

ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1103782

Details

Other names	RSG
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04645981
Registered	2004-05-17
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Po Box 23610 London E7 0XB
Phone	07949089778
Email	info@romasupportgroup.org.uk
Website	www.romasupportgroup.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. THE RELIEF OF POVERTY BY THE PROVISION OF FREE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO ROMA PEOPLE AND OTHER PERSONS WHO, FOR REASONS OF POVERTY WOULD OTHERWISE BE UNABLE TO OBTAIN SUCH ADVICE. 2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF THOSE ROMA AND OTHER PERSONS IN NEED THEREOF AS TO ADVANCE THEM IN LIFE AND ASSIST THEM TO ADAPT WITHIN A NEW COMMUNITY. 3. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC ABOUT ROMA ARTS, CULTURE AND HISTORY. 4. THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES.

Activities: We realise the Roma Support Group's aims and objectives by the following activities: A) Advice and advocacy for young people, their families and older Roma; B) Health projects; C) Education support project; D) Sport inclusion project; E) Art and culture development projects; F) Roma culture workshops; G) Roma training schemes; H) Policy and information.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE MANOR PARK, UPTON PARK AND WHITE CITY
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-01-31	£574,100	£456,633	£496,021	12
2024-01-31	£414,743	£465,942	-	-
2023-01-31	£432,213	£406,857	-	-
2022-01-31	£381,496	£387,518	-	-
2021-01-31	£495,439	£346,897	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Robert Czibi	Chair	2017-11-16
ANTHEA WORMINGTON		2012-11-29
Adrian Glowacki		2024-11-23
Bernadetta Hodczak		2024-11-23
Danuta Solecka		2023-11-25
Dragica Felja		2017-11-16
MICHAELA JAROSINSKA		
Michael Tarnoky		2018-11-23
PETER NORTON		
PROFESSOR THOMAS ACTON		
SHARON ELLIOTT		2015-11-17

ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1103782

Accounts



Roma Support Group

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 January 2025**

Charity registration - 1103782

Company number - 04645981





Community members at Health Information Session, 2024

Front page - Artwork entry for GRT History Month Art Competition 2025
by JO, aged 13

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Legal and administrative information

Charity name

Roma Support Group

Charity registration no.

1103782

Company registration no.

04645981

Registered office

17 Old Ford Road
London
E2 9PJ

Trustees

Prof. Thomas Acton OBE
Ms Roza Kotowicz
Ms Anthea Wormington
Mr Peter Norton
Mr Robert Czibi
Ms Sharon Elliott
Ms Dragica Felja
Mr Adrian Glowacki
Ms Bernadetta Hodczak
Ms Michaela Jarosinska
Mr Cornel Rezmives
Mrs Danuta Solecka
Mr Michael Tarnoky

Patron
Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

(appointed 23 November 2024)

(appointed 23 November 2024)

Company secretary

Sylvia Ingmire

Bank

HSBC Bank PLC
39 Tottenham Court Road
London
W1T 2AR

Independent auditor

Ferguson Maidment & Co
8th Floor, 167 Fleet Street
London
EC4A 2EA

Accountants

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25, Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, and Trustees for charity law purposes, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Roma Support Group for the year ended 31 January 2025. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1st January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

Legal and administrative details are shown on page 4 of the annual report, including a full list of the Trustees who served the Charity during the period up until the date of the signing of this report.

Acknowledgements

The achievements of the past year would not be possible without the support from the following organisations: Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, Arts and Humanities Research Council, Barrow Cadbury Trust, BBC Children in Need, Big Issue, Department of Health and Social Care, Greater London Authority (GLA), Heriot-Watt University, Independent Age, The Henry Smith Foundation, The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, The National Lottery Community Fund, The Jack Petchey Foundation, The Oak Foundation, The Tudor Trust.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous donation from Mr and Mrs Chris & Joyce Pountain.

Structure, governance and management

The Roma Support Group (RSG) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 23 January 2003 and registered as a charity on the 17th May 2004. It is governed by its Articles of Association adopted by a special resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting on the 16 November 2017.

The RSG has an active and experienced Management Committee (MC) that is voted for at the Annual General Meeting. No person other than a Trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or reappointed at any AGM unless s/he is recommended by the Trustees or notice is given by a member who is qualified to vote at the meeting proposing that person for appointment or reappointment, not less than 14 not more than 35 days before the date of the meeting. The Articles of Association of Roma Support Group determines methods of appointment, retirement, disqualification and removal of Trustees (clause 34 - 42). There are no provisions in the Articles of Association that entitle any external body or person to appoint Trustee(s).

None of the members of the MC/ Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of winding up.

The RSG implements an Induction Policy and Staff Development Policy, which also applies to members of the Management Committee. These were agreed on the 2nd December 2002 and are reviewed annually. The RSG's Chief Executive has prepared a MC Handbook, which is updated annually and given to all our MC Members/Trustees. This Handbook enables Trustees to have all information regarding the Charity, its history, mission, aims, service delivery, governing documents, annual accounts, etc. It also describes the duties and responsibilities of the Management Committee as a governing body of the Charity, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the MC Chief Officers and other MC Members/ Trustees. In addition to this, every new MC Member receives an induction from the RSG's Chief Executive and an existing MC Member.

In order to continuously improve the effectiveness of the MC and the Charity, we have developed a Training Development Programme for MC Members/ Trustees depending on their individual and collective needs and/or changes from both within and outside the RSG.

Organisational structure

As noted above, the work of the RSG is managed and developed by an elected MC, which comprises of Roma and non-Roma members/ Trustees. On the date of the signing of this report there were 14 members of the Management Committee, including the Chief Executive, who meet every 2 months. The MC oversees the current work/action plan of the Charity and sets the strategic agenda for the following year.

Specialist sub-committees are created, if necessary, to undertake specific tasks, such as developing and overseeing fundraising strategies; the infrastructure of the organisation; or supporting the development of new projects. These groups report to and are governed by the Management Committee.

The RSG's work is organised and supervised by the Chief Executive, who is responsible to the Board of Trustees (MC), ensuring effective co-operation between the Trustees, staff members and volunteers. The Chief Executive prepares bi-monthly reports for the MC and bears responsibility for the running of the various teams, centres and projects.

Members of staff are responsible for their own work within clear boundaries with on-going support and supervision from the Chief Executive. The staff members are responsible to the Chief Executive.

The RSG also employs a part-time Deputy Manager, who is line managed by the Chief Executive and who shares the responsibility for line-management of selected members of staff and volunteers.

Volunteers are responsible to the relevant project workers and/or to the Chief Executive.

Whilst the structure of the organisation is hierarchical with the Management Committee making final decisions, in practice the RSG's decision-making process is characterised by mutual influence. The RSG organises policy and strategy planning days, which involve Trustees and staff members, giving them an opportunity to review organisational aims, objectives and activities, as well as plan future developments and the ways to achieve them.

Volunteers

The RSG has been able to achieve much more than its resources would allow thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. They are responsible to and supervised by the relevant project workers, the Deputy Manager or the Chief Executive. The RSG has developed a Volunteer Training Programme for each service area and implements a Volunteer Policy in line with good practice guidelines.

During 2024-25, 27 volunteers helped with all our projects, e.g., Advice & Advocacy, Aspiration, Mental Health, Policy & Campaigning projects, as well as online activities, website, graphic design, archiving, interpreting and administration. Furthermore, the RSG has benefited from its partnership with the Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, which enables us to host volunteers from an EU country on a part-time basis for the duration of one year.

During the last year our volunteers have contributed an average 84 hours per week, which equals the manpower of 2.4 (Full Time Equivalent) members of staff.

Risk assessment

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan, which allows for the diversification of funding activities whilst reviewing our aims and strategies every four years.

As such, most projects are administered in a matrix system, funded as 'stand-alone' projects – should funding be withdrawn for any one project, other RSG projects will continue unhindered. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of service for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are consistently reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Objectives and activities

Aims and objectives

The principal aims of the Roma Support Group are to:

- improve the quality of life and combat the social exclusion of Roma refugees and migrants by providing advocacy and advice regarding access to health, education, welfare, housing, money management, employability, etc;
- empower Roma communities with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to challenge any discrimination that might prevent them from integrating into UK society and fulfilling their potential;
- raise awareness and help build an understanding of Roma culture, heritage and the significant challenges, which the Roma community face in the UK today;
- provide social inclusion schemes for Roma children and youth.

The Roma Support Group's objects are stated in our governing document, as follows:

Object 1

The relief of poverty by the provision of free advice and assistance to Roma people and other persons, who, for reasons of poverty would otherwise be unable to obtain such advice.

Object 2

To advance education and training of those Roma and other persons in need thereof as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

Object 3

To advance the education of the public about Roma arts, culture and history.

Object 4

The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

Public benefit

The Board of Trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on the public benefit of the Charity.

The Board of Trustees has concluded that:

- the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
- the aims and work done, give identifiable benefits to the Roma community and both indirectly and directly to the individuals in need;
- the benefits are for public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by their ability to pay;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities to any group and/or person.

Roma Support Group's main objectives for the year 2024 - 2025 and strategies for achieving them:

- Providing skills and support to Roma communities to attain independence so that they can fully engage in UK life.
- Empowering Roma communities, raising awareness of their rights, advocating for fair treatment, access, equality, and influencing long-term change for Roma people.
- Improving visibility, understanding and perceptions of Roma communities.
- Ensuring continuous development of our frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, health & wellbeing, education support & aspirations, as well as art / culture, policy, and campaigning projects.
- Sharing our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies while developing our enterprising skills and organisational sustainability.

Achievements and performance

The Roma Support Group's activities were planned and delivered to fulfil the Charity's aims and objectives. They are underpinned by its commitment to equal opportunities and carried out for the public benefit. In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In serving the aims and objectives of the RSG, the Charity offered the following services during the last year:

Advice, Advocacy, Policy, Campaigning & Engagement

Advice & Advocacy



Information session on social welfare rights, Trinity Centre

Our frontline Advice & Advocacy support enables Roma beneficiaries to overcome some of the problems they face every day.

Last year, we focused on helping beneficiaries to overcome issues of destitution, unaffordable costs, debt, homelessness, and unemployment. Our frontline support services were delivered via phone, face-to-face and online benefitting 3,466 Roma refugees and migrants.

In 2024-25, our frontline Advice & Advocacy work included the Financial Inclusion Project, which aims to increase the financial inclusion of our beneficiaries by:

- Enabling them to navigate post-Brexit benefits and migration systems and exercise their welfare rights; and
- Improving their financial literacy and confidence to budget and manage money.

Last year, we delivered one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions on financial inclusion for 342 beneficiaries, helping them to:

- Check eligibility and make new claims for welfare benefits;
- Challenge benefits decisions;
- Deal with debts related to rent, council tax and utility bills;
- Improve money management / budgeting skills;
- Access emergency support such as vouchers to buy essential goods including food, nappies and white goods;
- Make and manage applications related to the EU Settlement Scheme.

During this period, we have also continued to reach Roma communities, who were disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 pandemic (e.g. through job loss, increased debt, deteriorated health, bereavement, etc). This focused work has enabled us to: deliver dedicated Advice & Advocacy for Romanian-speaking Roma communities; work with volunteers in order to expand our capacity; and run in-person pop-up Advice Hubs in locations throughout London. This work has also improved our capacity to support people with complex needs (e.g. people with disabilities / long-term physical and mental health conditions, people experiencing homelessness and people fleeing domestic violence).

During this period, we concluded our GLA-funded work increasing our support for help with immigration / EUSS, which involved working with partner agency, Settled, in order to ensure specialist EUSS support is available to Roma migrants in London.

Since October 2024, through funding from Independent Age, we have been able to expand our existing advice work to help target and support older Roma facing financial hardship by providing a specialised older Roma advice service. This work focuses on helping older Roma to maximise income (including checking and securing benefit entitlement) and reducing costs (e.g. utility bills/travel).

As part of this work, we have also delivered peer support and training sessions, and created information resources, covering issues such as:

- The EU Settlement Scheme;
- Employment rights and work exploitation;
- Freedom Passes;
- Energy - understanding bills, estimated bills and smart meters; and
- Migrating from legacy benefits to Universal Credit.

Until March 2024, we continued distributing emergency vouchers to Roma families in Newham under Newham Council's Household Support Fund. Since the start of 2022, Roma Support Group has now directly distributed £27,000 in total of emergency vouchers under this scheme.

We were also part of Newham Council's Cost of Living Steering Group - engaging with key Council staff and other charitable organisations working in Newham to shape how the Council responds to meet residents' needs.

As a result of our support, beneficiaries reported:

- Reduced poverty and feeling better about their financial situation as a result of our welfare advice;
- Greater confidence in budgeting and managing money;
- Increased understanding about post-Brexit migration systems, their rights and entitlements.



Mental Health peer support session with Newham Talking Therapies, May 2024. Polish speaking group

Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project

The Project continued to reach its aims to:

- Enhance Roma community members' understanding of mental health issues;
- Improve access to mental health services for Roma beneficiaries;
- Support mental health professionals in engaging with Roma patients and enhancing their understanding of the Roma community and culture.

The Project, developed as a three-pronged model of engagement with Roma community members and healthcare providers, included:

- One-to-one mental health advocacy – to improve beneficiaries' access to mental health services;
- Peer-Support Group meetings – to facilitate guided discussions in the community with health professionals about mental health issues and services, treatment options and coping strategies; and
- Collaborating with mental health professionals through support for individual beneficiaries and the delivery of training sessions on the needs, culture and health inequalities experienced by Roma patients.

During 2024-25, we have continued our partnership with Newham Talking Therapies (NHS mental health service) and Waterloo Community Counselling, which offer online and in-person counselling and psychotherapy sessions by Romanian/Polish language speaking professionals.

The Project team has co-written and contributed to the publication of [multiple reports and guidance](#) aimed at health professionals, such as “Tackling Mental Health Inequalities for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities”, “Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Community Experiences of Infant Feeding - Information and Support Services”, “Guidance for Social Prescribing Link Workers on Engaging with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities” and “Enablers of Digital Inclusion in Primary Care for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities”. These reports were all published as part of our work within the VCSE Health & Wellbeing Alliance. The team has also supported the delivery of a series of webinars launching these reports.

We have also published [an article](#) about our work on “Tackling Mental Health Inequalities in Roma Communities in the UK” in the international journal ReFrame, in an issue focused on “Global Mental Health from the Margins”.

Since February 2024, 121 beneficiaries were supported through 253 one-to-one advocacy sessions, being referred to mental health services; helped with arranging medical appointments and liaising with health professionals; and assisted with applying for mental health-related benefits.

The programme of peer-support activities involved hosting community meetings with health professionals and stimulating open discussions on health and wellbeing-related topics. Last year, 66 beneficiaries took part in 18 peer support sessions, delivered in Polish and Romanian languages. This included Family Fun Day in September 2024, a large community event delivered in partnership with the Advice & Advocacy and Aspiration Project, funded by and co-delivered with National Energy Action.

The Project Coordinator and the Advocates have taken part in meetings with other organisations and health professionals to promote Roma Support Group and the Project, as well as to learn about other services and develop working relationships. These included meetings with professionals in public health (Southwark Council Public Health team); mental health (Mind in Tower Hamlets and Newham, Waterloo Community Counselling); NHS (NELFT, ELFT, North East London Cancer Alliance); social prescribing (London Plus Social Prescribing Network); and other charities (Healthwatch Newham, Healthwatch Redbridge, Samaritans Redbridge, Brent Health Matters, National Energy Action, Family Rights Group, The Romanian and Eastern European Hub, Sister Circle, Rosetta Arts, Culture in Newham).

Over the past year, we have also engaged 376 professionals from Queen’s Nursing Institute, NHS North East London Foundation Trust (NELFT), London Plus, Haringey Mental Health Trust and others in our training / information sessions on Roma community and culture.

We have developed several information resources in English, Polish and Romanian languages, including presentations on stress management, maternity health or infant feeding. We estimate that at least 4,800 beneficiaries have seen these resources (based on our attendance logs of group meetings and social media analytics such as Twitter, Facebook).

Since February 2024, we had more requests from beneficiaries to support with accessing primary care (GP and dentist registrations, booking GP appointments, requesting repeat prescriptions, requesting sick notes, etc.), as well as support with accessing secondary care (translating letters from health professionals, rescheduling or booking hospital appointments, etc).

As a result of our one-to-one and group activities, beneficiaries reported improved mental health and wellbeing, increased understanding of mental health issues and mental health services, as well as increased access to / satisfaction with mental health services. Health professionals reported that training seminars improved their knowledge of the Roma community and culture.



Mental Health peer support session with Newham Talking Therapies, May 2024. Romanian speaking group

‘ROMANO KHER’: Roma Housing Advocacy Project

The Project aims to improve access to housing and prevent homelessness for Roma migrants by facilitating advocacy support, community training on housing rights/ legislation, and by influencing policy and practice in response to Roma housing needs.

Last year, we supported beneficiaries with 125 housing cases, relating to a range of issues including: joining housing registers; housing benefits; rent arrears; eviction; homelessness/rough-sleeping; and disrepair.

We have also carried out work to increase knowledge on housing rights amongst Roma communities. To achieve this, we have delivered community training sessions, produced information resources, and delivered a programme of support for Roma peer-advocates across the UK. Topics covered through this work have included: evictions, deposit protection schemes, disrepair, and challenging unsuitable temporary accommodation.

Our housing advice and advocacy has been strengthened through collaboration with Public Interest Law Centre (PILC), who have provided second-tier advice for our Advice Workers and taken referrals for the most complex housing cases.

Through this collaboration, 26 Roma community members and 8 Roma advocates had the opportunity to engage directly with legal practitioners at PILC and discuss various housing related themes through focus group meetings or training sessions.

Roma people have been involved in informing and developing a series of digital resources (videos) translated in two community languages on topics such as applying for a council home or accessing temporary accommodation. Over 250 people benefited from these resources.

Our housing policy work included:

- Working with the Greater London Authority (GLA) on the Gypsy, Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment;
- Working with the GLA “Planning for London Programme” which benefitted from the input from 15 Roma community members discussing “what makes a good neighbourhood”;

- Submitting written evidence for London Assembly Housing Committee investigation into temporary accommodation;
- Meeting with the Private Rental Sector Policy officers from the GLA about the current housing situation that Roma face in the private rental sector, i.e. 78% Roma in London are in private rental accommodation (88% for Roma Romanian), vs 30% of the London average;
- Joining the 'Cover the Cost' Coalition, calling for the Government to stop more people from becoming homeless by ensuring that housing benefit (Local Housing Allowance [LHA] and LHA rates) cover the bottom 30% of private rented accommodation. As a result of this action, Chancellor Jeremy Hunt ended the LHA freeze.

Roma Policy and Campaigning Project

The Project is promoting rights and social justice for Roma refugees and migrants while facilitating community development and building leadership within our communities. It aims to empower Roma communities to exercise their rights and respond to inequalities and injustices they face.

The Project objectives are:

- To mobilise Roma communities/ NGOs through coordinating Roma-led campaigns;
- To empower Roma communities through leadership & community development;
- To influence regional/ national policies and practice so that they address Roma needs.

During the past year, we have continued our general policy work and developed our relationships with civil servants, legal experts and other civil society organisations. We have also continued working with the Roma Rights Forum and engaged in new Roma platforms such as the Roma Child Protection Working Group or South Yorkshire Roma Interest Group.

