening situation for many refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in the UK. The lockdown and its knock on effects on Home Office decision making, meant that many of our clients faced long periods of irregular immigration status, a breakdown in prior support systems and deteriorating mental health. Through close collaboration with other LRMN services, we were able to refer them to specialist help, tackling wellbeing and isolation.

Next year, we hope to offer more immigration support in 'advice deserts' in south east London and seek legal aid funding to offer a wider range of advice services.

Songs of despair

As a full-time musician from Nigeria, Kleo* always managed to keep things together. But then the pandemic hit. All her gigs were cancelled and she gave birth to her son. With no access to public safety nets, she lived off her savings for three months until she was down to her last few pounds. She couldn't pay her rent any longer, she knew her leave to remain was about to expire, and she could not afford the hefty fee to extend it.

That's when Kleo knocked on our door. We helped her to apply for an official 'change of conditions' so she could access public funds, and we also applied for a fee waiver so she could afford the essential leave to remain application. All three applications were granted, saving her from dire consequences. Without LRMN, Kleo would have to face the same circumstances we see so many of our clients who cannot manage the UK's complicated immigration system which denies so many working in the UK access to public services.

Housing and welfare advice

We offer legal advice on housing and welfare benefits to prevent homelessness and maximise our clients' income. At the start of the pandemic, we saw a sharp

rise in requests for our advice service. At the same time, we had to swiftly move our services remotely.

Covid-19 had far reaching effects on our clients. Many people, who lost their jobs and couldn't access public funds, were forced into destitution. We saw many clients become street homeless as their support systems collapsed. All the while, they found many charities and public services harder to reach.

Meeting demand

We promptly met the growing demand of our clients. We supported them to navigate online public services and gave them devices and data provision where needed. In 2020/21, we helped 405 people access better housing and welfare benefits - where about 218 were either assisted with resolving their rent arrears, housing situation or improving their housing conditions.

Next year, we will focus on growing the numbers of volunteers supporting our caseworkers to give more capacity to our team.

31 families accessed emergency housing (Section 17)	50 people prevented from becoming homeless	100% success rate in housing tribunals
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Refugee Resettlement

We support over 14 families under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme - in which Lewisham Council has committed to welcome over 100 vulnerable families by May 2022. Together with the Refugee Council, we help families adapt to the UK - advising them on housing and welfare benefits, accessing education and other issues.

In 2020/21, we helped resolve 88 cases on everything from accessing welfare support to helping children access education. Key to our work is building trusting relationships with the families, which needs time and energy to commit to. Next year, we plan to expand the team to support this work.

From one prison to another

Rose* came to the UK as a political refugee and survivor of gender based violence. Instead of finding the sanctuary she desperately needed, Rose faced years of domestic violence, a traumatic experience in immigration detention, and years of homelessness.

When Rose came to LRMN at the height of lockdown, she was living in a basement with no windows, bed, kitchen, heating or drinking water. She had approached her local council, but they didn't help. And she was still struggling with complications claiming benefits. Due to longstanding barriers in accessing healthcare – she was also extremely vulnerable to Covid-19.

We knew we needed to take a holistic approach to supporting Rose. We expedited her welfare benefit payments, we provided food support, a smart phone and mobile data to remedy her digital exclusion. And we engaged her local authority and got the medical proof she needed to secure housing and other support.

Soon she was settled into a permanent home, and we even secured a cash grant to furnish it. Rose is now getting specialist counselling and employment coaching at LRMN. After years of seeking sanctuary, she finally has reached it.

Migrant Hub

We coordinate the Migrant Hub in Woolwich, which brings together six other specialist organisations to offer a drop-in service, giving free advice and practical support to refugees, asylum seekers and migrants on immigration, housing, domestic violence and more. During the pandemic, we transformed this vibrant community space into a food bank, serving 30 families a week (see page 13) and we continued to support 161 referrals with immigration support and signposted to our Hub partners.

5. CAMPAIGNING FOR SANCTUARY

Everyone deserves a safe place to live, where they can thrive, be part of the community and get help when they need it. But this government is creating a hostile environment for people living in our communities. We're resisting this by campaigning to make Lewisham, Greenwich and Southwark into boroughs of

sanctuary - building our councils, schools, universities, hospitals and more into havens for sanctuary seekers.

Much of our campaigning is driven by local forums which inspire and coordinate action on migrant issues. In Greenwich and Lewisham, LRMN chairs these forums and partners closely with the Southwark forum. We aim to always bring lived experience into these forums, through direct participation or through representation.