Some of our main achievements include:

- [Roma Rights Forum \(RRF\)](#):

We have organised three RRF meetings with the main annual event taking place in Sheffield in March 2024. The event was attended by over 70 participants and it focused on the development of the Mishto Campaign.

- [Roma Holocaust Remembrance](#):

Our work with the UK International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance led to positive developments, including the first national commemoration day facilitated by the UK Government for the Roma Holocaust Remembrance on [2nd of August 2024](#) marked by the announcement about the first Roma Holocaust Memorial to be built in Newcastle.

- [Research and policy publications](#):

Re: EU Settlement Scheme

We concluded our [EUSS specific research](#) with the University of Sheffield. The research report informed and influenced the work of agencies such as the Home Office and EU Delegation in the UK.

We have also published our research documenting [Roma experiences of EUSS](#).

Re: Health

We continued working with National Voices to ensure Roma contribution to health concerns addressed by their team around inclusive communication in primary care and [experiences of Roma in relation to clinical trials](#).

We have also worked with Samaritans to explore mental health concerns, especially suicide in Roma

communities. This has led to the development of a first pool of [Roma specific resources on suicide](#).

Re: Education

We [collaborated with Friends, Families and Travellers](#) and made a joint submission to the Government's call for evidence on Improving the Curriculum and Assessment System to inform their Curriculum and Assessment Review.

Re: Roma and Children Services

Our work with Advice Now included a [joint submission](#) to the Government's Children's Social Care Inquiry. This collaboration also included publishing of the report "[Come to us in a peaceful way](#)", which highlights the experiences Roma people have in relation to children services in England.

Re: Voting

We continued our collaboration with New Europeans and published [Roma specific resources on voting](#).

- Incidents in Leeds:

The incidents that took place on 18 July 2024 followed the forceful removal of children from a Roma family in Leeds which led to social unrest.

We have supported a group of Roma activists, who provided direct assistance to the family; facilitated engagement with officials at Leeds Council and access to legal representation for the family in child protection case, and Roma people who were arrested following the riots.

We have mobilised Roma community groups and other supporters, and published [a statement reflecting our position](#) on the situation.

Overall, we supported around 100 Roma individuals, community members, advocates, activists, and professionals, contributing to Roma engagement and empowerment.

NHS Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA):

The Health and Wellbeing Alliance (HWA) is a cross-government programme run by NHS England, Department for Health and Social Care, and the UK Health Security Agency.

The programme brings together the national policy leads and the voluntary sector aiming to:

- Amplify the voices of the people with lived experience of health inequalities;
- Improve the ways of delivering health services which are accessible to everyone thus reducing health inequalities;
- Bring the expertise of the voluntary sector and communities they work with into national policy-making.

Throughout 2024, we have continued our work with our lead partner, Friends, Families and Travellers and have successfully concluded work, which led to publishing a series of new health related resources in areas such as maternity, infant feeding, social prescribing, and access to primary care services. All new resources are now available in our new Health Research and Guidance Page and we have been working on their dissemination. Over 300 health professionals attended our dissemination events.

Education Support & Aspiration Projects:

Roma Aspiration Project

The Project continues to support Roma children and young people through a holistic approach that includes one-to-one education advocacy, in-depth outreach work, and a comprehensive program of after-school activities. Our initiatives aim to enhance the self-confidence, life aspirations, and overall wellbeing of young Roma individuals.

Last year, we supported over 100 young beneficiaries through various face-to-face and online engagements. The Project assisted in securing digital equipment and accessing educational platforms, resources, school admissions, food vouchers, and health services.

We paid special attention to children with disabilities and complex health issues, ensuring they received the necessary support and their needs were being met. We have worked with over 30 children with long-term health conditions, on child protection registers, in foster care, and those involved in court proceedings, at risk of homelessness and insecure immigration status. In our advocacy work, we focused on education, particularly in enhancing communication between young people, schools, and parents, addressing difficulties around attendance, receiving SEN support, and helped professionals better understand Roma culture and barriers, aiming to improve their practices.

We continued our Youth Hub in Newham, offering activities and homework support to Roma beneficiaries. Within this hub, young people participated in school & employment advice sessions, quizzes, workshops on Roma history and games. We also run a music youth club, offering space to play music, dance, and explore different styles of traditional Roma and modern music while encouraging young members to explore their identities. We also delivered Youth Aspiration & Education Advocacy sessions at Plashet school engaging 24 young Roma in these activities.

Over 80 beneficiaries participated in a range of educational and recreational activities, including:

- Educational outing at Tower of London;
- Coached Summer Tennis Session;
- Stepney City Farm Outing;
- Family Fun Day;
- Madame Tussauds Outing; and
- Legoland Outing.

These excursions provided an opportunity for young Roma to explore London, learn about various subjects, and bond with their peers.

We also collaborated with schools to deliver aspirational workshops for young Roma students. These schools were encouraged to incorporate Roma culture into their curriculum and actively participated in the celebration of the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History Month (GRTTHM) in June.

Our GRTTHM art competition saw the highest participation ever, with 74 submissions, including paintings, drawings, music videos, and poems. These creative works offered young people a platform to reflect on their Roma identities and celebrate their culture.

Through these diverse initiatives, the Project has continued to make significant strides in supporting young Roma, fostering a sense of community, and promoting cultural pride and understanding.

As a result of our activities, young beneficiaries made significant progress in:

- Increasing their life aspirations and satisfaction with their education attainment;
- Enhancing their self-confidence in relation to their areas of interest, e.g., sport, music and arts; and

- Improving their health and wellbeing.



Outing to the City Farm, August, 2024



Family Fun Day, September 2024

Training and Capacity Building:

Pharovas o Traios (Changing Futures)

Pharovas o Traios is a project co-delivered with The Big Issue and co-produced with Roma beneficiaries. It aims to empower Roma communities by improving their connections with local services, networks, and opportunities — ultimately reducing social and financial exclusion, and increasing confidence and independence.

In the first year of delivery (across London and Birmingham), the Project has focused on amplifying Roma voices, improving access to support, and fostering genuine co-production.

Engagement and Participation:

- We have engaged 175 Roma vendors across Birmingham and London.
- 17 vendors participated in four workshops (two in Birmingham, two in London).
- A further 25 vendors completed surveys.

These workshops created a safe space for Roma vendors to express their concerns, challenges, and aspirations, offering valuable insight into their lived experiences.

As a result:

- In Birmingham, The Big Issue has initiated monthly Roma focus sessions where vendors meet with staff and peer mentors to share their needs and receive tailored support.
- 56 Roma vendors were supported through one-to-one sessions, helping them connect with organisations beyond The Big Issue and Roma Support Group.

Roma-Led Training and Capacity Building:

- We trained two Roma vendors over eight sessions to co-deliver Roma Awareness Training to professionals.

This approach ensured the training was grassroots-led, culturally relevant, and reflective of real community experiences.

Co-delivery significantly boosted the vendors' confidence, particularly in public speaking and presenting to professionals.

The vendors now view their role as vital in bridging the gap between Roma communities and professionals, and are actively encouraging others to get involved.

Impact on The Big Issue's Services:

As a direct result of engagement through this Project, The Big Issue updated its peer mentoring programme to better reflect the needs of Roma communities. In addition to existing topics like digital literacy and safeguarding, the programme now includes:

- Housing support
- EUSS (EU Settlement Scheme) guidance
- Access to healthcare
- Family and children's services

Roma Awareness Training – Reach and Feedback:

Last year, training was delivered to:

- 40 Big Issue staff
- 104 professionals from external organisations.

Participants included professionals from government bodies, NGOs, and local councils across the UK.

Feedback Highlights:

- 100% of attendees found the training valuable.
- 73% reported increased understanding of Roma culture and community challenges.
- Over 50% felt more equipped to work effectively with Roma individuals.

The training led to a shift in mindset, with many participants acknowledging the importance of listening more closely to Roma voices, increasing empathy and cultural awareness, addressing personal and institutional biases.

Roma Support & Engagement Programme (RSEP)

The Programme aims to raise awareness of issues affecting Roma families and communities and to support statutory and voluntary agencies to respond effectively to the needs of Roma refugees and migrants across the UK.

In 2024 -25, 10 members of our staff and 27 Roma advocates took part in the delivery of this programme, including:

- A specialist intervention service for professionals working with Roma individuals and families;
- Training sessions for professionals and the community; and
- Specialist support for research and consultation.

Last year, we delivered:

- 17 training sessions and presentations including delivery of online training and awareness sessions;
- 22 commissioned interventions and consultations;
- Support for over 625 professionals; and
- Direct and indirect support for a minimum 1,632 Roma individuals.

99% of respondents rated our training as ‘excellent’ or ‘good’.

In addition to the above, we supported research and contributed to the:

- Heriot-Watt University research: “Enable Health Ageing-in-Place for Roma Communities”;
- Advice Now, Anglia Ruskin University and Lancaster University research which resulted in a publication of a report “Come to Us in a Peaceful Way: Improving Experiences of Roma Families with Children’s Services in England”;
- University of Sheffield research: “The Migration Status & Exclusion of Roma EU Citizens in the UK”;
- Office for National Statistics “The Lived Experiences of Roma people in England and Wales” research.

We also supported numerous families and professionals working with Roma families in child protection context.

Some of the agencies and organisations supported by RSEP last year included:

Heriot-Watt University, Derby/Redbridge/Newham Children's Services, ONS, University of Sheffield, NELFT, Slough LA, Eastside Community Trust and others.

Plans for the future

In order to achieve our organisational mission and work towards our vision, we will be pursuing the following objectives:

- To provide skills and support to Roma communities to attain independence so that they can fully engage in UK life.
- To empower Roma communities, raise awareness of their rights and advocate for fair treatment, access, equality, and influencing long-term change for Roma people.
- To improve visibility, understanding and perceptions of the Roma community.
- To ensure continuous development of our frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, health & wellbeing, education support & aspirations, as well as art/ culture, policy, and campaigning projects.
- To share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies while developing our enterprising skills and organisational sustainability.

Financial review

Financial position and available funds

The Charity achieved a surplus of £117,467 in the year ended 31 January 2025 (2024: deficit of £51,199), increasing total funds at the year-end to £496,021 (2024: £378,554).

Of the total funds, £313,708 related to free reserves (2024: £271,153), £100,000 to designated fund (2024: £Nil) and £82,313 to restricted funds (2024: £107,401). The designated funds are funds the Trustees have set aside to support the short term continuation of projects at the end of each funding cycle until replacement funding is found.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific purpose and are not committed or invested in tangible assets, ('the free reserves') should be between six and twelve months of the resources expended. On present expenditure levels this equates to between £230,000 and £460,000 in general funds.

At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. In such a case, it would be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed.

Our present free reserves level of £313,708 are safely within this limit.

Going concern

Based on the funding commitments in place both at the year-end and on the date of approval of this report, as well as the current free reserves level, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity will be able to continue

its objectives for the next financial year. Whilst the ongoing cost of living crisis has meant the Charity has incurred additional costs, the ongoing external crisis has had no significant impact on this assessment.

Statement of board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 18 of this document meet the requirements of both the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law and the Directors' Report under company law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Information provided to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and,
- the Trustee has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Preparation of the report

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the

Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

The auditors, Ferguson Maidment Accountants Ltd, have indicated their willingness to accept re-appointment under Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 29 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER



SYLVIA INGMIRE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE &
COMPANY SECRETARY



Artwork entry for GRT History Month Art Competition 2025 by DH (aged 10) and MH (aged 5)

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Roma Support Group (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 January 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 January 2025 and of its 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Roma Support Group operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management and inappropriate revenue recognition. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, corroborating balances recognised to supporting documentation on a sample basis and ensuring accounting policies are appropriate under the relevant accounting standards.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibility for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



PAUL MANALO FCA SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR

For and on behalf of:
Ferguson Maidment & Co.
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor
167 Fleet Street
London, EC4A 2EA

Date: 29 October 2025



Community member at Health and Housing Information Session, 2025

Statement of financial activities**Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account & Statement of Realised Gains and Losses**

For the year ended 31 January 2025

		Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations	3	136,193	366,640	502,833	395,627
Charitable activities	4	70,295	-	70,295	18,405
Investments		972	-	972	711
Total income		207,460	366,640	574,100	414,743
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5 & 6	3,349	29,361	32,710	31,381
Charitable activities:					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	265,136	265,136	284,787
Education Support	5 & 7	-	35,124	35,124	20,156
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	80,258	80,258	95,127
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	43,405	-	43,405	34,491
Total expenditure		46,754	409,879	456,633	465,942
Net income/(expenditure)		160,706	(43,239)	117,467	(51,199)
Transfer between funds	11	(18,151)	18,151	-	-
Net movement in funds		142,555	(25,088)	117,467	(51,199)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	271,153	107,401	378,554	429,753
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	413,708	82,313	496,021	378,554

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 January 2025

	Notes	£	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	9		-	-
Current assets:				
Prepayments		1,422		1,501
Cash at bank and in hand		576,613		485,313
		578,035		486,814
Creditors:				
amounts falling due within one year	10	(82,014)		(108,260)
Net current assets			496,021	378,554
Net assets			496,021	378,554
Funds of the charity:				
Restricted funds	11 & 12		82,313	107,401
Unrestricted funds:				
Designated funds	11 & 12	100,000		-
General funds	11 & 12	313,708		271,153
			413,708	271,153
			496,021	378,554

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 415A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and FRS 102 Section 1A.

They were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 29 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 January 2025

		Total Funds 2025		Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	117,467		(51,199)	
Adjustments for:				
Investment income	(972)		(711)	
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	79		(200)	
Increase/(decrease) in deferred grant income	(22,121)		47,257	
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payable	(4,235)		(2,093)	
Increase/(decrease) in accruals	891		600	
Increase/(decrease) in HMRC payable	(765)		1,171	
Increase/(decrease) in pensions payable	(16)		(820)	
Net cash flows from operating activities		90,328		(5,995)
Cash flows from investment activities				
Investment income	972		711	
Net cash flows from investment activities		972		711
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		91,300		(5,284)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		485,313		490,597
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		576,613		485,313

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 January 2025, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 January 2025 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the current economic environment has had no material impact on this assessment.

Legal status

Roma Support Group is a charitable company registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member. The registered address is 17 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future period, in which case it is deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Income (continued from previous page)

Income from charitable activities, including contract income and client fees, is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to total direct costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life of three years, on a straight-line basis pro-rated over the proportion of the year in which it has been held. This rate applies to all three categories of tangible fixed assets.

Costs incurred in the development of the website have been capitalised as a tangible fixed asset as the combined direct cash flow benefits and indirect economic benefit through the provision of educational information to beneficiaries are expected to be greater than the amount capitalised.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and accruals

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

[1. Accounting policies \(continued from previous page\)](#)

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Finance and operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is incurred.

No assets have been purchased under finance leases.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
	Notes			
Income from:				
Donations	3	87,564	308,063	395,627
Charitable activities	4	18,405	-	18,405
Investments		711	-	711
Total income		106,680	308,063	414,743
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5 & 6	2,491	28,890	31,381
Charitable activities:				
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	284,787	284,787
Education Support	5 & 7	-	20,156	20,156
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	95,127	95,127
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	34,491	-	34,491
Total expenditure		36,982	428,960	465,942
Net income/(expenditure)		69,698	(120,897)	(51,199)
Transfer between funds	11	(2,739)	2,739	-
Net movement in funds		66,959	(118,158)	(51,199)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	204,194	225,559	429,753
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	271,153	107,401	378,554

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	116,253	366,640	482,893
Other donations	19,940	-	19,940
Total income from donations	136,193	366,640	502,833
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Arts & Humanities Research Council via Heriot-Watt University	-	27,937	27,937
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	21,000	21,000
BBC Children in Need	-	31,072	31,072
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	38,050	38,050
Greater London Authority	-	6,701	6,701
Henry Smith Foundation (Financial Inclusion)	-	47,500	47,500
Henry Smith Foundation (COVID-19 Long-term Support Programme)	-	39,050	39,050
Independent Age	-	21,654	21,654
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,800	1,800
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	5,598	55,979	61,577
Oak Foundation	77,655	-	77,655
TNLFCF via Big Issue Foundation	-	53,776	53,776
The Tudor Trust	33,000	-	33,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	11,667	76,590	88,257
Carried forward	(11,667)	(54,469)	(66,136)
	116,253	366,640	482,893

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	68,880	308,063	376,943
Other donations	18,684	-	18,684
Total income from donations	87,564	308,063	395,627
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
BBC Children in Need	-	15,382	15,382
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	28,681	28,681
Greater London Authority	-	60,310	60,310
Henry Smith Foundation (Financial Inclusion)	-	46,300	46,300
Henry Smith Foundation (COVID-19 Long-term Support Programme)	-	38,200	38,200
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,800	1,800
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	10,547	55,980	66,527
Oak Foundation	70,000	10,000	80,000
The Tudor Trust	-	67,000	67,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	41,000	41,000
Carried forward	(11,667)	(76,590)	(88,257)
	68,880	308,063	376,943

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £
Commissioned services and training	70,220	-	70,220
Sales of resources	75	-	75
	70,295	-	70,295

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Commissioned services and training	18,289	-	18,289
Sales of resources	116	-	116
	18,405	-	18,405

5. Total expenditure

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	26,645	-	1,647	4,418	32,710
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	197,608	18,362	13,353	35,813	265,136
Education Support	26,936	1,675	1,769	4,744	35,124
Mental Health Advocacy	65,375	-	4,042	10,841	80,258
Support & Engagement Project	24,886	10,469	2,186	5,864	43,405
	341,450	30,506	22,997	61,680	456,633

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	25,346	-	1,233	4,802	31,381
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	204,601	25,421	11,190	43,575	284,787
Education Support	15,580	700	792	3,084	20,156
Mental Health Advocacy	72,434	4,400	3,738	14,555	95,127
Support & Engagement Project	20,202	7,656	1,355	5,278	34,491
	338,163	38,177	18,308	71,294	465,942

Indirect costs have been allocated based on a proportion of direct staff costs and direct other costs attributable to each activity.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 8.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

5. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs includes:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	22,997	18,308
Staff travel and support costs	8,860	8,672
Premises and venue hire	24,897	24,025
Professional fees	15,782	23,288
Administrative and other costs	8,325	11,700
Governance	3,816	3,609
	84,677	89,602

Governance costs includes:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Audit fee	2,400	2,268
Insurance	1,416	1,237
Meeting expenses	-	104
	3,816	3,609

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	2,728	23,917	26,645
Indirect costs	621	5,444	6,065
	3,349	29,361	32,710

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	2,012	23,334	25,346
Indirect costs	479	5,556	6,035
	2,491	28,890	31,381

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	197,608	197,608
Direct other costs	-	18,362	18,362
Indirect costs	-	49,166	49,166
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	265,136	265,136
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	26,936	26,936
Direct other costs	-	1,675	1,675
Indirect costs	-	6,513	6,513
Education Support	-	35,124	35,124
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	65,375	65,375
Indirect costs	-	14,883	14,883
Mental Health Advocacy	-	80,258	80,258
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	24,886	-	24,886
Direct other costs	10,469	-	10,469
Indirect costs	8,050	-	8,050
Support & Engagement Project	43,405	-	43,405
	43,405	380,518	423,923

7. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	204,601	204,601
Direct other costs	-	25,421	25,421
Indirect costs	-	54,765	54,765
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	284,787	284,787
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	15,580	15,580
Direct other costs	-	700	700
Indirect costs	-	3,876	3,876
Education Support	-	20,156	20,156
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	72,434	72,434
Direct other costs	-	4,400	4,400
Indirect costs	-	18,293	18,293
Mental Health Advocacy	-	95,127	95,127
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	20,202	-	20,202
Direct other costs	7,656	-	7,656
Indirect costs	6,633	-	6,633
Support & Engagement Project	34,491	-	34,491
	34,491	400,070	434,561

8. Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross salaries	330,471	323,282
Employer's NIC	20,757	20,267
Employer's pension	13,219	12,922
	364,447	356,471

The average headcount during the period was 12 persons (2024: 12 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2024: NIL).

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £53,289 (2024: £50,692).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Website development costs £	Sports and music equipment £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 February 2024	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
At 31 January 2025	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Depreciation				
At 1 February 2024	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
At 31 January 2025	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Net book value				
At 1 February 2024	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2025	-	-	-	-

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Deferred grant income	66,136	88,257
Accounts payable	835	5,070
Accruals	4,995	4,104
HMRC payable	6,002	6,767
Pensions payable	4,046	4,062
	82,014	108,260
Deferred grant income		
As at 1 February 2024	88,257	41,000
Amount released to incoming resources	(88,257)	(41,000)
Amount deferred in year	66,136	88,257
As at 31 January 2025	66,136	88,257

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward 2025 £	Income for the period 2025 £	Expenditure in the period 2025 £	Transfer between funds 2025 £	Balance carried forward 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	271,153	207,460	(46,754)	(118,151)	313,708
Designated funds					
Project continuation fund	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Designated funds	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Unrestricted funds	271,153	207,460	(46,754)	(18,151)	413,708
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	25,218	265,571	(285,594)	-	5,195
Art & Cultural Development	25,429	-	-	-	25,429
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	56,754	32,769	(37,834)	-	51,689
Health information	-	68,300	(86,451)	18,151	-
Restricted funds	107,401	366,640	(409,879)	18,151	82,313
Total funds	378,554	574,100	(456,633)	-	496,021

Restricted expenditure in the period includes an allocation of costs for raising funds where permitted by those funding these specific projects and so this table does not directly reconcile to note 7 of the financial statements.

Project continuation fund:

These are funds the Trustees have set aside to support the short term continuation of projects at the end of each funding cycle until replacement funding is secured.

Advice, advocacy & cultural development:

These are funds that the Charity has received directly for its work advising Roma beneficiaries that have overcome some of the barriers they face in their process of integration within wider society, including, but not exclusively, the Roma Financial Inclusion Project, EU Settlement Scheme Project, Ketane Project and the Roma News Project. It is funded by several funding bodies, and also includes the wider policy and campaigning work carried out by the Charity.

Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion:

These are funds the Charity has received for work aimed at increasing the academic attainment, inclusion and aspiration of Roma children and young people. These funds are received from a number of different funding bodies.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

Health information:

These funds are restricted for use on health and mental health projects including for the Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project.

	Balance brought forward 2024 £	Income for the period 2024 £	Expenditure in the period 2024 £	Transfer between funds 2024 £	Balance carried forward 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	204,194	106,680	(36,982)	(2,739)	271,153
Unrestricted funds	204,194	106,680	(36,982)	(2,739)	271,153
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	120,332	210,238	(305,352)	-	25,218
Art & Music Development	25,429	-	-	-	25,429
Education support, youth					
aspiration & inclusion	61,240	17,126	(21,612)	-	56,754
Health information	18,558	80,699	(101,996)	2,739	-
Restricted funds	225,559	308,063	(428,960)	2,739	107,401
Total funds	429,753	414,743	(465,942)	-	378,554

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	429,586	148,449	578,035
Current liabilities	(15,878)	(66,136)	(82,014)
	413,708	82,313	496,021
	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	291,156	195,658	486,814
Current liabilities	(20,003)	(88,257)	(108,260)
	271,153	107,401	378,554

13. Barrow Cadbury Trust

During the year the Charity continued to receive funding from the Barrow Cadbury Trust for its Roma Policy and Campaigning Project.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025, the Charity received total cash income of £21,000 and brought forward a balance of £6,700 from the prior year.

During the period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £21,034 resulting in a cash balance of £6,666 at the end of the period.

14. Department of Health and Social Care

During the year the Charity received funding as part of the Health & Wellbeing Alliance from the Department of Health & Social Care.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025, the Charity received total cash income of £38,050, with a balance of £Nil brought forward from the previous period.

During the same period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £38,050 resulting in a cash balance of £Nil at the end of the period.

15. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2024: £Nil). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2024: £Nil).

16. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2024: £Nil).



ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1103782

Accounts



Celebrating **25** years
Empowering the Roma community

Roma Support Group

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 January 2024

Charity registration - 1103782

Company number - 04645981





Roma Rights Forum's Mishto Launch event in Sheffield, 2024

Front page - Roma Rights Forum's Mishto Launch event in Sheffield, 2024 - Illustration by Robert Czibi

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Legal and administrative information

Charity name

Roma Support Group

Charity registration no.

1103782

Company registration no.

04645981

Registered office

17 Old Ford Road
London
E2 9PJ

Trustees

Prof. Thomas Acton OBE
Ms Roza Kotowicz
Ms Anthea Wormington
Mr Peter Norton
Mr Robert Czibi
Ms Sharon Elliott
Ms Dragica Felja
Ms Michaela Jarosinska
Mr Cornel Rezmives
Mrs Danuta Solecka
Mr Michael Tarnoky

Patron
Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

(appointed 25 November 2023)

Company secretary

Sylvia Ingmire

Bank

HSBC Bank PLC
39 Tottenham Court Road
London
W1T 2AR

Independent auditor

Ferguson Maidment & Co
8th Floor
167 Fleet Street
London
EC4A 2EA

Accountants

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25, Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, and Trustees for charity law purposes, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Roma Support Group for the year ended 31 January 2024. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1st January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

Legal and administrative details are shown on page 4 of the annual report, including a full list of the Trustees who served the Charity during the period up until the date of the signing of this report.

Acknowledgements

The achievements of the past year would not be possible without the support from the following organisations: Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, Barrow Cadbury Trust, BBC Children in Need, Department of Health and Social Care, Greater London Authority (GLA), The Henry Smith Charity, The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, The Jack Petchey Foundation, The Oak Foundation, The Tudor Trust.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous donation from Mr and Mrs Chris & Joyce Pountain.

Structure, governance and management

The Roma Support Group (RSG) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 23 January 2003 and registered as a charity on the 17th May 2004. It is governed by its Articles of Association adopted by a special resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting on the 16 November 2017.

The RSG has an active and experienced Management Committee (MC) that is voted for at the Annual General Meeting. No person other than a Trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or reappointed at any AGM unless s/he is recommended by the Trustees or notice is given by a member who is qualified to vote at the meeting proposing that person for appointment or reappointment, not less than 14 not more than 35 days before the date of the meeting. The Articles of Association of Roma Support Group determines methods of appointment, retirement, disqualification and removal of Trustees (clause 34 - 42). There are no provisions in the Articles of Association that entitle any external body or person to appoint Trustee(s).

None of the members of the MC/ Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of winding up.

The RSG implements an Induction Policy and Staff Development Policy, which also applies to members of the Management Committee. These were agreed on the 2nd December 2002 and are reviewed annually. The RSG's Chief Executive has prepared a MC Handbook, which is updated annually and given to all our MC Members/Trustees. This Handbook enables Trustees to have all information regarding the Charity, its history, mission, aims, service delivery, governing documents, annual accounts, etc. It also describes the duties and responsibilities of the Management Committee as a governing body of the Charity, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the MC Chief Officers and other MC Members/ Trustees. In addition to this, every new MC Member receives an induction from the RSG's Chief Executive and an existing MC Member.

In order to continuously improve the effectiveness of the MC and the Charity, we have developed a Training Development Programme for MC Members/ Trustees depending on their individual and collective needs and/or changes from both within and outside the RSG.

Organisational structure

As noted above, the work of the RSG is managed and developed by an elected MC, which comprises of Roma and non-Roma members/ Trustees. On the date of the signing of this report there were 12 members of the Management Committee, including the Chief Executive, who meet every 2 months. The MC oversees the current work/action plan of the Charity and sets the strategic agenda for the following year.

Specialist sub-committees are created, if necessary, to undertake specific tasks, such as developing and overseeing fundraising strategies; the infrastructure of the organisation; or supporting the development of new projects. These groups report to and are governed by the Management Committee.

The RSG's work is organised and supervised by the Chief Executive, who is responsible to the Board of Trustees (MC), ensuring effective co-operation between the Trustees, staff members and volunteers. The Chief Executive prepares bi-monthly reports for the MC and bears responsibility for the running of the various teams, centres and projects.

Members of staff are responsible for their own work within clear boundaries with on-going support and supervision from the Chief Executive. The staff members are responsible to the Chief Executive.

The RSG also employs a part-time Deputy Manager, who is line managed by the Chief Executive and who shares the responsibility for line-management of selected members of staff and volunteers.

Volunteers are responsible to the relevant project workers and/or to the Chief Executive.

Whilst the structure of the organisation is hierarchical with the Management Committee making final decisions, in practice the RSG's decision-making process is characterised by mutual influence. The RSG organises policy and strategy planning days, which involve Trustees and staff members, giving them an opportunity to review organisational aims, objectives and activities, as well as plan future developments and the ways to achieve them.

Volunteers

The RSG has been able to achieve much more than its resources would allow thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. They are responsible to and supervised by the relevant project workers, the Deputy Manager or the Chief Executive. The RSG has developed a Volunteer Training Programme for each service area and implements a Volunteer Policy in line with good practice guidelines.

During 2023-24, 34 volunteers helped with all our projects, e.g., Advice & Advocacy, Aspiration, Mental Health, Policy & Campaigning projects, as well as online activities, website, graphic design, archiving, interpreting and administration. Furthermore, the RSG has benefited from its partnership with the Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, which enables us to host volunteers from an EU country on a part-time basis for the duration of one year.

During the last year our volunteers have contributed an average 106 hours per week, which equals the manpower of 3 (Full Time Equivalent) members of staff.

Risk assessment

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan, which allows for the diversification of funding activities whilst reviewing our aims and strategies every four years.

As such, most projects are administered in a matrix system, funded as 'stand-alone' projects – should funding be withdrawn for any one project, other RSG projects will continue unhindered. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of service for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are consistently reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Objectives and activities

Aims and objectives

The principal aims of the Roma Support Group are to:

- improve the quality of life and combat the social exclusion of Roma refugees and migrants by providing advocacy and advice regarding access to health, education, welfare, housing, money management, employability, etc;
- empower Roma communities with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to challenge any discrimination that might prevent them from integrating into UK society and fulfilling their potential;
- raise awareness and help build an understanding of Roma culture, heritage and the significant challenges, which the Roma community face in the UK today;
- provide social inclusion schemes for Roma children and youth.

The Roma Support Group's objects are stated in our governing document, as follows:

Object 1

The relief of poverty by the provision of free advice and assistance to Roma people and other persons, who, for reasons of poverty would otherwise be unable to obtain such advice.

Object 2

To advance education and training of those Roma and other persons in need thereof as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

Object 3

To advance the education of the public about Roma arts, culture and history.

Object 4

The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

Public benefit

The Board of Trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on the public benefit of the Charity.

The Board of Trustees has concluded that:

- the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
- the aims and work done, give identifiable benefits to the Roma community and both indirectly and directly to the individuals in need;
- the benefits are for public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by their ability to pay;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities to any group and/or person.

Roma Support Group's main objectives for the year 2023 - 2024 and strategies for achieving them:

- Continuing to develop all our existing frontline projects while ensuring that they answer the needs of Roma communities going through the cost-of-living crisis, Covid-recovery and post-Brexit period;
- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work to empower Roma communities and strengthening our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Strengthening the sustainability of the organisation by further developing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history;
- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Achievements and performance

The Roma Support Group's activities were planned and delivered to fulfil the Charity's aims and objectives. They are underpinned by its commitment to equal opportunities and carried out for the public benefit. In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In serving the aims and objectives of the RSG, the Charity offered the following services during the last year:

Advice, Advocacy, Policy, Campaigning & Engagement

Advice & Advocacy

Our frontline Advice and Advocacy support enables Roma beneficiaries to overcome some of the problems they face every day. Last year, we focused on delivering support in response to the continued cost-of-living crisis, helping beneficiaries to overcome issues of destitution, unaffordable costs, debt, homelessness, and unemployment. Our services were delivered via phone, face-to-face and online.

Last year, 2,034 Roma refugees and migrants benefited from our frontline support services.

In 2023-24, our frontline Advice & Advocacy work included:

The Financial Inclusion Project, which aims to increase the financial inclusion of our beneficiaries by:

- Enabling them to navigate post-Brexit benefits and migration systems and exercise their welfare rights; and,
- Improve their financial literacy and confidence to budget and manage money.

During this period, we have also continued to reach Roma communities, who have been disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 pandemic (e.g. through job loss, increased debt, deteriorated health, bereavement, etc). This focused work has enabled us to: deliver dedicated Advice & Advocacy for Romanian-speaking Roma communities; work with volunteers in order to expand our capacity; and run in-person pop-up Advice Hubs in locations throughout London. This work has also improved our capacity to support people with complex needs (e.g. people with disabilities / long-term physical and mental health conditions, people experiencing homelessness and people fleeing domestic violence).

Since May 2023, we have increased our work around immigration / EUSS, which involved working with partner agency Settled in order to ensure specialist EUSS support is available to Roma beneficiaries.

Last year, we delivered one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions to 280 beneficiaries, helping them to:

- Check eligibility and make new claims for welfare benefits;

- Challenge benefits decisions;
- Deal with debts related to rent, council tax and utility bills;
- Improve money management / budgeting;
- Access emergency support such as vouchers to buy essential goods including food, nappies and white goods; and,
- Make and manage applications related to the EU Settlement Scheme.

We have also delivered peer support sessions, online trainings and created information resources, covering issues such as:

- Dealing with energy bills;
- Disability-related benefits;
- Cost-of-living support;
- Stress relating to money issues;
- Migrating from legacy benefits to Universal Credit; and,
- Eligibility rules for joining family members including documentation needed.

In December 2023, we were again selected as a partner to Newham Council in order to distribute emergency supermarket vouchers to Roma beneficiaries struggling financially during the cost-of-living crisis.

During 2023-24, we have supported our beneficiaries to secure over £200,000 of welfare benefits they were entitled to and to manage over £100,000 of debt.

As a result of our support, beneficiaries reported:

- Reduced poverty and feeling better about their financial situation as a result of our welfare advice;
- Greater confidence in budgeting and managing money; and,
- Increased understanding about post-Brexit migration systems, their rights and entitlements.

In December 2023, our Advice Quality Standard award was renewed following a successful audit of our advice & advocacy work, which highlighted areas of our strategic planning, governance and management being above and beyond the requirements of the standard.

Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project

The Project continued to reach its aims to:

- Enhance Roma community members' understanding of mental health issues;
- Improve access to mental health services for Roma beneficiaries; and,
- Support mental health professionals in engaging with Roma patients and enhancing their understanding of the Roma community and culture.

The Project, developed as a three-pronged model of engagement with Roma community members and healthcare providers, included:

- One-to-one mental health advocacy – to improve beneficiaries' access to mental health services;
- Peer-Support Group meetings – to facilitate guided discussions in the community with health

professionals about mental health issues and services, treatment options and coping strategies; and,

- Collaborating with mental health professionals through support for individual beneficiaries and the delivery of training sessions on the needs, culture and health inequalities experienced by Roma patients.

During 2023-24, we have developed our partnership with Newham Talking Therapies (NHS mental health service) and Waterloo Community Counselling, which offer online and in-person counselling and psychotherapy sessions by Romanian/Polish language speaking professionals. We have also established a working relationship with Safe Connections Community Suicide Prevention Hub, Mind in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Redbridge, as well as the Samaritans.

Our collaboration with Newham Talking Therapies has been highlighted by NHS England's National Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme as [an example of good practice](#) in reducing health inequalities and a successful working relationship between NHS service and a community organisation.

We also worked with leading suicide prevention charity Samaritans UK to deliver sessions around Roma experiences and perceptions on suicide. The outcome of these sessions was [short audio clips](#) sharing the thoughts of Roma community members, posted on Samaritans UK website and the National Suicide Prevention Alliance website.

Since February 2023, 112 beneficiaries were supported through 292 one-to-one advocacy sessions, being referred to mental health services; helped with arranging medical appointments and liaising with health professionals; and assisted with applying for mental health-related benefits.

The programme of peer-support activities involved hosting community meetings with health professionals and stimulating open discussions on health and wellbeing-related topics. Last year, 68 beneficiaries took part in 28 peer support sessions, delivered in Polish and Romanian languages, discussing mental health tips, stress management, managing anxiety, managing irritability, perinatal mental health, housing and mental health, and types of local support available. Sessions involved external professionals from Newham Talking Therapies and Barts Health, who contributed to discussions and shared their expertise.

The Project collaborated closely with Newham Talking Therapies in delivering group workshops on mental health and wellbeing. The workshops were tailored to better meet the needs of the community and adjustments included: translating sign-up forms and presentations; interpreting and support during the sessions through bilingual advocates; inviting bilingual health professionals; using accessible language and focusing on practical strategies. Using visual and discussion prompts was also appreciated as a way to further engage the participants. This all helped to forge a relationship of trust between the Roma community and Newham Talking Therapies and further break down the stigma around mental health.

Thirteen referrals have been made to mental health, wellbeing and health services, including Newham Talking Therapies, Waterloo Community Counselling, Tower Hamlets Talking Therapies, Tower Hamlets Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, NHS Southern Gambling Services, Talking Change, Barnardo's Emotional Support Service for Young People, Step Forward, Newham Medical Centre, and Barts Health.

Compared to previous years, we have supported more cases of serious mental illness, including diagnosed PTSD and psychosis, as well as psychotic episodes. We supported our beneficiaries to engage with mental health and social care professionals, as well as supporting their carers and family members to also access mental health services.

The Project Coordinator and the Advocates have taken part in meetings with other organisations and health professionals to promote Roma Support Group and the Project, as well as to learn about other services and develop working relationships. These included meetings with professionals in public health (Healthwatch Newham Advisory Board); mental health (Mind in Tower Hamlets and Newham, Waterloo Community Counselling); NHS (NHS England Health Inequalities Improvement Programme); creative health (London Arts & Health, Centrala, Hospital Rooms); social prescribing (London Plus Social Prescribing Network, NHS England social prescribing leads); and other charities (the 3million, Settled, Luton Roma Trust).

We have also engaged 194 professionals from Newham Talking Therapies, Waterloo Community Counselling and Good Things Foundation's online conference in our training / information sessions on Roma community and culture.

We have developed several information resources in English, Polish and Romanian languages, including presentations on stress management, maternity health, social prescribing, women's health and wellbeing, managing worry or irritability. We estimate that 22,788 beneficiaries have seen these resources (based on our attendance logs of group meetings and social media analytics such as Twitter, Facebook).

As a result of our one-to-one and group activities, beneficiaries reported improved mental health and wellbeing, increased understanding of mental health issues and mental health services, as well as increased access to / satisfaction with mental health services. Health professionals reported that training seminars improved their knowledge of the Roma community and culture.