Success in 2020/21			
Lewisham Council became the first Council of Sanctuary in UK.	St Mary's CE Primary School gained Lewisham's first School of Sanctuary Award.	Lewisham Council declared it would not comply with Home Office regulations to share data on people facing homelessness.	Greenwich Council and Southwark Council announced their commitment to becoming councils of sanctuary.
Lewisham Hospital published report containing 39 recommendations to improve how it charges migrants.	22 out of 34 GP surgeries are now Safe Surgeries - supporting migrants and refugees to register.	Joined Vaccines For All campaign resulting in pop-up vaccine clinics with no barriers to access.	We helped improve mental health services in south London, through our partnership with Citizens UK.

6. SUPPORTING IN AN EMERGENCY

Many of our clients battle to meet their basic needs - like food and essential toiletries. We provide emergency support for people in the most vulnerable situations.

Crushed support systems

In 2020/21, our clients were amongst the hardest hit by the pandemic. Those living in insecure housing soon found themselves street homeless, others living in asylum accommodation were moved away from their support systems. And many saw their support systems diminish, as family and friends faced their own

financial difficulties, and lacked enough space to keep social distance.

Crisis mode

To respond to the rising need, LRMN adapted its services. We recruited a Covid-19 Crisis Coordinator to help manage our response. First, we extended our food parcel scheme by transforming our Migrant Hub into a food bank. Every week, we handed out food to over 30 families facing destitution and without access to public safety nets and sign posted them to essential services. We also partnered with Pepy's Social Supermarket to offer clients 150 free memberships to Pepy's supermarket.

Soon into the crisis, we realised our clients needed grants to meet their basic needs. We also provided £38,391 in hardship funds to our most desperate clients to see them through the pandemic. Many of our volunteers worked with our clients to apply for external grants and built relationships with partners, such as the British Red Cross Hardship Fund team.

As everything went digital, we provided data and digital support to our digitally excluded clients, giving 53 devices to our clients across our services.

"I do not have enough words to thank you enough for the money you are giving me. Thanks to you, I don't worry about how I can get money to buy my medications for my mental health and blood pressure."

- LRMN client

7. IMPROVING WELLBEING

LRMN's mental wellbeing team is part of the Lewisham Community Wellbeing Partnership, a mental health service that provides emotional and culturally specific support for adults living in Lewisham. We provide a non-clinical service to those in the BAME community across Lewisham.

In 2020/21, we refined our service to build stronger relationships with our partnerships and improve referral pathways, due to the widening mental health inequalities faced by the BAME community. We also helped over 175 clients manage their wellbeing through the pandemic and supported them in building

digital and employability skills. This has helped them join online groups such as Black African and Caribbean emotional support groups and ESOL classes. We also partnered with Mind and NHS mental support (IAPT) to pilot a series of culturally sensitive, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy workshops to reach minority communities.

Overall, 11 gained employment, 54 re-entered education and training, 22 started volunteering. Next year, we hope to recruit more volunteers and support those 'hardest to reach' communities. We also plan to facilitate discussions on mental health in faith communities and in the BAME community.

"All I know is that they wipe away my tears. Big thanks." – LRMN client

8. SUPPORTING WOMEN'S* WELLBEING

We supported over 225 women and girls from refugee, asylum seeker and migrant backgrounds who have experienced trauma due to gender-based violence in 2020/21. And we do that through a 'wrap around' service that includes counselling, nurturing sessions, specialist advice on housing, immigration and domestic abuse, skills training and summer activities for mothers and their children.

Physical not social distancing

The pandemic worsened an already fragile survival system, closing off vital food support from churches and food banks and the warmth and safety of civic spaces. Some women were forced to live on buses, go hungry, and saw delays to support and justice – all the while their mental health deteriorated.

To meet the rising need, we recruited about 103 members to our women's group and split them into three smaller groups – including a new group with female members of Lewisham's Refugee Resettlement programme. We moved our group online and provided data and phones, while continuing to give counselling and advice over the phone. LRMN supported mothers homeschooling their children by linking them with volunteer tutors and devices. Overall, we were so pleased that we were able to give our members the space to connect, to reach out to each other and support each other during this dark time.