The Project also supported the Health & Wellbeing Alliance work through the development of "Guidance for social prescribing link workers on engaging with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and diversifying workforce", "Tackling inequalities in infant feeding services and support for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities", and "Key enablers on digital inclusion in primary care for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities". Additionally, the Project team reviewed and gave feedback "Understanding Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities – Support Guide" developed by the Support After Suicide Partnership, hosted by leading suicide prevention charity Samaritans UK.

'ROMANO KHER': Roma Housing Advocacy Project

The Project aims to improve access to housing and prevent homelessness for Roma migrants by facilitating advocacy support, community training on housing rights/ legislation, and by influencing policy and practice in response to Roma housing needs.

One of the main outcomes of this Project is to improve access to housing and prevent homelessness for Roma migrants by facilitating advocacy support, community training on housing rights/ legislation, and influencing policy and practice in response to Roma housing needs:

Last year, we had 192 housing cases, supporting beneficiaries with their housing benefits support/debt; evictions and/or homeless applications; housing register applications; rent increases; rent arrears; housing adaptations applications; as well as cases of disrepair and inappropriate housing, including overcrowding.

Another outcome of the Project is to enhance knowledge about housing rights within the Roma community. We had focus groups where Roma community members shared their concerns and opinions in relation to their housing situation, which, in turn, informed the agenda of training co-delivered with the Public Interest Law Centre (PILC) focussing on themes, which our beneficiaries wished to explore, such as housing disrepair, tenants' rights, landlords' legal responsibilities, and challenging the suitability of temporary accommodation. These training sessions have empowered community members with up-to-date legal knowledge about their housing rights, how to challenge their landlords, and to some extent, how to challenge decisions made by housing departments.

The Project also produced digital resources on the procedures to follow to apply for a council home, and provided information on the homeless housing application process. We translated these resources into two main community languages, i.e. Polish and Romanian, enabling 251 people to benefit from the information we provided.

Another outcome of the Project is to empower Roma community members to voice their opinions and concerns during meetings with professionals and decision makers.

To achieve this outcome, we organised and hosted 2 focus group meetings with Greater London Authority (GLA) professionals/ decision makers and legal professionals and supported 8 Roma advocates to increase their understanding of housing rights in their communities, engage in peer advocacy, and represent their communities.

We have engaged these Roma advocates in London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Newcastle, Rotherham, Leicester, Luton, and Bradford in the co-delivery of community training sessions, and in the co-distribution of housing digital resources we co-created with PILC.

The Project has also worked towards increasing understanding of Roma housing needs / issues amongst housing professionals and decision makers.

As a member of the Gypsy & Roma Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA) steering group, we



Paris, age 8
Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) History Month Art
Competition Winning Entry

made an input to drafting of the report, which will be published later this year.

We organised community conversations as part of the Planning for London Programme, on behalf of the Trust for London and the GLA, and took part in the London Gypsy and Traveller Forum at City Hall, bringing the most pressing Roma housing issues to the table. The discussions from the meeting informed the Forum's manifesto for the 2024 London elections, which included making pledges to increase the delivery of culturally suitable homes and ensure that existing homes meet good quality standards and are fit for the future.

We contributed to the GLA's London Assembly Housing Committee's investigation on Temporary Accommodation, and made a written submission to their Call for Evidence, which formed part of the Committee's investigation into Temporary Accommodation.

Through the Roma Rights Forum (RRF) event in Sheffield, a diverse range of professionals and decision makers from local councils and public services were given extensive information on the housing needs and issues of Roma communities, as well as policy recommendations for addressing them.

The Project also worked towards influencing changes in housing policy, strategies and practice to respond to the housing needs of Roma migrants at a local, regional and national level.

The information shared through our engagement with the Planning for London Programme (GTANA survey, community conversations, and stakeholder event) will feed into the GLA's London Plan, which is a Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London. It sets out a framework for how London will develop over the next 20-25 years and the Mayor's vision for Good Growth.

We joined the 'Cover the Cost' Coalition, calling for the Government to stop more people from becoming homeless.

Finally, through the Mishto campaign, we aim to improve engagement between local/ regional housing departments and Roma community members in order to achieve fairer access to appropriate housing for our communities.

Roma Policy and Campaigning Project

The Project is promoting rights and social justice for Roma refugees and migrants, while facilitating community development and building leadership within our communities. It aims to empower Roma communities to exercise their rights and respond to inequalities and injustices they face.

The Project objectives are:

- To mobilise Roma communities/ NGOs through coordinating Roma-led campaigns;
- To empower Roma communities through leadership & community development; and,
- To influence regional/ national policies and practice so that they address Roma-specific needs.

During the past year, the Project has continued its work with the Roma Rights Forum, Roma NGOs and leaders, promoted RSG's policy positions, developed relationship with civil servants, lobbied parliamentarians, collaborated with legal experts and other organisations to join our campaigns, and engaged in new research.

Last year, our work included:

- Facilitating the Roma Rights Forum (RRF) to become a network, platform and a point of reference for many Roma organisations across the UK. The RRF was instrumental in shaping Mishto the first national Roma-led campaign and its plan of action;
- Supporting Roma community members to raise their concerns with the NHS regarding their communication needs in health context, which were included in the report published by [National Voices](#);
- Supporting a [national initiative by the VCSE sector](#) with raising awareness about the key actions that national policy makers, commissioners and service providers should take when developing a digital

component in their delivery of health and care services;

- Supporting work by [Children and Families Across Borders](#) to develop resources for Children's Services when engaging / working with Romanian / Roma communities;
- Facilitating engagement between the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Roma communities, leading to the launch of [ONS research](#) into the lived experiences of Roma in England and Wales;
- Collaborating with Race Equality Foundation on interpreting services within healthcare context and facilitating further engagement with Roma communities to help shape future NHS policies;
- Working with New Europeans to develop new resources on [voting in various languages](#), including Romanes;
- Contributing to the organisation's health research, including the development of new guidance in areas such as infant feeding, social prescribing, digital inclusion and mental health;
- Collaborating with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance on developing new recommendations for learning and teaching about the [Roma people experiences during the Holocaust](#);
- Enabling over 50 Roma-led and Roma-supporting NGOs and 180 Roma community members to engage in regional and national decision-making processes. Furthermore, 153 Roma community members made their contributions through surveys on healthcare and housing.

NHS Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA):

The Health and Wellbeing Alliance (HWA) is a cross-government programme run by NHS England, Department for Health and Social Care, and the UK Health Security Agency.

The programme brings together the national policy leads and the voluntary sector aiming to:

- Amplify the voices of the people with lived experience of health inequalities;
- Improve the ways of delivering health services which are accessible to everyone thus reducing health inequalities; and,
- Bring the expertise of the voluntary sector and communities they work with into national policy-making.

Last year, working together with our lead partner, Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT), we have:

- Led on the development of new guidance tackling mental health inequalities experienced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, which is due to be launched soon. ["Tackling Mental Health Inequalities for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller People"](#) has been published on the National Suicide Prevention Alliance website.
- Led on the development of new guidance on experiences of social prescribing in the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, due to be published in 2024;
- Co-developed new guidance on enablers of digital inclusion in primary care settings for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, due to be published in 2024; and,
- Co-developed new guidance on infant feeding for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, due to be published in 2024.

Education Support & Aspiration Projects:

Roma Aspiration Project

The Project continues to support Roma children and young people through a holistic approach that includes one-to-one education advocacy, in-depth outreach work, and a comprehensive program of after-school activities. Our initiatives aim to enhance the self-confidence, life aspirations, and overall wellbeing of young Roma individuals.

Last year, we supported over 100 young beneficiaries through various face-to-face and online engagements. The Project assisted in securing digital equipment and accessing educational platforms, resources, school admissions, food vouchers, and health services. We paid special attention to children with disabilities and complex health issues, ensuring they received the necessary services and their needs were being met. Our work also extended to children on child protection registers, in foster care, and those involved in court proceedings. In our advocacy work, the Aspiration Project focused heavily on education, particularly in enhancing communication between young people, schools, and parents. We worked to address difficulties around attendance, receiving SEN support and helped education professionals better understand Roma culture and barriers, aiming to improve their practices.

We organised a range of educational and recreational activities, including trips to the London Sea Life Aquarium, London Dungeon, and Madame Tussauds. These excursions provided an opportunity for young Roma to explore London, learn about various subjects, and bond with their peers. Additionally, we continued our Online Youth Club, which allowed young participants to connect and engage in workshops focusing on Roma History, the Roma Holocaust, wellbeing, and future aspirations. The club was overall attended by 20 young beneficiaries and culminated in two outings: a seasonal ice-skating trip and an educational visit to the Tower of London, each attended by approximately 25 participants.

Last year also saw the launch of two new in-person initiatives. The first, a Youth Hub in Newham, offers activities and homework support to Roma beneficiaries. Within this hub, young people participated in quizzes, workshops on Roma History, games, and a tennis coaching workshop. The second initiative, a music youth club, hosted in collaboration with the local community and the Aspiration Project, offers space to play music, dance, and explore different styles of traditional Roma and modern music while encouraging young members to explore their identities.

We also collaborated with schools in Newham and Redbridge to deliver aspirational workshops for young Roma students. These schools were encouraged to incorporate Roma representation into their curriculum and actively participated in the celebration of the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History Month (GRTHM) in June.

This year's GRTHM art competition saw the highest participation ever, with over 60 submissions, including paintings, drawings, music videos, and poems. These creative works offered young people a platform to reflect on their Roma identities and celebrate their culture.

Through these diverse initiatives, the Project has continued to make significant strides in supporting young Roma individuals, fostering a sense of community, and promoting cultural pride and understanding.

As a result of our activities, young beneficiaries made significant progress in:

- Increasing their life aspirations and satisfaction with their education attainment;
- Enhancing their self-confidence in relation to their areas of interest, e.g., sport, music and arts; and,
- Improving their health and wellbeing.

Training and Capacity Building:

The Programme aims to support statutory and voluntary agencies to respond effectively to the needs of Roma refugees and migrants across the UK.

In 2023 -24, six members of our staff and 16 Roma advocates took part in the delivery of this programme, including:

- A specialist intervention service for professionals working with Roma individuals and families;

- Training sessions for professionals and the community; and,
- Specialist support for research and consultation.

Last year, we delivered:

- 16 training sessions and presentations including delivery of online training and awareness sessions;
- 20 commissioned interventions and consultations;
- Support for over 300 professionals; and,
- Direct and indirect support for minimum 900 Roma individuals.

93% of respondents rated our training as 'excellent' or 'good'.

In addition to the above, we contributed to the production of information resources aimed at all adult Roma in the UK (produced by the Electoral Commission) and contributed to the survey of housing needs of Roma living in London GTANA (Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment).

Some of the agencies and organisations supported by RSEP include: Derby Children's Services, Waterloo Community Counselling, The Big Issue, Healthwatch England, Law Centres Network, Birth Companions, L.B. Waltham Forest, Law for Life and several independent Roma activists.

Plans for the future

In order to achieve our organisational mission and work towards our vision, we will be pursuing the following objectives:

- To provide skills and support to Roma communities to attain independence so that they can fully engage in UK life;
- To empower Roma communities, raise awareness of their rights and advocate for fair treatment, equality and access;
- To challenge, influence and lobby for long-term change for the benefit of Roma people;
- To scale and increase the impact of the wider Roma network;
- To improve visibility, understanding and perceptions of the Roma community;
- To share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies while developing our enterprising skills and organisational sustainability; and,
- To ensure continuous development of our frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, health education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Financial review

Financial position and available funds

The Charity incurred a deficit of £51,199 in the year ended 31 January 2024 (2023: surplus of £25,356), decreasing total funds at the year-end to £378,554 (2023: £429,753).

Of the total funds, £271,153 related to unrestricted funds/free reserves (2023: £204,194) and £107,401 to restricted funds (2023: £225,559).

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds, which have not been designated

for a specific purpose and are not committed or invested in tangible assets, ('the free reserves') should be between three and six months of the resources expended. On present expenditure levels this equates to between £117,500 and £235,000 in general funds.

At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. In such a case, it would be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed.

Whilst our present free reserves level of £271,153 falls slightly above this limit, this is not deemed excessive as several funding pots end over the next twelve months.

Going concern

Based on the funding commitments in place both at the year-end and on the date of approval of this report, as well as the current free reserves level, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity will be able to continue its objectives for the next financial year. Whilst the ongoing cost of living crisis has meant the Charity has incurred additional costs, the ongoing external crisis has had no significant impact on this assessment.

Statement of board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 18 of this document meet the requirements of both the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law and the Directors' Report under company law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Information provided to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and,
- the Trustee has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Preparation of the report

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

The auditors, Ferguson Maidment Accountants Ltd, have indicated their willingness to accept re-appointment under Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 18 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Anthea Wormington
Anthea Wormington (Oct 22, 2024 10:32 GMT+1)



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

SYLVIA INGMIRE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE &
COMPANY SECRETARY



Esperanza, age 11
Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) History Month Art
Competition Winning Entry

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Roma Support Group (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 January 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 January 2024 and of its 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Roma Support Group operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management and inappropriate revenue recognition. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, corroborating balances recognised to supporting documentation on a sample basis and ensuring accounting policies are appropriate under the relevant accounting standards.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibility for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



PAUL MANALO FCA SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR

For and on behalf of:
Ferguson Maidment & Co.
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor
167 Fleet Street
London, EC4A 2EA

Date: 22 October 2024

Statement of financial activities**Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account & Statement of Realised Gains and Losses**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

		Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations	3	87,564	308,063	395,627	413,364
Charitable activities	4	18,405	-	18,405	18,779
Investments		711	-	711	70
Total income		106,680	308,063	414,743	432,213
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5 & 6	2,491	28,890	31,381	29,285
Charitable activities:					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	284,787	284,787	231,343
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	-	-	22,118
Education Support	5 & 7	-	20,156	20,156	21,469
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	95,127	95,127	77,020
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	-	-	-	556
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	34,491	-	34,491	25,066
Total expenditure		36,982	428,960	465,942	406,857
Net income/(expenditure)		69,698	(120,897)	(51,199)	25,356
Transfer between funds	10	(2,739)	2,739	-	-
Net movement in funds		66,959	(118,158)	(51,199)	25,356
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	204,194	225,559	429,753	404,397
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	271,153	107,401	378,554	429,753

The notes on pages 25 to 40 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 January 2024

	Notes	£	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	9		-	-
Current assets:				
Prepayments		1,501		1,301
Cash at bank and in hand		485,313		490,597
		486,814		491,898
Creditors:				
amounts falling due within one year	10	(108,260)		(62,145)
Net current assets			378,554	429,753
Net assets			378,554	429,753
Funds of the charity:				
Restricted funds	11 & 12		107,401	225,559
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	11 & 12	271,153		204,194
		271,153		204,194
		378,554		429,753

The notes on pages 25 to 40 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 415A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and FRS 102 Section 1A.

They were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 18 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Anthea Wormington
Anthea Wormington (Oct 22, 2024 10:32 GMT+1)

ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 January 2024, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 January 2024 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the current economic environment has had no material impact on this assessment.

Legal status

Roma Support Group is a charitable company registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member. The registered address is 17 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Income (continued from previous page)

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future period, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities, including contract income and client fees, is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to total direct costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life of three years, on a straight-line basis pro-rated over the proportion of the year in which it has been held. This rate applies to all three categories of tangible fixed assets.

Costs incurred in the development of the website have been capitalised as a tangible fixed asset as the combined direct cash flow benefits and indirect economic benefit through the provision of educational information to beneficiaries are expected to be greater than the amount capitalised.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and accruals

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Finance and operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is occurred.

No assets have been purchased under finance leases.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
	Notes			
Income from:				
Donations	3	29,898	383,466	413,364
Charitable activities	4	18,779	-	18,779
Investments		70	-	70
Total income		48,747	383,466	432,213
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5 & 6	1,987	27,298	29,285
Charitable activities:				
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	231,343	231,343
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	22,118	22,118
Education Support	5 & 7	-	21,469	21,469
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	77,020	77,020
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	556	-	556
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	25,066	-	25,066
Total expenditure		27,609	379,248	406,857
Net income/(expenditure)		21,138	4,218	25,356
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	183,056	221,341	404,397
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	204,194	225,559	429,753

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	68,880	308,063	376,943
Other donations	18,684	-	18,684
Total income from donations	87,564	308,063	395,627
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
BBC Children in Need	-	15,382	15,382
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	28,681	28,681
Greater London Authority	-	60,310	60,310
Henry Smith Charity (Financial Inclusion)	-	46,300	46,300
Henry Smith Charity (COVID-19 Long-term Support Programme)	-	38,200	38,200
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,800	1,800
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	10,547	55,980	66,527
Oak Foundation	70,000	10,000	80,000
The Tudor Trust	-	67,000	67,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	41,000	41,000
Carried forward	(11,667)	(76,590)	(88,257)
	68,880	308,063	376,943

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Grant income (see analysis below)	7,600	383,466	391,066
Other donations	22,298	-	22,298
Total income from donations	29,898	383,466	413,364
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust (Cost of Living Support Fund)	7,600	-	7,600
BBC Children in Need	-	30,932	30,932
CAF Resilience Support Fund	-	35,534	35,534
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	56,715	56,715
Henry Smith Charity (Financial Inclusion)	-	22,500	22,500
Henry Smith Charity (COVID-19 Long-term Support Programme)	-	18,950	18,950
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,800	1,800
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	55,980	55,980
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	49,032	49,032
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	133,023	133,023
Carried forward	-	(41,000)	(41,000)
	7,600	383,466	391,066

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Commissioned services and training	18,289	-	18,289
Sales of resources	116	-	116
	18,405	-	18,405

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Commissioned services and training	18,634	-	18,634
Sales of resources	145	-	145
	18,779	-	18,779

5. Total expenditure

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total expenditure
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	
	2024	2024	2024	2024	
	£	£	£	£	
Costs of raising funds	25,346	-	1,233	4,802	31,381
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	204,601	25,421	11,190	43,575	284,787
Education Support	15,580	700	792	3,084	20,156
Mental Health Advocacy	72,434	4,400	3,738	14,555	95,127
Support & Engagement Project	20,202	7,656	1,355	5,278	34,491
	338,1643	38,177	18,308	71,294	465,942

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total expenditure
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	
	2023	2023	2023	2023	
	£	£	£	£	
Costs of raising funds	23,985	-	1,362	3,938	29,285
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	157,529	31,943	10,761	31,110	231,343
Art & Cultural Development	-	18,115	1,029	2,974	22,118
Education Support	16,989	594	999	2,887	21,469
Mental Health Advocacy	63,080	-	3,583	10,357	77,020
Sport Inclusion	-	455	26	75	556
Support & Engagement Project	19,845	684	1,166	3,371	25,066
	281,428	51,791	18,926	54,712	406,857

Indirect costs have been allocated based on a proportion of direct staff costs and direct other costs attributable to each activity.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 8.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

5. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs includes:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	18,308	18,926
Staff travel and support costs	8,672	4,717
Premises and venue hire	24,025	25,071
Professional fees	23,288	17,320
Administrative and other costs	11,700	3,912
Governance	3,609	3,692
	89,602	73,638

Governance costs includes:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Audit fee	2,268	2,160
Insurance	1,237	1,209
Meeting expenses	104	323
	3,609	3,692

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Direct staff costs	2,012	23,334	25,346
Indirect costs	479	5,556	6,035
	2,491	28,890	31,381

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Direct staff costs	1,627	22,358	23,985
Indirect costs	360	4,940	5,300
	1,987	27,298	29,285

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	204,601	204,601
Direct other costs	-	25,421	25,421
Indirect costs	-	54,765	54,765
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	284,787	284,787
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	15,580	15,580
Direct other costs	-	700	700
Indirect costs	-	3,876	3,876
Education Support	-	20,156	20,156
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	72,434	72,434
Direct other costs	-	4,400	4,400
Indirect costs	-	18,293	18,293
Mental Health Advocacy	-	95,127	95,127
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	20,202	-	20,202
Direct other costs	7,656	-	7,656
Indirect costs	6,633	-	6,633
Support & Engagement Project	34,491	-	34,491
	34,491	400,070	434,561

7. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	157,529	157,529
Direct other costs	-	31,943	31,943
Indirect costs	-	41,871	41,871
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	231,343	231,343
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct other costs	-	18,115	18,115
Indirect costs	-	4,003	4,003
Art & Cultural Development	-	22,118	22,118
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	16,989	16,989
Direct other costs	-	594	594
Indirect costs	-	3,886	3,886
Education Support	-	21,469	21,469
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	63,080	63,080
Indirect costs	-	13,940	13,940
Mental Health Advocacy	-	77,020	77,020
Sport Inclusion			
Direct other costs	455	-	455
Indirect costs	101	-	101
Sport Inclusion	556	-	556
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	19,845	-	19,845
Direct other costs	684	-	684
Indirect costs	4,537	-	4,537
Support & Engagement Project	25,066	-	25,066
	25,622	351,950	377,572

8. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross salaries	323,282	274,493
Employer's NIC	20,267	16,069
Employer's pension	12,922	9,792
	356,471	300,354

The average headcount during the period was 12 persons (2023: 11 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2023: NIL).

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £50,692 (2023: £47,970).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Website development costs £	Sports and music equipment £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 February 2023	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
At 31 January 2024	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Depreciation				
At 1 February 2023	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
At 31 January 2024	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Net book value				
At 1 February 2023	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2024	-	-	-	-

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Deferred grant income	88,257	41,000
Accounts payable	5,070	7,163
Accruals	4,104	3,504
HMRC payable	6,767	5,596
Pensions payable	4,062	4,882
	108,260	62,145
Deferred grant income		
As at 1 February 2023	41,000	133,023
Amount released to incoming resources	(41,000)	(133,023)
Amount deferred in year	88,257	41,000
As at 31 January 2024	88,257	41,000

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward 2024 £	Income for the period 2024 £	Expenditure in the period 2024 £	Transfer between funds 2024 £	Balance carried forward 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	204,194	106,680	(36,982)	(2,739)	271,153
Unrestricted funds	204,194	106,680	(36,982)	(2,739)	271,153
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	120,332	210,238	(305,352)	-	25,218
Art & Cultural Development	25,429	-	-	-	25,429
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	61,240	17,126	(21,612)	-	56,754
Health information	18,558	80,699	(101,996)	2,739	-
Restricted funds	225,559	308,063	(428,960)	2,739	107,401
Total funds	429,753	414,743	(465,942)	-	378,554

Restricted expenditure in the period includes an allocation of costs for raising funds where permitted by those funding these specific projects and so this table does not directly reconcile to note 7 of the financial statements.

Advice, advocacy & cultural development:

These are funds that the Charity has received directly for its work advising Roma beneficiaries that have overcome some of the barriers they face in their process of integration within wider society, including, but not exclusively, the Roma Financial Inclusion Project, EU Settlement Scheme Project, Ketane Project and the Roma News Project. It is funded by several funding bodies, and also includes the wider policy and campaigning work carried out by the Charity.

Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion:

These are funds the Charity has received for work aimed at increasing the academic attainment, inclusion and aspiration of Roma children and young people. These funds are received from a number of different funding bodies.

Health information:

These funds are restricted for use on health and mental health projects including for the Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Balance brought forward 2023 £	Income for the period 2023 £	Expenditure in the period 2023 £	Transfer between funds 2023 £	Balance carried forward 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	183,056	48,747	(27,609)	-	204,194
Unrestricted funds	183,056	48,747	(27,609)	-	204,194
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	119,067	250,551	(249,286)	-	120,332
Art & Music Development	49,263	-	(23,834)	-	25,429
Early years education	33,626	-	-	(33,626)	-
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	14,303	36,445	(23,134)	33,626	61,240
Health information	5,082	96,470	(82,994)	-	18,558
Restricted funds	221,341	383,466	(379,248)	-	225,559
Total funds	404,397	432,213	(406,857)	-	429,753

Early years education:

These were funds that the Charity raised through public fundraising and grant support to work with pre-school Roma children and their families. At the end of the prior financial year these funds were amalgamated into the education support fund.

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Current assets	291,156	195,658	486,814
Current liabilities	(20,003)	(88,257)	(108,260)
	271,153	107,401	378,554
	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Current assets	225,339	266,559	491,898
Current liabilities	(21,145)	(41,000)	(62,145)
	204,194	225,559	429,753

13. Barrow Cadbury Trust

During the year the Charity continued to receive funding from the Barrow Cadbury Trust for its Roma Policy and Campaigning Project.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Charity received total cash income of £20,000 and brought forward a balance of £8,804 from the prior year.

During the period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £22,104 resulting in a cash balance of £6,700 at the end of the period.

14. Department of Health and Social Care

During the year the Charity received funding as part of the Health & Wellbeing Alliance from the Department of Health & Social Care.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Charity received total cash income of £28,681, with a balance of £11,203 brought forward from the previous period.

During the same period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £39,884, resulting in a cash balance of £Nil at the end of the period.

15. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2023: £Nil). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2023: £Nil).

16. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2023: £Nil).



Celebrating **25** years
Empowering the Roma community

ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1103782

Accounts



Celebrating **25** years
Empowering the Roma community

Roma Support Group

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 January 2023

Charity registration - 1103782

Company number - 04645981



Annual policy and campaigning event

Front page - Winning artwork for our Gypsy Roma Traveller
History Month Art Competition

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Legal and administrative information

Charity name

Roma Support Group

Charity registration no.

1103782

Company registration no.

04645981

Registered office

17 Old Ford Road
London
E2 9PJ

Trustees

Prof. Thomas Acton OBE
Ms Roza Kotowicz
Ms Anthea Wormington
Mr Peter Norton
Mr Robert Czibi
Ms Sharon Elliott
Ms Dragica Felja
Ms Michaela Jarosinska
Mr Cornel Rezmives
Mr Mircea Rostas
Mr Michael Tarnoky
Mr Leon Wisniewski

Patron
Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

(resigned 16 November 2022)

(resigned 16 November 2022)

Company secretary

Sylvia Ingmire

Bank

HSBC Bank PLC
39 Tottenham Court Road
London
W1T 2AR

Independent auditor

Ferguson Maidment & Co
8th Floor
167 Fleet Street
London
EC4A 2EA

Accountants

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25, Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, and Trustees for charity law purposes, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Roma Support Group for the year ended 31 January 2023. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1st January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

Legal and administrative details are shown on page 4 of the annual report, including a full list of the Trustees who served the Charity during the period up until the date of the signing of this report.

Acknowledgements

The achievements of the past year would not be possible without the support from the following organisations: Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, Barrow Cadbury Trust, BBC Children in Need, Charity Aid Foundation – CAF Resilience Support Fund, Department of Health and Social Care, The Henry Smith Charity, The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, The Jack Petchey Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, The Tudor Trust.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous donation from Mr and Mrs Chris & Joyce Pountain.

Structure, governance and management

The Roma Support Group (RSG) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 23 January 2003 and registered as a charity on the 17th May 2004. It is governed by its Articles of Association adopted by a special resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting on the 16 November 2017.

The RSG has an active and experienced Management Committee (MC) that is voted for at the Annual General Meeting. No person other than a Trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or reappointed at any AGM unless s/he is recommended by the Trustees or notice is given by a member who is qualified to vote at the meeting proposing that person for appointment or reappointment, not less than 14 not more than 35 days before the date of the meeting. The Articles of Association of Roma Support Group determines methods of appointment, retirement, disqualification and removal of Trustees (clause 34 - 42). There are no provisions in the Articles of Association that entitle any external body or person to appoint Trustee(s).

None of the members of the MC/ Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of winding up.

The RSG implements an Induction Policy and Staff Development Policy, which also applies to members of the Management Committee. These were agreed on the 2nd December 2002 and are reviewed annually. The RSG's Chief Executive has prepared a MC Handbook, which is updated annually and given to all our MC Members/Trustees. This Handbook enables Trustees to have all information regarding the Charity, its history, mission, aims, service delivery, governing documents, annual accounts, etc. It also describes the duties and responsibilities of the Management Committee as a governing body of the Charity, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the MC Chief Officers and other MC Members/ Trustees. In addition to this, every new MC Member receives an induction from the RSG's Chief Executive and an existing MC Member.

In order to continuously improve the effectiveness of the MC and the Charity, we have developed a Training Development Programme for MC Members/ Trustees depending on their individual and collective needs and/or changes from both within and outside the RSG.

Organisational structure

As noted above, the work of the RSG is managed and developed by an elected MC, which comprises of Roma and non-Roma members/ Trustees. On the date of the signing of this report there were 11 members of the Management Committee, including the Chief Executive, who meet every 2 months. The MC oversees the current work/action plan of the Charity and sets the strategic agenda for the following year.

Specialist sub-committees are created, if necessary, to undertake specific tasks, such as developing and overseeing fundraising strategies; the infrastructure of the organisation; or supporting the development of new projects. These groups report to and are governed by the Management Committee.

The RSG's work is organised and supervised by the Chief Executive, who is responsible to the Board of Trustees (MC), ensuring effective co-operation between the Trustees, staff members and volunteers. The Chief Executive prepares bi-monthly reports for the MC and bears responsibility for the running of the various teams, centres and projects.

Members of staff are responsible for their own work within clear boundaries with on-going support and supervision from the Chief Executive. The staff members are responsible to the Chief Executive.

The RSG also employs a part-time Deputy Manager, who is line managed by the Chief Executive and who shares the responsibility for line-management of selected members of staff and volunteers.

Volunteers are responsible to the relevant project workers and/or to the Chief Executive.

Whilst the structure of the organisation is hierarchical with the Management Committee making final decisions, in practice the RSG's decision-making process is characterised by mutual influence. The RSG organises policy and strategy planning days, which involve Trustees and staff members, giving them an opportunity to review organisational aims, objectives and activities, as well as plan future developments and the ways to achieve them.

Volunteers

The RSG has been able to achieve much more than its resources would allow thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. They are responsible to and supervised by the relevant project workers, the Deputy Manager or the Chief Executive. The RSG has developed a Volunteer Training Programme for each service area and implements a Volunteer Policy in line with good practice guidelines.

During 2022-23, 29 volunteers helped with all our projects, e.g., Advice & Advocacy, Aspiration, Mental Health, Policy & Campaigning projects, as well as online activities, website, graphic design, archiving, interpreting and administration. Furthermore, the RSG has benefited from its partnership with the Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, which enables us to host volunteers from an EU country on a part-time basis for the duration of one year.

During the last year our volunteers have contributed an average 73 hours per week, which equals the manpower of 2 (Full Time Equivalent) members of staff.

Risk assessment

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan, which allows for the diversification of funding activities whilst reviewing our aims and strategies every four years.

As such, most projects are administered in a matrix system, funded as 'stand-alone' projects – should funding be withdrawn for any one project, other RSG projects will continue unhindered. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of service for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are consistently reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Objectives and activities

Aims and objectives

The principal aims of the Roma Support Group are to:

- improve the quality of life and combat the social exclusion of Roma refugees and migrants by providing advocacy and advice regarding access to health, education, welfare, housing, money management, employability, etc;
- empower Roma communities with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to challenge any discrimination that might prevent them from integrating into UK society and fulfilling their potential;
- raise awareness and help build an understanding of Roma culture, heritage and the significant challenges, which the Roma community face in the UK today;
- provide social inclusion schemes for Roma children and youth.

The Roma Support Group's objects are stated in our governing document, as follows:

Object 1

The relief of poverty by the provision of free advice and assistance to Roma people and other persons, who, for reasons of poverty would otherwise be unable to obtain such advice.

Object 2

To advance education and training of those Roma and other persons in need thereof as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

Object 3

To advance the education of the public about Roma arts, culture and history.

Object 4

The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

Public benefit

The Board of Trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on the public benefit of the Charity.

The Board of Trustees has concluded that:

- the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
- the aims and work done, give identifiable benefits to the Roma community and both indirectly and directly to the individuals in need;
- the benefits are for public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by their ability to pay;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities to any group and/or person.

Roma Support Group's main objectives for the year 2022 - 2023 and strategies for achieving them:

- Continuation and development our existing frontline projects to respond to the cost-of-living crisis and Covid-19 pandemic's impact on our beneficiaries;

- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work to empower Roma communities and strengthening our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Strengthening the sustainability of the organisation by implementing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history, as well as sharing models of good practice through the delivery of our training, consultancy work and commissioned interventions, as well as dissemination of our reports and educational resources; and,
- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Achievements and performance

The Roma Support Group's activities were planned and delivered to fulfil the Charity's aims and objectives. They are underpinned by its commitment to equal opportunities and carried out for the public benefit. In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In serving the aims and objectives of the RSG, the Charity offered the following services during the last year:

Advice, Advocacy, Policy, Campaigning & Engagement

Our frontline **Advice and Advocacy** support enables Roma beneficiaries to overcome some of the problems, which they face every day. Last year, we focused on delivering support in response to dual impact of the Covid-19 and the emerging cost-of-living crisis, helping beneficiaries to overcome issues of destitution, unaffordable costs, debt, homelessness, and unemployment. Our services were delivered via phone, face-to-face and online.

Last year, 1,853 Roma refugees and migrants directly benefitted from our frontline support services and approximately 72,037 people accessed our online information which helped them to navigate through both the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis.

In 2022-23, our frontline Advice & Advocacy work included the projects listed below.

The Financial Inclusion Project aims to increase the financial inclusion of our beneficiaries by:

- Enabling them to navigate post-Brexit benefits and migration systems and exercise their welfare rights; and,
- Improve their financial literacy and confidence to budget and manage money.

Last year, we delivered one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions to 203 beneficiaries, helping them to:

- Make new claims for benefits;
- Challenge benefits decisions;
- Deal with benefits-related problems;
- Deal with debts related to rent and utility bills; and,
- Access emergency support such as vouchers to buy essential goods including food, nappies and white goods.

In addition, we supported 80 beneficiaries to submit their EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) applications.

We have facilitated focus groups meetings for beneficiaries, who were able to share their opinions on what

support is needed. We have also delivered peer support sessions, online trainings and created information resources, covering issues such as:

- Emotions/feelings around money, budgeting, having conversations with children about money, dealing with unexpected costs, energy costs and developing savings habits – delivered in collaboration with Quaker Social Action's Made of Money Project;
- Awareness of and tips to avoid falling victim to scams; and,
- Support announced by the government in response to the cost-of-living crisis.

We collaborated with Our Newham Money (working on behalf of Newham Council) to distribute emergency vouchers for food and essential household goods for our clients.

As a result of our support, beneficiaries reported reduced poverty; being prevented from homelessness, and felt empowered through addressing their employability and accessibility issues. They also reported improved understanding of their rights as a result of our information resources and their participation in training/ peer support sessions.

We resumed delivery of our advice services in Wood Lane Community Centre (White City), which had been suspended as a result of the pandemic and since August'22, we have developed advice services for Romanian-speaking Roma to support the increased demand on the service post-pandemic.

The initial 3 years of funding (2019-2022) for the Financial Inclusion Project concluded at the end of July 2022. A self-evaluation report for this first phase of the Project is available [here](#).

Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project

The Project continued to reach its aims to:

- Enhance Roma community members' understanding of mental health issues;
- Improve access to mental health services for Roma beneficiaries; and,
- Support mental health professionals in engaging with Roma patients and enhancing their understanding of the Roma community and culture.

The Project, developed as a three-pronged model of engagement with Roma community members and healthcare providers, included:

- One-to-one mental health advocacy – to improve beneficiaries' access to mental health services;
- Peer-Support Group meetings – to facilitate guided discussions in the community with health professionals about mental health issues and services, treatment options and coping strategies; and,
- Collaborating with mental health professionals through support for individual beneficiaries and the delivery of training sessions on the needs, culture and health inequalities experienced by Roma patients.

Since February 2022, 87 beneficiaries were supported by one-to-one advocacy sessions, being referred to mental health services; helped with arranging medical appointments and liaising with health professionals; and assisted with applying for mental health-related benefits.

The programme of peer-support activities involved hosting community meetings with health professionals and stimulating open discussions on health and wellbeing-related topics. Last year, 63 beneficiaries took part in 12 peer support sessions, delivered in both Polish and Romanian languages, discussing mental health tips, stress management, maternity health, cost-of-living crisis and scams and their impact on mental health, and types of local support available. Sessions involved external professionals from Newham Talking Therapies, Newham Hospital, Royal London Hospital, Whipps Cross Hospital, Maternity Voices Partnership, Perinatal Pelvic Health Services, who contributed to discussions and shared their expertise.

The Project Coordinator and the Advocates have developed working relationships with professionals from

public health, mental health, NHS, health and wellbeing services, mental health research, racial justice organisations, creative health, social prescribing, and other agencies.

Last year, we also engaged 283 professionals in our training delivered to:

- Newham Psychological Services – “Working with Roma in Health Context”;
- King’s Fund and Healthwatch England conference - “Improving Quality of Care: The vital role of people’s voices” – “Roma Health Inequalities and Barriers in Accessing Services”;
- NELFT - “Roma Cultural Awareness and Health Barriers”; and,
- East of England Local Government Association, Perinatal Mental Health - “Roma Cultural Awareness and Health Barriers”.

The Project has reached 3,347 people via social media channels (Twitter and Facebook) with information and resources about mental health and general health. Information distributed included: pregnancy and perinatal mental health, Covid-19 immunisation, access to GPs and learning disabilities. A new page on the website has been set up with materials in community languages about access to health services and learning disabilities in English, Polish, Romanian and Ukrainian.

As a result of our one-to-one and group activities, beneficiaries reported improved mental health and wellbeing, increased understanding of mental health issues and mental health services, as well as increased access to / satisfaction with mental health services. Health professionals reported that training seminars improved their knowledge of the Roma community and culture.

The team has also been involved in the Roma Health Guide Working Group alongside our Policy and Campaigning Project and supported the Health and Wellbeing Alliance, particularly the development of the “Mental Health Guide for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities”.

Our Mental Health Advocacy Project is now included in the ‘Well Newham’ Directory of Services, a web-based directory of health and wellbeing services. ‘Well Newham’ is a programme connecting the Council, NHS, and voluntary sector partners so that every resident is supported to obtain and maintain good health and wellbeing. The platform also acts as a social prescribing software and enables social prescribers and GPs to refer residents to our service, as well as accepting self-referrals.

Roma Policy and Campaigning Project

The Project is promoting rights and social justice for Roma refugees and migrants while facilitating community development and building leadership within our communities. It aims to empower Roma communities to exercise their rights and respond to inequalities and injustices they face.

The Project objectives are:

- To mobilise Roma communities/ NGOs through coordinating Roma-led campaigns;
- To empower Roma communities through leadership & community development; and,
- To influence regional/ national policies and practice so that they address Roma-specific needs.