Championing change

In 2020/21, we also introduced a Championship programme that trained about 17 women on their rights, building self-esteem, offering peer support and how to refer others to LRMN. Since working with the Champion volunteers, most of the referrals into our women's group have been through them - reaching people we would have never reached before. We're proud of the solidarity this programme has built solidarity amongst survivors of violence.

Next year, we hope to expand the Championship training, and we will start offering in person sessions and recruit volunteers to support this effort.

"I contacted LRMN in January 2019 because of my accommodation problem. And then one woman told me about the women's group. I was reluctant at first. But when I joined the group, I found it so lovely! Meeting other women with similar issues like me helps forget all my troubles! The group is so impartial."

*Note: Please be aware that LRMN values inclusion. Therefore, when we refer to "women", we are referring to any person who identifies as a woman.

9. BEHIND OUR SERVICES

We are always working on improving our operations and services. Over the next two years, we will continue to develop our financial and organisational health, enhance our governance and management, and grow and improve our services.

In 2020/21, we focused on moving our services online and digitising our processes - including a new referral system. We updated our feedback management system - creating online forms that are easy to fill in, and we improved the way we record safeguarding concerns raised by staff. During the pandemic, we also began renovating our office. We also introduced a new anti-bribery, fraud and corruption policy and updated our other financial policies and procedures to ensure they are fit for purpose. This included a comprehensive pay review to make sure staff salaries were consistent with the market benchmark.

This year was also a year of growth, as we increased our staff numbers during the pandemic. We now have new members of staff managing operations and communications, as well as more specialist advisors. Next year, we plan to refresh

our brand, improve our website, and give more opportunities for people with lived experience of migration to be part of LRMN. We also plan to review our diversity and inclusion policies and practices to take a more anti-racist approach to inclusion and representation across the organisation, and we will embark on a large evaluation project to better understand and communicate the impact of our services.

"LRMN is the best place to be for advice. The staff are very reliable, polite and helpful. They've given me hope." – LRMN client

10. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Trustees have a responsibility for ensuring the financial health of LRMN. A quarterly meeting of the Finance, Risks and Compliance committee provides an opportunity for detailed examination of the management accounts and review of the budget. The committee's findings and any recommendations are reported to the full Board of Trustees meeting for decision.

Despite the continuing economic challenges and the pandemic our income streams increased in 2020/21. LRMN's income was £1,115,019 in the year ended 31st March 2021 compared to £725,011 in the year ended 31st March 2020. The total expenditure was £718,634 in the year ended 31st March 2021 compared to £649,511 in the year ended 31st March 2020. Overall there was a surplus for the year of £396,385 compared with a surplus in the prior year of £75,500.

LRMN activities in the financial year 2020/21 resulted in a surplus of £122,290 restricted and a surplus £274,095 unrestricted. The total funds at 31 March 2021 were £222,321 restricted and £515,276 unrestricted. The unrestricted funds are comprised of £340,276 unrestricted funds and £175,000 of designated funds (£100,000 for staffing, £60,000 for premises costs and £15,000 for equipment updating).

Principal funding sources

The principal funding sources were London Borough of Bexley/Trust for London, Refugee Action, Bromley Lewisham & Greenwich Mind, Refugee Council, The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, Ben & Jerry's Foundation Fund – A Tides

Foundation Fund, London Borough of Lewisham, Greenwich Council, Greater London Authority, Oak Foundation, The Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, Henry Smith Charity, City Bridge Trust, Young Londoners Fund, Access to Justice, AB Charitable Trust, Martin Lewis, CAF, The Barrow Cadbury Trust, Lloyds Bank Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, London Legal Support Trust, Charities Trust, Leathersellers Company, and London Churches Refugee Fund.

We are very grateful for all the funding received which has enabled us to continue to support our clients and deliver our services.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have decided to continue with the policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the free reserves) held by LRMN should be between three and six months of annual expenditure. At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities in the event of significant drop in funding, providing flexibility in achieving our objectives or covering our liabilities if LRMN is to be closed down. The current level of £515,276 free reserves is in the range of the above policy.

The Trustees recognise that this year, the designated reserves levels provide for redundancy costs to meet contractual obligations, and premises costs in the event of a wind down and a further reserve for equipment updating. The £340k of general unrestricted funds provides a sensible buffer against any short term funding for a strategically important service while we continue to look for replacement funding

The Trustees review this policy in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidelines on a regular basis, at least once a year.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the support of so many important people and organisations, we would have never achieved what we have achieved. We would like to say a big THANK YOU to the following:

- To all our funders and corporate donors for your continued support and trust placed in us
- Ades Cash & Carry, Fareshare, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Greggs, for their regular food donations

- Peter Stewart for his IT and other DIY support
- Bench Outreach for letting us use their training room free of charge for our meetings.