The Project was re-launched in 2022 and some of our main achievements included:

- Establishing of the Roma Rights Forum (RRF), a new platform bringing together over 30 Roma activists and professionals from England, Wales and Scotland. The RRF is currently developing “MISHTO”, the first Roma national campaign in the UK.
- Supporting contributions of 20 Roma people towards a [report by The3Million](#) to the Independent Monitoring Authority (IMA) and facilitating direct engagement between the IMA and Roma EUSS advisers. This work contributed towards the successful legal challenge by the IMA leading to the positive changes for Pre-Settled Status holders.
- Facilitating engagement of 10 Roma advocates and church leaders with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ)

and the Home Office (HO). This led to changes made by the HO in the [guidance](#) accompanying the new Marriage and Civil Partnership (minimum age) Act 2022 to reflect Roma cultural beliefs and views on marriage.

- Working in partnership with Law for Life we've [developed new resources](#) to help Roma families involved in child protection cases.
- Working in collaboration with the Electoral Commission to produce a [series of videos](#) in Romanes raising awareness of the new changes to the election process.
- Contributing to discussions with NHS, Office for Health and Inclusion Disparities (OHID) and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) regarding the [NHS Long Term Plan](#), [digital services](#) in health settings and the [digital health and social care plan](#).
- Contributing to the Greater London Authority's Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Steering Group aiming to map out the accommodation needs of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities in London. Through this work, two Roma charities, including us, have enabled over 600 Roma families to participate in this research.
- Working in partnership with Friends, Families and Travellers we have produced a series of videos raising [awareness of COVID 19 vaccine](#) and encouraging people to take the booster.

Last year, the Project made a significant impact in terms of making voices of Roma migrants heard, exercising their rights to Settled Status in the UK, engaging Roma community members and Roma advocates in national and regional decision-making process, and facilitated a greater awareness, recognition and inclusion of Roma-specific needs in regional and national policies.

NHS Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA):

The Health and Wellbeing Alliance (HWA) is a cross government programme run by NHS, Department for Health and Social Care and the UK Health Security Agency.

The programme brings together the relevant national policy leads and the voluntary sector aiming to:

- Amplify the voices of the people with lived experience of health inequalities;
- Improve the ways of delivering health services which are accessible to everyone thus reducing health inequalities; and,
- Bring the expertise of the voluntary sector and communities they work with into national policy making.

Last year, working together with our lead partner, Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT), we have:

- Launched the [Roma Health Guide](#) with support of the Office for Health Inclusion and Disparities (OHID);
- Co-developed [Spotlight](#), a data dissemination platform that collates and presents key statistics related to the public health outcomes of Inclusion Health Groups, by engaging with people with lived experience. Our findings are available [here](#);
- Co-developed and launched the new guidance on tackling [maternal health inequalities](#) for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities; and,
- Led on the development of new guidance tackling mental health inequalities experienced by GRT communities, which is due to be published soon.

**'THIS VACCINE IS TO STRENGTHEN YOUR
IMMUNITY AND REDUCE THE SEVERE SIDE
EFFECTS OF CORONAVIRUS, NOTHING
ELSE.'**

Terezia R. (Sheffield)



**COVID-19 IS STILL HERE. THE VACCINE HAS
SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES AND CAN PROTECT
YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES TOO.**



Our COVID-19 vaccine campaign

‘Ketane - Together: Roma Shaping Futures’ Project aimed to:

- Empower Roma communities with training, information resources, and specialist advice regarding the post-Brexit changes which impact on their rights for settlement in the UK;
- Increase self-help capacity of Roma communities through a peer advocacy programme; and,
- Support the voice of Roma communities through campaigning and policy work.

The Project delivered a programme of inter-connected training, advocacy and campaigning to improve Roma capacity for self-help actions and self-representation in post-Brexit Britain.

Last year, we have developed partnerships between 3 Law Centres and Roma NGOs in Manchester, Luton and Bradford and delivered Roma Culture Awareness training session for the Law Centres Network attended by Law Centres.

We engaged with and supported 18 Roma Advocates across the UK, including London, Glasgow, Newcastle, Liverpool, Ipswich, Nottingham, Bradford, Doncaster, Luton and Manchester by involving them in our focus group meetings, training sessions and consultations.

We organised 3 virtual training sessions, co-delivered with the Public Interest Law Centre (PILC) on immigration/ housing rights after Brexit in Polish, Romanian and English, which were viewed by 730 people.

In order to enhance the self-help capacity in Roma communities, we created 7 online ESOL classes in collaboration with the East London Advice Technology Training (ELATT), which explored vocabulary used in the context of domestic violence and how to recognise it, as well as health ailments and where to seek help, which reached 2,760 people.

We consulted with Roma community members online and in-person to ascertain their needs and priorities, which in turn have informed our training sessions, ESOL classes’ content and video and audio resources in English, Romanian and Polish on ‘How to update your personal details on your EUSS account?’, ‘The UK education system’, and ‘What you need to do if you want to come to the UK after Brexit’, reaching 3,893 people.

Our findings and learning from the Project were presented at “The EU Settlement Scheme one year on: retrospect and prospect” [event](#) hosted by Stephen Timms MP at the Houses of Parliament.

Education Support & Aspiration Projects:

Roma Aspiration Project

The Aspiration Project supports Roma children and young people through a combination of one-to-one education advocacy, in-depth outreach work, and a program of after-school activities. These activities shape our holistic approach to working with young Roma individuals, aiming to enhance their self-confidence, life aspirations, and overall health and well-being.

Last year, the Aspiration Project assisted 92 beneficiaries through both face-to-face and remote support. We conducted needs assessments and helped them communicate with schools, secure digital equipment, and access educational platforms, resources, school admissions, food vouchers, and health services. We continued our work with children who have disabilities and complex mental and physical health issues, facilitating their access to appropriate services. We also supported families on child protection registers, in foster care, and/or involved in court proceedings. Beneficiaries were internally referred to the Advice & Advocacy team for assistance with EUSS applications.

The Project organised an online Youth Club, which was attended by 33 beneficiaries throughout the year across 14 sessions. These youth meetings enabled our beneficiaries to stay socially connected with their friends and peers and to develop skills in music, media, and visual arts. For example, 22 participants joined our Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History Month Art Competition.

Throughout the year, beneficiaries were also involved in various activities such as a trip to London Zoo and animation film workshops, where they learned film production skills. The film project culminated in the release of a short film titled “It’s Possible with Roma.” This film, based on traditional Roma culture, was

created by young Roma participants in the Aspiration Project and can be viewed:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xy7y1XAbac>

As a result of our activities, young beneficiaries made significant progress in:

- Increasing their life aspirations and satisfaction with their education attainment;
- Enhancing their self-confidence in relation to their areas of interest, e.g., sport, music and arts; and,
- Improving their health and wellbeing.

Training and Capacity Building:

Roma Support & Engagement Programme (RSEP) aims to support statutory and voluntary agencies to respond effectively to the needs of Roma refugees and migrants across the UK.

In 2022-23, nine members of our staff and 23 Roma advocates took part in the delivery of this programme, including:

- A specialist intervention service for professionals working with Roma individuals and families;
- Training sessions for professionals and the community; and,
- Specialist support for research and consultation.

Last year, we delivered:

- 37 training sessions and presentations including delivery of online training and awareness sessions;
- 11 commissioned interventions and consultations;
- Support for 1,245 professionals
- Direct and indirect support for over 2,795 Roma individuals

In partnership with Law for Life, we also created a short film for Roma parents with an overview of the main aspects of child protection investigations and court proceedings as well as information on how to engage with services and professionals.

99% of respondents rated our training as 'excellent' or 'good'.

Some of the agencies and organisations supported by RSEP include: Westminster Children's Services Assessment Team, Newham Psychological Services, Yorkshire and Humber Social Services Network, King's Fund, Healthwatch England, Law Centres Network, NELFT, Barnardo's, L.B. Southwark, L.B. Enfield and several independent Roma activists.

Plans for the future

- Continuing to develop all our existing frontline projects while ensuring that they answer the needs of Roma communities going through the cost-of-living crisis, Covid-recovery and post-Brexit period;
- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work to empower Roma communities and strengthen our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Further developing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history; and

- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Financial review

Financial position and available funds

The Charity achieved a surplus of £25,356 in the year ended 31 January 2023 (2022: deficit of £6,022), increasing total funds at the year-end to £429,753 (2022: £404,397).

Of the total funds, £204,194 related to unrestricted funds/free reserves (2022: £183,056) and £225,559 to restricted funds (2022: £221,341).

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific purpose and are not committed or invested in tangible assets, ('the free reserves') should be between three and six months of the resources expended. On present expenditure levels this equates to between £102,500 and £205,000 in general funds.

At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. In such a case, it would be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed.

Our present free reserves level of £204,194 falls safely within this limit.

Going concern

Based on the funding commitments in place both at the year-end and on the date of approval of this report, as well as the current free reserves level, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity will be able to continue its objectives for the next financial year. Whilst the ongoing cost of living crisis has meant the Charity has incurred additional costs, the ongoing external crisis has had no significant impact on this assessment.

Statement of board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other

irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 16 of this document meet the requirements of both the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law and the Directors' Report under company law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Information provided to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and,
- the Trustee has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

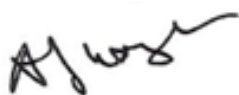
Preparation of the report

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

The auditors, Ferguson Maidment Accountants Ltd, have indicated their willingness to accept re-appointment under Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 20 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER



SYLVIA INGMIRE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE &
COMPANY SECRETARY

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Roma Support Group (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 January 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 January 2023 and of its 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Roma Support Group operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management and inappropriate revenue recognition. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, corroborating balances recognised to supporting documentation on a sample basis and ensuring accounting policies are appropriate under the relevant accounting standards.

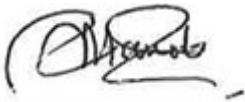
There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibility for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



PAUL MANALO FCA
SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR

For and on behalf of:
Ferguson Maidment & Co.
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor
167 Fleet Street
London, EC4A 2EA

Date: 20 October 2023

Statement of financial activities

Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account & Statement of Realised Gains and Losses

For the year ended 31 January 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations	3	29,898	383,466	413,364	366,161
Charitable activities	4	18,779	-	18,779	15,330
Investments		70	-	70	5
Total income		48,747	383,466	432,213	381,496
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5 & 6	1,987	27,298	29,285	30,760
Charitable activities:					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	231,343	231,343	242,620
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	22,118	22,118	21,712
Education Support	5 & 7	-	21,469	21,469	28,523
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	77,020	77,020	33,123
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	556	-	556	2,425
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	25,066	-	25,066	28,355
Total expenditure		27,609	379,248	406,857	387,518
Net income/(expenditure)		21,138	4,218	25,356	(6,022)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	183,056	221,341	404,397	410,419
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	204,194	225,559	429,753	404,397

The notes on pages 22 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

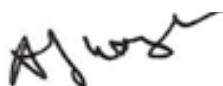
As at 31 January 2023

	Notes	£	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	8		-	101
Current assets:				
Prepayments		1,301		1,406
Cash at bank and in hand		490,597		555,111
		491,898		556,517
Creditors:				
amounts falling due within one year	9	(62,145)		(152,221)
Net current assets			429,753	404,296
Net assets			429,753	404,397
Funds of the charity:				
Restricted funds	10 & 11		225,559	221,341
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	10 & 11	204,194		183,056
		204,194		183,056
		429,753		404,397

The notes on pages 22 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 415A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and FRS 102 Section 1A.

They were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 20 October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 January 2023, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 January 2023 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment.

Legal status

Roma Support Group is a charitable company registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member. The registered address is 17 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Income (continued from previous page)

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future period, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities, including contract income and client fees, is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to total direct costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life of three years, on a straight-line basis pro-rated over the proportion of the year in which it has been held. This rate applies to all three categories of tangible fixed assets.

Costs incurred in the development of the website have been capitalised as a tangible fixed asset as the combined direct cash flow benefits and indirect economic benefit through the provision of educational information to beneficiaries are expected to be greater than the amount capitalised.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and accruals

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

[1. Accounting policies \(continued from previous page\)](#)

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Finance and operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is occurred.

No assets have been purchased under finance leases.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
	Notes			
Income from:				
Donations	3	15,314	350,847	366,161
Charitable activities	4	15,330	-	15,330
Investments*		5	-	5
Total income		30,649	350,847	381,496
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5 & 6	2,654	28,106	30,760
Charitable activities:				
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	242,620	242,620
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	21,712	21,712
Education Support	5 & 7	-	28,523	28,523
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	33,123	33,123
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	2,425	-	2,425
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	28,355	-	28,355
Total expenditure		33,434	354,084	387,518
Net income/(expenditure)		(2,785)	(3,237)	(6,022)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	185,841	224,578	410,419
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	183,056	221,341	404,397

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	7,600	383,466	391,066
Other donations	22,298	-	22,298
Total income from donations	29,898	383,466	413,364
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust (Cost of Living Support Fund)	7,600	-	7,600
BBC Children in Need	-	30,932	30,932
CAF Resilience Support Fund	-	35,534	35,534
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	56,715	56,715
Henry Smith Charity (Financial Inclusion)	-	22,500	22,500
Henry Smith Charity (COVID-19 Long-term Support Programme)	-	18,950	18,950
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,800	1,800
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	55,980	55,980
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	49,032	49,032
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	133,023	133,023
Carried forward	-	(41,000)	(41,000)
	7,600	383,466	391,066

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Grant income (see analysis below)	-	350,847	350,847
Other donations	15,314	-	15,314
Total income from donations	15,314	350,847	366,161
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Astrea Asset Management via Farm Street Church & Caritas	-	12,560	12,560
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust (COVID-19 Support Fund)	-	300	300
BBC Children in Need	-	15,857	15,857
CAF Resilience Support Fund	-	86,600	86,600
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	19,479	19,479
Henry Smith Charity	-	44,300	44,300
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	2,700	2,700
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	30,000	30,000
London Borough of Newham	-	18,000	18,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	102,941	102,941
Newcastle University	-	3,165	3,165
Tudor Trust	-	33,000	33,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	94,968	94,968
Carried forward	-	(133,023)	(133,023)
	-	350,847	350,847

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Commissioned services and consultancy	16,260	-	16,260
Training seminars & workshops	2,374	-	2,374
Sales of resources	145	-	145
	18,779	-	18,779

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Commissioned services and consultancy	9,048	-	9,048
Training seminars & workshops	6,166	-	6,166
Sales of resources	116	-	116
	15,330	-	15,330

5. Total expenditure

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	23,985	-	1,362	3,938	29,285
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	157,529	31,943	10,761	31,110	231,343
Art & Cultural Development	-	18,115	1,029	2,974	22,118
Education Support	16,989	594	999	2,887	21,469
Mental Health Advocacy	63,080	-	3,583	10,357	77,020
Sport Inclusion	-	455	26	75	556
Support & Engagement Project	19,845	684	1,166	3,371	25,066
	281,428	51,791	18,926	54,712	406,857

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	22,779	-	2,609	5,372	30,760
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	160,178	24,709	18,871	38,862	242,620
Art & Cultural Development	8,547	10,170	979	2,016	21,712
Education Support	20,804	318	2,419	4,982	28,523
Mental Health Advocacy	24,529	-	2,809	5,785	33,123
Sport Inclusion	-	2,425	-	-	2,425
Support & Engagement Project	18,851	2,147	2,405	4,952	28,355
	255,688	39,769	30,092	61,969	387,518

Indirect costs have been allocated based on a proportion of direct staff costs and direct other costs attributable to each activity.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 8.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

5. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs includes:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	18,926	30,092
Staff travel and support costs	4,717	10,384
Premises and venue hire	25,071	28,385
Professional fees	17,320	16,388
Administrative and other costs	3,912	3,669
Governance	3,692	3,143
	73,638	92,061

Governance costs includes:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Audit fee	2,160	1,980
Insurance	1,209	1,163
	3,369	3,143

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	1,627	22,358	23,985
Indirect costs	360	4,940	5,300
	1,987	27,298	29,285

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	1,965	20,814	22,779
Indirect costs	689	7,292	7,981
	2,654	28,106	30,760

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	157,529	157,529
Direct other costs	-	31,943	31,943
Indirect costs	-	41,871	41,871
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	231,343	231,343
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct other costs	-	18,115	18,115
Indirect costs	-	4,003	4,003
Art & Cultural Development	-	22,118	22,118
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	16,989	16,989
Direct other costs	-	594	594
Indirect costs	-	3,886	3,886
Education Support	-	21,469	21,469
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	63,080	63,080
Indirect costs	-	13,940	13,940
Mental Health Advocacy	-	77,020	77,020
Sport Inclusion			
Direct other costs	455	-	455
Indirect costs	101	-	101
Sport Inclusion	556	-	556
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	19,845	-	19,845
Direct other costs	684	-	684
Indirect costs	4,537	-	4,537
Support & Engagement Project	25,066	-	25,066
	25,622	351,950	377,572

7. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	160,178	160,178
Direct other costs	-	24,709	24,709
Indirect costs	-	57,733	57,733
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	242,620	242,620
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct staff costs	-	8,547	8,547
Direct other costs	-	10,170	10,170
Indirect costs	-	2,995	2,995
Art & Cultural Development	-	21,712	21,712
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	20,804	20,804
Direct other costs	-	318	318
Indirect costs	-	7,401	7,401
Education Support	-	28,523	28,523
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	24,529	24,529
Indirect costs	-	8,594	8,594
Mental Health Advocacy	-	33,123	33,123
Sport Inclusion			
Direct other costs	2,425	-	2,425
Sport Inclusion	2,425	-	2,425
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	18,851	-	18,851
Direct other costs	2,147	-	2,147
Indirect costs	7,357	-	7,357
Support & Engagement Project	28,355	-	28,355
	30,780	325,978	356,758

8. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross salaries	274,493	260,610
Employer's NIC	16,069	16,792
Employer's pension	9,792	8,378
	300,354	285,780

The average headcount during the period was 11 persons (2022: 13 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2022: NIL).

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £47,970 (2022: £45,558).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Website development costs £	Sports and music equipment £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 February 2022	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
At 31 January 2023	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Depreciation				
At 1 February 2022	1,800	410	4,415	6,625
Charge for year	-	-	101	101
At 31 January 2023	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Net book value				
At 1 February 2022	-	-	101	101
At 31 January 2023	-	-	-	-

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Deferred grant income	41,000	133,023
Accounts payable	7,163	9,560
Accruals	3,504	3,711
HMRC payable	5,596	4,614
Pensions payable	4,882	1,313
	62,145	152,221
Deferred grant income		
As at 1 February 2022	133,023	94,968
Amount released to incoming resources	(133,023)	(94,968)
Amount deferred in year	41,000	133,023
As at 31 January 2023	41,000	133,023

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward 2023 £	Income for the period 2023 £	Expenditure in the period 2023 £	Transfer between funds 2023 £	Balance carried forward 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	183,056	48,747	(27,609)	-	204,194
Unrestricted funds	183,056	48,747	(27,609)	-	204,194
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	119,067	250,551	(249,286)	-	120,332
Art & Cultural Development	49,263	-	(23,834)	-	25,429
Early years education	33,626	-	-	(33,626)	-
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	14,303	36,445	(23,134)	33,626	61,240
Health information	5,082	96,470	(82,994)	-	18,558
Restricted funds	221,341	383,466	(379,248)	-	225,559
Total funds	404,397	432,213	(406,857)	-	429,753

Restricted expenditure in the period includes an allocation of costs for raising funds where permitted by those funding these specific projects and so this table does not directly reconcile to note 7 of the financial statements.