And lastly, a million thanks to all our staff, volunteers and Trustees. Without their hard work and dedication, LRMN wouldn't be where it is now.

The Trustees are satisfied that Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network is well placed to fulfil these and its overall purposes.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees.

 05/11/2021
CLAIRE MARY - CHAIR

Independent auditors' report to the members of Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network

We have audited the financial statements of Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, and the related notes 1 to 14. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the requirements of the Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 495 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Responsibilities of trustees Statement as set out on page 5-6, the trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' (Directors') Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications of our report.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK (Cont)

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' (Directors') Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the Directors' Report.

Rekha Shah FCCA CTA
Senior Statutory Auditor

Rekha Shah

For and on behalf of Able & Young, Statutory Auditors
Airport House, Purley Way
Croydon CRO 0XZ

9 NOVEMBER 2021

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Income Resources					
Grants, Contract Income	3	905,939	155,785	1,061,724	707,910
Donations & Sundry Income	3	-	49,802	49,802	16,484
Investment Income	4	-	3,493	3,493	617
Total Income Resources		905,939	209,080	1,115,019	725,011
Resources Expended					
Charitable activities	5	650,053	61,690	711,743	647,218
Other	5	-	3,623	3,623	2,293
Raising Funds	5	3,268	-	3,268	0
Total Resources Expended		653,321	65,313	718,634	649,511
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) for the year before transfers		252,618	143,767	396,385	75,500
Transfers Between Funds	10	(130,328)	130,328	-	-
Net Movement In Funds		122,290	274,095	396,385	75,500
Total Funds as at 1 April 2020		100,031	241,181	341,212	265,712
Total Funds as at 31 March 2021	14	222,321	515,276	737,597	341,212

The Statements of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets			
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	166,483	13,167
Cash at bank and in hand		736,664	449,422
		903,147	462,589
Creditors : amount falling due	12	(185,656)	(128,935)
Net current assets		717,491	333,654
Net Assets	13	737,597	341,212
Restricted Funds	14	222,321	100,031
Unrestricted Funds			
General funds	14	340,276	146,181
Designated Funds	14	175,000	95,000
		737,597	341,212

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies act 2006, S398 and the Charities Act 2011, S138. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 26 OCTOBER 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Claire Morris
Chair  05/11/2021

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network meets the definition of a public entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

1.2 Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds, which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors who have been raised by the charitable company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are shared against the specific fund.

The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1.3 Incoming Resources

Income from grants is recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except where donors specify that the income be used in a future accounting period, in which case the income is deferred to that period.

Income from fundraising activities is recognised in the period which the activity takes place.

Bank interest is recognised when receivable by the charity.

1.4 Resources Expended

Resources expended are recognised on an accruals basis and include VAT which is not recoverable by the charity.

Management and administration costs include the cost of managing and supporting charitable services and projects as well as costs incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

The charity is not registered for VAT and all costs include the irrecoverable elements of VAT. Costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the time spent by staff on those projects.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off cost or fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their useful lives on the following bases:

Furniture & Office Equipment	20% reducing balance method
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LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1.6 Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Rental payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

1.7 Taxation

As a charity, LRMN is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the TCGA Gains Act 1991 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

1.8 Going Concern

The Charitable company reported a surplus of £396,385. After reviewing the charity's forecasts and projections, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

1.9 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Directors have considered whether, in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102, the restatement of comparative items was required. There was no restatement of comparatives required.

2. Legal status of the charity

The charity is a limited company by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

3. Grants, Contract Income and Donation

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	2021	2020
Grants receivable for charitable activities	905,939	155,785	1,061,724	707,910
Donations & gifts	-	16,167	16,167	9,908
Sundry income – Included within sundry income is £2,075 HMRC grant in respect of furloughed staff due to the Covid pandemic together with £31,500 old provision for rent now written back as not now due.	-	33,635	33,635	6,576
	905,939	205,587	1,111,526	724,394

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LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

Grants receivable from charitable activities:

Continued from page 27

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
London Borough of Lewisham- Core	31,250	-	31,250	56,986
Henry Smith	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
City Bridge Trust - H & W advice	42,300	-	42,300	41,325
City Bridge Trust - TNCLF - Covid 19 Response Fund - Wave 3	35,560	-	35,560	0
City Bridge Trust - TNCLF - Covid 19 Response Fund - Wave 4	4,125	-	4,125	0
Young Londoners Fund	47,714	-	47,714	47,715
Access to Justice	-	-	0	7,500
Access to Justice - Community Justice - Funder Plus	5,008	-	5,008	0
Access to Justice - Community Justice Fund	69,561	-	69,561	0
AB Charitable Trust	2,500	20,000	22,500	20,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England & Wales - DCMS/Covid 19 recovery	22,500	20,000	42,500	0
London Borough Bexley/Trust For London	15,000	-	15,000	20,000
GLA Funding - Covid 19 - Rough Sleeping Response	42,043	-	42,043	0
Charities Trust	-	690	690	0
Advice Lewisham/ LBL - Core	36,000	-	36,000	24,000
Destitution Fund:				
London Refugee Churches Fund	1,650	3,418	5,068	1,400
CAF Coronavirus Emergency Fund	5,000	-	5,000	0
London Community (unrestricted LCF for I.T.)	5,000	9,500	14,500	0
Martin Lewis Coronafund	10,000	-	10,000	0
Charity Checkout	1,329	-	1,329	0
Leathersellers Company Charitable Fund (Emergency Small Grant)	1,500	-	1,500	0
Donate for Refugees	1,120	-	1,120	0

Continued on page 29

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Continued from page 28			
Hack Foundation	200	-	200	0
Anna Kroch Foundation	1,050	-	1,050	0
Refugee Action – Respond & Adapt Programme	12,000	-	12,000	0
Margaret Hayman	-	-	0	4,400
Various	-	-	0	5,347
London Legal Support Trust	-	12,400	12,400	21,040
The Big Lottery	155,158	-	155,158	189,074
Bromley, Lewisham & Greenwich Mind / Community Wellbeing (see footnote below*)	132,437	-	132,437	88,405
The Barrow Cadbury Trust – Covid 19 Support Fund	48,284	-	48,284	0
Ben & Jerry's Foundation Fund – A Tides Foundation Fund	25,233	-	25,233	0
Migrant Hub grants	-	-	0	5,076
London Catalyst	-	-	0	4,000
Greenwich Council	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
Mrs Smith and Mount	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Clock House	-	-	0	8,000
Oak Foundation	67,421	51,277	118,698	26,732
Refugee Council	39,996	-	39,996	23,333
Tampon Tax Fund	-	-	0	14,400
Goldman Sachs	-	-	0	153
Awards for All	-	-	0	9,997
VSL/DCT	-	-	0	9,027
The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington	-	38,500	38,500	35,000
	905,939	155,785	1,061,724	707,910

* The £132,437 income from Bromley, Lewisham & Greenwich Mind includes five quarters of income each of £26,487.50 and includes £26,487.50 that relates to the quarter ended 31 March 2020.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

4. Investment income

Bank interest receivable

2021	2020
£	£
3,493	617
3,493	617

5. Total Resources Expended

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LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

6. Net incoming resources for the year

	2021	2020
This is stated after charging :		
Depreciation	5,026	1,890
Audit fee	3,580	2,280

7. Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year.

There were no related party transactions during the year.

Meeting costs for the year were £43 and £13 for the previous year.

8. Staff costs and Numbers

Number of employees

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents was as follows :

	2021	2020
Management	6	6
Immigration	4	4
Advisory	2	2
Finance /Admin	2	2
	4	4
	18	18

Continued on page 33

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

Employment costs

Wages and salaries	496,671	472,215
Social security costs	41,404	36,751
Pension contributions	10,170	12,917
	548,245	521,883

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more (2020: None).

Pension commitments

The charity operates a stakeholder pension scheme. This scheme is a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension charge represents amounts payable by the charity to the funds in respect of the year. The charity contributed £10,170 (2020: £12,917) into the scheme which is shown in staff costs above.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	Furniture, Fittings and Equipment £
At 1 April 2020	42,777
Additions	17,574
At 31 March 2021	60,351
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020	35,219
Charge for the year	5,026
At 31 March 2021	40,245
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	20,106
At 31 March 2020	7,558

10. Transfers

The transfer from restricted funds to unrestricted funds represents the management fee/administrative support expenses in the year totalling £114,166 and discontinued project transfers from Access to Justice; Tampon Tax and Training & Employment totalling £16,162.