Advice, advocacy & cultural development:

These are funds that the Charity has received directly for its work advising Roma beneficiaries that have overcome some of the barriers they face in their process of integration within wider society, including, but not exclusively, the Roma Financial Inclusion Project, EU Settlement Scheme Project, Ketane Project and the Roma News Project. It is funded by several funding bodies, and also includes the wider policy and campaigning work carried out by the Charity.

Early years education:

These are funds that the Charity has raised through public fundraising and grant support to work with pre-school Roma children and their families. At the end of the current financial year these funds were amalgamated into the education support fund.

Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion:

These are funds the Charity has received for work aimed at increasing the academic attainment, inclusion and aspiration of Roma children and young people. These funds are received from a number of different funding bodies.

Health information:

These funds are restricted for use on health and mental health projects including for the Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Balance brought forward 2022 £	Income for the period 2022 £	Expenditure in the period 2022 £	Transfer between funds 2022 £	Balance carried forward 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	185,841	30,649	(33,434)	-	183,056
Unrestricted funds	185,841	30,649	(33,434)	-	183,056
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	129,855	252,751	(263,539)	-	119,067
Art & Music Development	37,240	35,607	(23,584)	-	49,263
Early years education	33,626	-	-	-	33,626
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	21,228	24,057	(30,982)	-	14,303
Health information	2,629	38,432	(35,979)	-	5,082
Restricted funds	224,578	350,847	(354,084)	-	221,341
Total funds	410,419	381,496	(387,518)	-	404,397

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Current assets	225,339	266,559	491,898
Current liabilities	(21,145)	(41,000)	(62,145)
	204,194	225,559	429,753

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	101	-	101
Current assets	202,153	354,364	556,517
Current liabilities	(19,198)	(133,023)	(152,221)
	183,056	221,341	404,397

13. Barrow Cadbury Trust

During the year the Charity continued to receive funding from the Barrow Cadbury Trust for its Roma Policy and Campaigning Project, including a new grant continuing the project, awarded in December 2022.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2022 to 31 January 2023, the Charity received total cash income of £20,000 and brought forward a balance of £8,506 from the prior year.

During the period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £19,602 resulting in a cash balance of £8,904 at the end of the period.

14. Department of Health and Social Care

During the year the Charity received funding as part of the Health & Wellbeing Alliance from the Department of Health & Social Care.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2022 to 31 January 2023, the Charity received total cash income of £56,715, with a deficit of £9,139 brought forward from the previous period.

During the same period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £36,373, resulting in a cash balance of £11,203 at the end of the period.

15. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2022: £Nil). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2022: £Nil).

16. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2022: £Nil).



Celebrating **25** years
Empowering the Roma community

ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1103782

Accounts



Roma Support Group

Trustees Annual Report and Financial
Statements

Year ended 31 January 2022

Charity registration - 1103782

Company number - 04645981



Football team

Front page - Pavel - art competition winner

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Legal and administrative information

Charity name

Roma Support Group

Charity registration no.

1103782

Company registration no.

04645981

Registered office

17 Old Ford Road
London
E2 9PJ

Trustees

Prof. Thomas Acton OBE
Ms Roza Kotowicz
Ms Anthea Wormington
Mr Peter Norton
Mr Robert Czibi
Ms Sharon Elliott
Ms Dragica Felja
Ms Michaela Jarosinska
Mr Cornel Rezmives
Mr Mircea Rostas
Mr Michael Tarnoky
Mr Leon Wisniewski

Patron
Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

Company secretary

Sylvia Ingmire

Bank

HSBC Bank PLC
39 Tottenham Court Road
London
W1T 2AR

Independent auditor

Ferguson Maidment & Co
8th Floor
167 Fleet Street
London
EC4A 2EA

Accountants

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25, Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, and Trustees for charity law purposes, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Roma Support Group for the year ended 31 January 2022. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1st January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

Legal and administrative details are shown on page 4 of the annual report, including a full list of the Trustees who served the Charity during the period up until the date of the signing of this report.

Acknowledgements

The achievements of the past year would not be possible without the support from the following organisations: Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, Aston – Mansfield, Barrow Cadbury Trust, Barrow Cadbury Trust – Covid-19 Support Fund, BBC Children in Need, Caritas Westminster (Astrea Asset Management), Charity Aid Foundation – CAF Resilience Support Fund, Department of Health and Social Care, Henry Smith Charity, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, L.B. Newham, Newcastle University, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Respond and Adapt Programme, The Jack Petchey Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, Tudor Trust.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous donation from Mr and Mrs Chris & Joyce Pountain.

Structure, governance and management

The Roma Support Group (RSG) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 23 January 2003 and registered as a charity on the 17th May 2004. It is governed by its Articles of Association adopted by a special resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting on the 16 November 2017.

The RSG has an active and experienced Management Committee (MC) that is voted for at the Annual General Meeting. No person other than a Trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or reappointed at any AGM unless s/he is recommended by the Trustees or notice is given by a member who is qualified to vote at the meeting proposing that person for appointment or reappointment, not less than 14 not more than 35 days before the date of the meeting. The Articles of Association of Roma Support Group determines methods of appointment, retirement, disqualification and removal of Trustees (clause 34 - 42). There are no provisions in the Articles of Association that entitle any external body or person to appoint Trustee(s).

None of the members of the MC/ Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of winding up.

The RSG implements an Induction Policy and Staff Development Policy, which also applies to members of the Management Committee. These were agreed on the 2nd December 2002 and are reviewed annually. The RSG's Chief Executive has prepared a MC Handbook, which is updated annually and given to all our MC Members/Trustees. This Handbook enables Trustees to have all information regarding the Charity, its history, mission, aims, service delivery, governing documents, annual accounts, etc. It also describes the duties and responsibilities of the Management Committee as a governing body of the Charity, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the MC Chief Officers and other MC Members/ Trustees. In addition to this, every new MC Member receives an induction from the RSG's Chief Executive and an existing MC Member.

In order to continuously improve the effectiveness of the MC and the Charity, we have developed a Training Development Programme for MC Members/ Trustees depending on their individual and collective needs and/or changes from both within and outside the RSG.

Organisational structure

As noted above, the work of the RSG is managed and developed by an elected MC, which comprises of Roma and non-Roma members/ Trustees. On the date of the signing of this report there were 13 members of the Management Committee, including the Chief Executive, who meet every 2 months. The MC oversees the current work/action plan of the Charity and sets the strategic agenda for the following year.

Specialist sub-committees are created, if necessary, to undertake specific tasks, such as developing and overseeing fundraising strategies; the infrastructure of the organisation; or supporting the development of new projects. These groups report to and are governed by the Management Committee.

The RSG's work is organised and supervised by the Chief Executive, who is responsible to the Board of Trustees (MC), ensuring effective co-operation between the Trustees, staff members and volunteers. The Chief Executive prepares bi-monthly reports for the MC and bears responsibility for the running of the various teams, centres and projects.

Members of staff are responsible for their own work within clear boundaries with on-going support and supervision from the Chief Executive. The staff members are responsible to the Chief Executive.

The RSG also employs a part-time Deputy Manager, who is line managed by the Chief Executive and who shares the responsibility for line-management of selected members of staff and volunteers.

Volunteers are responsible to the relevant project workers and/or to the Chief Executive.

Whilst the structure of the organisation is hierarchical with the Management Committee making final decisions, in practice the RSG's decision-making process is characterised by mutual influence. The RSG organises policy and strategy planning days, which involve Trustees and staff members, giving them an opportunity to review organisational aims, objectives and activities, as well as plan future developments and the ways to achieve them.

Volunteers

The RSG has been able to achieve much more than its resources would allow thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. They are responsible to and supervised by the relevant project workers, the Deputy Manager or the Chief Executive. The RSG has developed a Volunteer Training Programme for each service area and implements a Volunteer Policy in line with good practice guidelines.

During 2021-22, 45 volunteers helped with all our projects, e.g., Advice & Advocacy, Aspiration, Mental Health, Policy & Campaigning projects, as well as online activities, website, graphic design, interpreting and administration. Furthermore, the RSG has benefited from its partnership with the Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, which enables us to host volunteers from an EU country on a full-time basis for the duration of one year.

During the last year our volunteers have contributed an average 105 hours per week, which equals the manpower of 3 (Full Time Equivalent) members of staff.

Risk assessment

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan, which allows for the diversification of funding activities whilst reviewing our aims and strategies every four years.

As such, most projects are administered in a matrix system, funded as 'stand-alone' projects – should funding be withdrawn for any one project, other RSG projects will continue unhindered. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of service for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are consistently reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Objectives and activities

Aims and objectives

The principal aims of the Roma Support Group are to:

- improve the quality of life and combat the social exclusion of Roma refugees and migrants by providing advocacy and advice regarding access to health, education, welfare, housing, money management, employability, etc;
- empower Roma communities with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to challenge any discrimination that might prevent them from integrating into UK society and fulfilling their potential;
- raise awareness and help build an understanding of Roma culture, heritage and the significant challenges, which the Roma community face in the UK today;
- provide social inclusion schemes for Roma children and youth.

The Roma Support Group's objects are stated in our governing document, as follows:

Object 1

The relief of poverty by the provision of free advice and assistance to Roma people and other persons, who, for reasons of poverty would otherwise be unable to obtain such advice.

Object 2

To advance education and training of those Roma and other persons in need thereof as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

Object 3

To advance the education of the public about Roma arts, culture and history.

Object 4

The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

Public benefit

The Board of Trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on the public benefit of the Charity.

The Board of Trustees has concluded that:

- the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
- the aims and work done, give identifiable benefits to the Roma community and both indirectly and directly to the individuals in need;
- the benefits are for public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by their ability to pay;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities to any group and/or person.

Roma Support Group's main objectives for the year 2021 - 2022 and strategies for achieving them:

- Continuation and development our existing frontline projects to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic's impact on our beneficiaries;

- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work to empower Roma communities and strengthening our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Strengthening the sustainability of the organisation by implementing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history, as well as sharing models of good practice through the delivery of our training, consultancy work and commissioned interventions, as well as dissemination of our reports and educational resources;
- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Achievements and performance

The Roma Support Group's activities were planned and delivered to fulfil the Charity's aims and objectives. They are underpinned by its commitment to equal opportunities and carried out for the public benefit. In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In serving the aims and objectives of the RSG, the Charity offered the following services during the last year:

Advice, Advocacy, Policy, Campaigning & Engagement

Our frontline **Advice and Advocacy** support enables Roma beneficiaries to overcome some of the problems, which they face every day. Last year, we continued to focus on delivering support in response to the Covid-19 crisis helping them to overcome issues that were exacerbated by the pandemic, including destitution, homelessness, unemployment, as well as health and education inequalities.

Our services were delivered via phone, face-to-face and online, thus increasing our geographical reach beyond the London region and making them accessible for Roma community members UK-wide.

Last year, 2,723 Roma refugees and migrants directly benefitted from our frontline support services and approximately 66,525 people accessed our online information which helped them navigate through the crisis.

In December 2021, we successfully passed the audit and renewal of our Advice Quality Standard (AQS) accreditation and in July'21, we received the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner's (OISC) accreditation for immigration advice/ services at Level 1 Immigration limited to EUSS work.

In 2021-22, our frontline Advice & Advocacy work included the projects listed below.

Roma Financial Inclusion Project aims to increase the financial inclusion of our beneficiaries by:

- Enabling them to navigate post-Brexit benefits and migration systems and exercise their welfare rights; and
- Improve their financial literacy and confidence to budget and manage money.

Last year, we delivered one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions to 190 beneficiaries, helping them to:

- Make new claims for benefits;
- Challenge benefits decisions;
- Deal with benefits-related problems;
- Deal with debts related to rent and utility bills;

- Access emergency support such as vouchers to buy essential goods including food, nappies and white goods.

In addition, we supported 54 beneficiaries to submit their EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) applications.

We have facilitated focus groups meetings for beneficiaries, who were able to share their opinions on what support is needed. We have also delivered peer support sessions and eight online trainings, covering issues such as:

- 2021 Census
- Saving money on phone and internet costs
- Scams - warning people about the rise in scams during Covid-19
- Covid-related issues including vaccinations

We created and shared information materials accessed by 9,844 people on:

- Covid-19
- Information for unpaid carers who are helping family and friends
- Scams, debt and rent arrears
- Welfare benefits
- EUSS

We also worked with partner agencies such as the Financial Conduct Authority, to produce information resources for our beneficiaries in multiple languages on how to avoid scams such as fraudulent texts/ emails.

Covid-19 Emergency Support Projects supported additional 125 beneficiaries through one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions to access welfare benefits, manage debts and support with housing/ homelessness, employment, and equalities/ discrimination issues. Our work included:

- Challenging DWP decisions in relation to beneficiaries' eligibility for benefits post-Brexit (following the 30 June'21 deadline for the EU Settlement Scheme).
- Helping to access disability-related benefits such as Disability Living Allowance for children and Personal Independence Payment.
- Helping to deal with debts, particularly debt that had built up during the Covid-19 crisis.
- Helping to deal with housing issues, particularly following the ending of the temporary stay on evictions in June'21, including support for those, who had fallen into rent arrears as a result of the pandemic and were being threatened with eviction.
- Helping to improve employability by facilitating access to training, and helping with CV writing, and searching for non-exploitative employment.
- Helping to ensure that beneficiaries were aware of their rights post-Brexit in accessing public services such as healthcare.

We have also organised 4 digital inclusion workshops for our most digitally excluded beneficiaries to help them set-up/ use email/ Zoom accounts, apply online for Universal Credit, Warm Home Discount, manage online utility accounts, etc.

Furthermore, we have trained, supported and coordinated 15 new volunteers, involving them in our one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions, digital inclusion workshops and training sessions, which enabled us to

increase our capacity to respond to beneficiaries' needs.

We completed the Covid-19 survey with participants to reflect how the pandemic has affected their daily lives, and whether people were able to access the support and healthcare they need. With the Covid-19 vaccine rollout, we have placed more focus on providing our beneficiaries with reliable information regarding vaccination and improving its uptake in the Roma community.

We collaborated with Tower Hamlets and Newham Councils and delivered peer support meetings about vaccination programmes in these boroughs, which enabled people to ask questions and challenge myths and preconceptions about the vaccination.

The Roma Pop-up Advice Hub in Mayfair (Westminster) was developed in partnership with Caritas Westminster and Farm Street Church in Mayfair with support from Kings College London and the AIRE Centre.

During this eight-week project, we have outreached 52 Roma rough sleepers in Westminster and delivered weekly face-to-face sessions, offering support to 16 beneficiaries with their EUSS applications/ digital status/ National Insurance Numbers, access to healthcare/ welfare benefits/ bank accounts, and obtain ID documents.

During these sessions a group of volunteers from the Central London Catholic Churches provided a welcome space and hot meals.

We also assisted Roma from an informal encampment, who were evicted from their site by Tower Hamlets Council, and two other families with children, who were sleeping rough in central London, helping them to make EUSS applications, use their digital status and access emergency accommodations.

The 'Stay Settled in Newham' Project

As a result of our work to alert local authorities to the need to proactively engage with Roma communities with regards to their immigration status post-Brexit (EUSS), the "Stay Settled in Newham" project was funded by Newham Council to reach out to vulnerable groups of EU citizens in this borough in order support them to apply for settled status.

We shared our experience, advised Newham Council on setting up this project and became part of a consortium of 10 local community organisations led by the Renewal Programme. We delivered public events and outreach activities to Roma/ non-Roma residents and continued to inform local authority staff and decision-makers about EUSS.

We have mobilised a group of Roma advocates, whose outreach activities, direct support and drop-in sessions delivered in Newham primary schools, reached far beyond the Roma community. We also did media work with BBC London to inform about the EUSS deadline and help available.

Our work also included support for proving and managing EUSS status, and led to an improved engagement of Newham Council with community organisations on immigration issues.

In 10 weeks, we:

- Informed 470 people about EUSS through 9 events in primary schools and Roma churches;
- Supported over 90 people with their application for settled status;
- Distributed 2,500 leaflets and posters to businesses and community spaces across Newham.

Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project

In July 2021, we published a [self-evaluation report](#) of our five-year Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project, which finished in Spring'21.

We have secured funding for a three-year continuation of this project and re-started our work in the Autumn'21 aiming to:

- Enhance Roma community members' understanding of mental health issues;
- Improve access to mental health services for Roma beneficiaries;
- Support mental health professionals in engaging with Roma patients and enhancing their understanding of the Roma community and culture.

The project is developed as a three-pronged model of engagement with Roma community members and healthcare providers, including:

- One-to-one mental health advocacy – to improve beneficiaries' access to mental health services;
- Peer-Support Group meetings – to facilitate guided discussions in the community with health professionals about mental health issues and services, treatment options and coping strategies; and
- Collaborating with mental health professionals through support for individual beneficiaries and the delivery of training sessions on the needs, culture and health inequalities experienced by Roma patients.

Since Autumn'21, 54 beneficiaries were supported by one-to-one advocacy sessions, being referred to mental health services; helped with arranging medical appointments and liaising with health professionals; and assisted with applying for mental health-related benefits.

The programme of peer-support activities involved hosting community meetings with health professionals and stimulating open discussions on health/ wellbeing -related topics.

The project team also supported health/ mental health professionals from Healthwatch in Newham, Romanian and Eastern European Hub in Barnet, Tower Hamlets Talking Therapies, Newham Care Navigators, etc.

Roma Policy and Campaigning Project aimed to increase the opportunities for Roma communities across the UK to successfully make applications under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) by:

- Campaigning and communicating with Roma communities in order to raise their awareness of the EUSS;
- Working with other organisations to raise their awareness of the concerns shared by Roma communities with regards to the EUSS;
- Influencing decision makers at local, regional and national levels on the EUSS impact on Roma communities.

Last year, the project has:

- Engaged directly with over 1,300 Roma and supported 500 people to submit their EUSS applications;
- Worked with more than 30 organisations to enable EUSS support for Roma communities across the UK, and raise awareness of their concerns;
- Developed and supported campaigns to influence decision makers at local, regional and national level on issues such as digital exclusion, physical EUSS status document, late applications, funding, comprehensive sickness insurance requirements, etc.

Some of our achievements last year include:

- Influencing Newham Council to fund the 'Stay Settled in Newham' Project, delivered by a consortium of 10 local NGOs, which – as a whole - liaised with 200 community groups, engaged directly with over 1,000 EU citizens in the borough through 64 public events, supported 310 residents to submit their EUSS applications, and reached around 160K people through its marketing campaign. (For more information about our role in this project, please see pages above.)

- Developing the Roma Pop-Up Advice Hub for Roma rough sleepers in Mayfair in collaboration with Caritas Westminster and Farm Street Church. (For more information about this project, please see pages above.)
- Working with the European Network on Statelessness to submit [evidence](#) for the Government's new plan for immigration, focussing on children's rights to British citizenship, which subsequently helped to influence the Government's decision to create a fee-waiver system for low-income families applying for British citizenship for their children.
- Organising a national event in collaboration with the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers to explore the EUSS situation during the post-grace period for Roma communities.