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

11. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other debtors	5,741	3,250
Grant receivable	160,742	9,917
	166,483	13,167

12. Creditors:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Advance income	148,394	79,936
Taxation & social security	12,914	8,924
Other creditors and accruals	24,348	40,075
	185,656	128,935

13. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	20,106	20,106
Current Assets	407,977	495,170	903,147
Creditors due within one year	(185,656)	0	(185,656)
	222,321	515,276	737,597
			341,212

LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

14. Movements In Funds:

	Balance 1-Apr-20 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Mar-21 £
Restricted funds					
Core & Immigration	1,014	89,750	(79,595)	(9,878)	1,291
Immigration - Trust For London	98	0	0	(98)	0
Destitution Fund	12,517	38,849	(39,034)	0	12,332
Women's Together Project	15,524	124,881	(94,950)	(14,880)	30,575
Training & Employment	10,915	2,500	(4,168)	(9,247)	0
The Big Lottery - Advice	9,088	54,402	(78,422)	(9,000)	(23,932)
City Bridge- Advice	(7,555)	42,300	(38,343)	(4,000)	(7,598)
Lewisham Mental Health Project	(24,926)	132,437	(62,030)	(19,980)	25,501
Migrant Hub	14,142	25,000	(6,893)	(3,500)	28,749
Access to Justice	2,091	0	0	(2,091)	0
Young Londoners Fund	19,211	47,714	(27,945)	(5,800)	33,180
Campaign & Advocacy/Oak Foundation - Against Hostility & Destitution	8,100	53,678	(26,681)	(4,000)	31,097
Refugee Resettlement Programme	9,539	39,996	(20,063)	(3,292)	26,180
Tampon Tax Fund	14,400	0	(7,576)	(6,824)	0
Immigration - Bexley CAB (Trust for London)/Oak	15,873	53,976	(42,804)	(23,152)	3,893
City Bridge Trust - TNCLF - Covid 19 Response Fund - Wave 3	-	35,560	(20,238)	(1,922)	13,400
Access to Justice - Community Justice - Funder Plus	-	5,008	(2,900)	0	2,108
Access to Justice - Community Justice Fund	-	69,561	(52,842)	(5,100)	11,619
The Barrow Cadbury Trust - Covid 19 Support Fund	-	48,284	(32,317)	(5,862)	10,105
GLA Funding - Covid 19 - Rough sleeping response	0	42,043	(12,508)	0	29,535
London Borough of Hackney - Migrant Support & Advice	0	0	(4,012)	(1,702)	(5,714)
Total Restricted funds	100,031	905,939	(653,321)	(130,328)	222,321

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LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

Continued from page 36

Unrestricted funds

General Funds	241,181	155,785	(12,018)	130,328	515,276
Donations & Gifts	-	16,167	(16,167)	-	0
Sundry Income	-	37,128	(37,128)	-	0
Designated Funds	(95,000)	-	-	(80,000)	(175,000)
Total Unrestricted funds	146,181	209,080	(65,313)	50,328	340,276

Designated Funds

Staffing	65,000	-	-	35,000	100,000
Equipment Updating	0	-	-	15,000	15,000
Premises	30,000	-	-	30,000	60,000
	95,000	-	-	80,000	175,000

Total Funds At 31 March 2021

341,212	1,115,019	(718,634)	-	737,597
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LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 March 2021

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net Income for the year per the Statement of Financial Activities

Adjustments for:

Depreciation charges

(Increase)/decrease in debtors

Increase in creditors

Net Cash provided by operations:

Net cash provided by operating activities

Cash flows from investing activities

Purchase of fixed assets

Net cash used in investing activities

Change in cash and cash equivalents for the year

Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year

Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year

Analysis of cash and bank balances:

Petty cash

Bank of Scotland - Deposit

HSBC - BMM Deposit Account

Caf Shawbrook Bank

Cambridge & Counties Bank

Charity Bank

Nationwide Building Society

Pleo Account

HSBC - Business Current Account

	2021 £	£	2020 £
	396,385	75,500	
	5,026	1,890	
	(153,316)	(10,000)	
	56,721	46,334	
			113,724
	(17,574)	(2,099)	(2,099)
			111,625
			337,797
			449,422
	368		368
	1		1
	165,959		95,891
	85,000		85,000
	85,000		85,000
	85,329		0
	85,000		85,000
	506		0
	229,502		98,162
	736,664		£449,422