Policy, Campaigning & Information Project aims to promote social justice and fair treatment of Roma refugees and migrants in the UK and address the disadvantages and discrimination they face through:

- Developing /continuing a dialogue with key decision/policy makers in the UK to enhance their understanding about the needs and inequalities experienced by Roma refugees and migrants;
- Influencing national and European policies which affect Roma, ensuring that their voice/perspective is effectively communicated to the UK Government, EU, statutory sector, the media and other key stakeholders;
- Enhancing social inclusion and civic participation of Roma refugees and migrants by developing Roma-led campaigning work.

Last year, we have continued our work in relation to Covid-19, EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS), rough sleeping, education and 2021 Census, and started working on DWP benefits, health inequalities, the Nationality and Borders Bill, Elections Bill, and Early Marriage Bill. The project has also coordinated RSG's response to the events related to [Jimmy Carr's incident](#) and [war in Ukraine](#).

Some of our achievements included:

- Influencing the Home Office to update its [EUSS toolkit for local authorities](#).
- Influencing policy development of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Public Health and the NHS as well as raising awareness of local authorities and decision makers about the impact of the pandemic on Roma communities and publishing our [good practice recommendations](#) on supporting Roma communities through the crisis.
- Influencing (along with Gypsy and Traveller organisations) the Department for Education to designate [£1 million government funding for 150 schools](#) to support Gypsy Roma Traveller children returning to classroom education.
- Developing a new partnership with Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT) to become part of the [Health and Wellbeing Alliance](#).
- Playing a vital role in the development of the Greater London Authority (GLA) ["Rough Sleeping Roma Mediator Programme"](#) with a dedicated budget for the homelessness sector.
- Influencing the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to introduce a 'Roma' tick box for the first time in the UK and to employ 8 Roma advocates to work in their communities to encourage them to tick the box.
- Facilitating Roma EUSS Network and organising annual events to raise our concerns directly with Government departments and parliamentarians.

Speaking about the impact our work had in developing positive collaboration between Roma communities and local authorities a Roma advocate in Liverpool noted: "This is all very important. We need to work together so please keep us connected, keep continuing to do this. [...] I see difference in my own work because of what you do. My council works more with us now and I am able to do more for our Roma"



A day at the zoo

NHS Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA):

The HWA is a 3-year project we are delivering in partnership with Friends Families and Travellers (FFT) as part of a programme run by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Public Health England (PHE) and NHS England.

The programme aims to:

- Amplify the voices of the people with lived experience of health inequalities;
- Improve the ways of delivering health services which are accessible to everyone thus reducing health inequalities;
- Bring the expertise of the voluntary sector and communities they work with into national policy making.

Last year, in addition to attending meetings with policy leads from NHS England, DGSC and PHE, we have been developing a 'Roma Guide on Tackling Health Inequalities', which will draw from our expertise around health inequalities experienced by Roma communities to feed into the national and system-level policy making.

The Roma Guide will help health and care professionals to better understand barriers to accessing healthcare for the Roma community, take action to improve services and build a relationship with our community. It will also provide suggestions for good practice developed in collaboration with a group of Roma advocates, health practitioners and NGO partners.

To develop realistic practical recommendations for frontline workers, team leaders and commissioners, we held a workshop with over 30 health practitioners from across the health sector: primary care, hospital trusts, community organisations and interpreting services.

We also organised a workshop for Roma advocates and met with health professionals and RSG advice workers to identify barriers and recommendations in the specific areas of mental health, child health and maternity care.

'Ketane - Together: Roma Shaping Futures' Project aims to:

- Empower Roma communities with training, information resources, and specialist advice regarding the post-Brexit changes which impact on their rights for settlement in the UK;
- Increase self-help capacity of Roma communities through a peer advocacy programme;
- Support the voice of Roma communities through campaigning and policy work.

The project delivers a programme of inter-connected training, advocacy and campaigning to improve Roma capacity for self-help actions and self-representation in post-Brexit Britain.

Last year, we have supported three Roma NGOs to create new partnerships with their local Law Centres in Liverpool, Nottingham and Newcastle and continued our support for two other partnerships in Ipswich and Glasgow.

We were in regular contact with 13 Roma Advocates in London, Glasgow, Newcastle, Liverpool, Ipswich, Nottingham, Bradford and Doncaster by involving them in all our focus group meetings, training sessions, and consultations.

We hosted 4 virtual training sessions, co-delivered with the Public Interest Law Centre (PILC) on immigration/housing rights post-Brexit which were viewed by 12,685 people. Thanks to these training sessions, Roma Advocates from different regions were able to get in touch directly with PILC when they could not access their own local Law Centres, which ensures that legal expertise is shared across many Roma communities in Britain.

Furthermore, we produced several digital resources on post-Brexit matters and Covid-19 travel rules in collaboration with PILC and POMOC, which have been shared on various social media platforms, i.e.,

YouTube, Facebook reaching a total of 17,847 people.

In order to enhance self-help capacity of Roma communities, we created a programme of five online ESOL classes in collaboration with the East London Advice Technology Training (ELATT) reaching 2,258 people via social media.

Thanks to the regular consultations we have with our community members, our ESOL classes have the dual function of furthering our beneficiaries' English language skills, as well as advancing their knowledge about important topics such as Covid-19, welfare rights, pregnancy/ what to do while pregnant, domestic violence and other matters.

Education Support & Aspiration Projects:

Roma Aspiration Project supports Roma children and young people through a combination of one-to-one education advocacy, in-depth outreach work and a programme of after-school activities. These activities shape our holistic approach to working with young Roma people aiming to enhance their self-confidence, life aspirations and improve their health and well-being.

Last year, the Aspiration Project assisted 138 beneficiaries through face-to-face, via phone and online support carrying out needs assessment, and helping them to communicate with schools, secure digital equipment, access online school/ teaching platforms and resources, school admissions, food vouchers, health services, etc. We have continued our work with children with disabilities, complex mental and physical health facilitating their access to appropriate services and supporting families on child protection register, foster care and/ or in court proceedings.

Beneficiaries were also internally referred to our Financial Inclusion team to help those whose parents lost their jobs and become destitute, and to local authorities for emergency Covid-19 support.

The Project provided homework support for 30 children and their parents, so they can access and benefit from online school education. We have coordinated a programme of online tutorials to help with maths, science and literacy delivered in partnership with volunteers from Turn Around (most of whom are teachers or former teachers) and tutors from the King's College/ Traveller Movement tutoring programme. The Project Worker has provided technical support for beneficiaries and their parents and shared additional online educational resources.

During last summer, we organised outdoor activities such as football sessions, outings to London Zoo while throughout the year beneficiaries were involved in our weekly online youth club, which enabled them to stay socially connected with their friends and peers and develop their skills in music, media and visual art (e.g., by participating in our [Gypsy, Roma Traveller History Month Art Competition](#)).

As a result of our activities, young beneficiaries made significant progress in achieving the following outcomes:

- 67% of beneficiaries increased their life aspirations and satisfaction with their education attainment;
- 68% of beneficiaries enhanced their self-confidence in relation to their areas of interest, e.g., sport, music and arts;
- 70% of beneficiaries felt that their health and wellbeing have improved.

Roma News Project aims to bring relevant information to Roma communities in the UK, enhance media skills and a voice of young Roma people and raise public awareness about Roma culture and their situation in Britain. The Roma News programme is a platform for young Roma to learn, improve and express their media skills and to empower them to become actors of the change they are seeking.

Despite the pandemic, the project has engaged 21 participants, who took part in various activities, including:

- Roma News videos: 8 young Roma contributed to the development of 7 Roma News videos, which enabled them to develop their social media, script writing and video editing skills.
- "Engaging with the Media" training and peer support sessions: 7 participants took part in specialised media sessions delivered by On Road Media.

- Documentary filmmaking programme: 6 participants took part in online workshops, a face-to-face training session covering various aspects of filmmaking (e.g., camera, sound, writing and editing), and a face-to-face filming day.

Training and Capacity Building:

Roma Support & Engagement Programme (RSEP) aims to support statutory and voluntary agencies to respond effectively to the needs of Roma refugees and migrants across the UK.

In 2021-22, six members of our staff and eight Roma professionals took part in the delivery of this programme, including:

- A specialist intervention service for professionals working with Roma individuals and families;
- Training sessions for professionals and the community;
- Specialist support for research and consultation.

Last year, we delivered:

- 19 training sessions and presentations including delivery of online training and awareness sessions
- 10 commissioned interventions and consultations;
- Support for 883 professionals who work with over 600 Roma individuals.

In partnership with Law for Life, we also delivered two training sessions for Roma advocates and Roma grassroots organisations, providing an overview of the main aspects of child protection investigations and court proceedings as well as information how to effectively support Roma families affected by these issues.

Over 90% of respondents rated our training as 'excellent' or 'good'.

Some of the agencies and organisations supported by RSEP include: Barnardo's, Children's Services (Bury, Tower Hamlets, Staffordshire, Waltham Forest), Bristol City Council, City Academy Bristol, Clifton Learning Partnership, Connecting Roma C.I.C, Community Renewal Glasgow, Govanhill Roma Youth Project, Granby Toxteth Development Trust - Roma project, Healthwatch England, Idea Rom Association Nottingham, Law for Life, Leigh Primary School, Luton Roma Trust, May Park Primary School, St James's Centre- Derby, TGP Cymry, University of Nottingham, West Midlands Police, and several independent Roma activists.

Plans for the future

- Continuing to develop all our existing frontline projects while ensuring that they answer the needs of Roma communities going through cost-of-living crisis, Covid-recovery and post-Brexit period;
- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work in order to empower Roma communities and strengthen our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Further developing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history; and
- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Financial review

Financial position and available funds

The Charity incurred a deficit of £6,022 in the year ended 31 January 2022 (2021: £148,542), decreasing total funds at the year-end to £404,397 (2021: £410,419).

Of the total funds, £183,056 related to unrestricted funds/free reserves (2021: £185,841) and £221,341 to restricted funds (2021: £224,578).

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific purpose and are not committed or invested in tangible assets, ("the free reserves") should be between three and six months of the resources expended. On present expenditure levels this equates to between £97,500 and £195,000 in general funds.

At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. In such a case, it would be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed.

Our present free reserves level of £183,056 falls safely within this limit.

Going concern

Based on the funding commitments in place both at the year-end and on the date of approval of this report, as well as the current free reserves level, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity will be able to continue its objectives for the next financial year. Whilst COVID-19 has meant the Charity has had to modify some of its project implementation, the ongoing pandemic has had no significant impact on this assessment.

Statement of board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and

dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 18 of this document meet the requirements of both the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law and the Directors' Report under company law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Information provided to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and,
- the Trustee has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Preparation of the report

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

The auditors, Ferguson Maidment Accountants Ltd, have indicated their willingness to accept re-appointment under Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 28 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:


A.J. Wormington (Oct 28, 2022 14:06 GMT+1)



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

SYLVIA INGMIRE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE &
COMPANY SECRETARY

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Roma Support Group (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 January 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 January 2022 and of its 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, and health and safety legislation.
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur; by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in note 1 were indicative or potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Charity and how the Charity is complying with that framework;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's policies and procedures and how the Charity has complied with these, through discussions and sample testing;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's risk assessment process, including the risk of fraud;
- designing our audit procedures to respond to our risk assessment; and
- performing audit testing over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibility for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



PAUL MANALO (Oct 28, 2022 14:12 GMT+1)

PAUL MANALO

SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR

For and on behalf of:
Ferguson Maidment & Co.
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor
167 Fleet Street
London, EC4A 2EA

Date: 28 October 2022

Statement of financial activities**Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account & Statement of Realised Gains and Losses**

For the year ended 31 January 2022

		Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations	3	15,314	350,847	366,161	486,090
Charitable activities	4	15,330	-	15,330	9,300
Investments		5	-	5	49
Total income		30,649	350,847	381,496	495,439
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5 & 6	2,654	28,106	30,760	29,697
Charitable activities:					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	242,620	242,620	231,336
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	21,712	21,712	7,925
Early Years Education	5 & 7	-	-	-	116
Education Support	5 & 7	-	28,523	28,523	16,365
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	33,123	33,123	38,633
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	2,425	-	2,425	-
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	28,355	-	28,355	22,825
Total expenditure		33,434	354,084	387,518	346,897
Net income/(expenditure)		(2,785)	(3,237)	(6,022)	148,542
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	185,841	224,578	410,419	261,877
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	183,056	221,341	404,397	410,419

The notes on pages 25 to 40 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 January 2022

	Notes	£	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	9		101	468
Current assets:				
Accrued income		-		843
Prepayments		1,406		2,455
Cash at bank and in hand		555,111		513,393
		<u>556,517</u>		<u>516,691</u>
Creditors:				
amounts falling due within one year	10	(152,221)		(106,740)
Net current assets			404,296	409,951
Net assets			404,397	410,419
Funds of the charity:				
Restricted funds	11 & 12		221,341	224,578
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	11 & 12	183,056		185,841
		<u>183,056</u>		<u>185,841</u>
			404,397	410,419

The notes on pages 25 to 40 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 415A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and FRS 102 Section 1A.

They were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 28 October 2022 and signed on their behalf by:


A.J. Wormington (Oct 28, 2022 14:06 GMT+1)

ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 January 2022, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 January 2022 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment.

Legal status

Roma Support Group is a charitable company registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member. The registered address is 17 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Income (continued from previous page)

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future period, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities, including contract income and client fees, is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to total direct costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life of three years, on a straight-line basis pro-rated over the proportion of the year in which it has been held. This rate applies to all three categories of tangible fixed assets.

Costs incurred in the development of the website have been capitalised as a tangible fixed asset as the combined direct cash flow benefits and indirect economic benefit through the provision of educational information to beneficiaries are expected to be greater than the amount capitalised.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and accruals

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Finance and operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is occurred.

No assets have been purchased under finance leases.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
	Notes			
Income from:				
Donations	3	80,102	405,988	486,090
Charitable activities	4	9,300	-	9,300
Investments*		49	-	49
Total income		89,451	405,988	495,439
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5 & 6	2,137	27,560	29,697
Charitable activities:				
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	231,336	231,336
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	7,925	7,925
Early Years Education	5 & 7	-	116	116
Education Support	5 & 7	-	16,365	16,365
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	38,633	38,633
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	-	-	-
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	22,825	-	22,825
Total expenditure		24,962	321,935	346,897
Net income/(expenditure)		64,489	84,053	148,542
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	121,352	140,525	261,877
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	185,841	224,578	410,419

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	-	350,847	350,847
Other donations	15,314	-	15,314
Total income from donations	15,314	350,847	366,161
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Astrea Asset Management via Farm Street Church & Caritas	-	12,560	12,560
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust (COVID-19 Support Fund)	-	300	300
BBC Children in Need	-	15,857	15,857
CAF Resilience Support Fund	-	86,600	86,600
Department of Health and Social Care (see note 14)	-	19,479	19,479
Henry Smith Charity	-	44,300	44,300
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	2,700	2,700
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	30,000	30,000
London Borough of Newham	-	18,000	18,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	102,941	102,941
Newcastle University	-	3,165	3,165
Tudor Trust	-	33,000	33,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	94,968	94,968
Carried forward	-	(133,023)	(133,023)
	-	350,847	350,847

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	60,250	405,988	466,238
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	672	-	672
Other donations	19,180	-	19,180
Total income from donations	80,102	405,988	486,090
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Aston-Mansfield	-	208	208
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust (COVID-19 Support Fund)	-	22,700	22,700
BBC Children in Need	-	31,404	31,404
City Bridge Trust	10,250	43,800	54,050
Henry Smith Charity	-	43,650	43,650
Home Office	-	54,210	54,210
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,250	1,250
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	48,756	48,756
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	115,212	115,212
New Philanthropy Capital's Transition Advice Fund	-	11,250	11,250
Odin Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,000	60,000	80,000
Respond and Adapt Fund	30,000	-	30,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	45,516	45,516
Carried forward	-	(94,968)	(94,968)
	60,250	405,988	466,238

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Commissioned services and consultancy	9,048	-	9,048
Training seminars & workshops	6,166	-	6,166
Sales of resources	116	-	116
	15,330	-	15,330

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Commissioned services and consultancy	6,276	-	6,276
Training seminars & workshops	2,959	-	2,959
Sales of resources	65	-	65
	9,300	-	9,300

5. Total expenditure

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	22,779	-	2,609	5,372	30,760
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	160,178	24,709	18,871	38,862	242,620
Art & Cultural Development	8,547	10,170	979	2,016	21,712
Education Support	20,804	318	2,419	4,982	28,523
Mental Health Advocacy	24,529	-	2,809	5,785	33,123
Sport Inclusion	-	2,425	-	-	2,425
Support & Engagement Project	18,851	2,147	2,405	4,952	28,355
	255,688	39,769	30,092	61,969	387,518

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	22,400	-	2,738	4,559	29,697
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	171,201	3,618	21,209	35,308	231,336
Art & Cultural Development	4,837	1,421	626	1,041	7,925
Early Years Education	-	116	-	-	116
Education Support	12,344	-	1,509	2,512	16,365
Mental Health Advocacy	29,140	-	3,562	5,931	38,633
Sport Inclusion	-	-	-	-	-
Support & Engagement Project	17,216	-	2,105	3,504	22,825
	257,138	5,155	31,749	52,855	346,897

Indirect costs have been allocated based on a proportion of direct staff costs and direct other costs attributable to each activity.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 8.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

5. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs includes:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	30,092	31,749
Staff travel and support costs	10,384	11,724
Premises and venue hire	28,385	18,291
Professional fees	16,388	13,968
Administrative and other costs	3,669	5,837
Governance	3,143	3,035
	92,061	84,604

Governance costs includes:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Audit fee	1,980	1,980
Insurance	1,163	1,055
Meeting expenses	-	400
	3,143	3,435

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	1,965	20,814	22,779
Indirect costs	689	7,292	7,981
	2,654	28,106	30,760

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	1,612	20,788	22,400
Indirect costs	525	6,772	7,297
	2,137	27,560	29,697

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	160,178	160,178
Direct other costs	-	24,709	24,709
Indirect costs	-	57,733	57,733
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	242,620	242,620
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct staff costs	-	8,547	8,547
Direct other costs	-	10,170	10,170
Indirect costs	-	2,995	2,995
Art & Cultural Development	-	21,712	21,712
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	20,804	20,804
Direct other costs	-	318	318
Indirect costs	-	7,401	7,401
Education Support	-	28,523	28,523
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	24,529	24,529
Indirect costs	-	8,594	8,594
Mental Health Advocacy	-	33,123	33,123
Sport Inclusion			
Direct other costs	2,425	-	2,425
Sport Inclusion	2,425	-	2,425
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	18,851	-	18,851
Direct other costs	2,147	-	2,147
Indirect costs	7,357	-	7,357
Support & Engagement Project	28,355	-	28,355
	30,780	325,978	356,758

7. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	171,201	171,201
Direct other costs	-	3,618	3,618
Indirect costs	-	56,517	56,517
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	231,336	231,336
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct staff costs	-	4,837	4,837
Direct other costs	-	1,421	1,421
Indirect costs	-	1,667	1,667
Art & Cultural Development	-	7,925	7,925
Early Years Education			
Direct other costs	-	116	116
Early Years Education	-	116	116
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	12,344	12,344
Indirect costs	-	4,021	4,021
Education Support	-	16,365	16,365
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	29,140	29,140
Indirect costs	-	9,493	9,493
Mental Health Advocacy	-	38,633	38,633
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	17,216	-	17,216
Indirect costs	5,609	-	5,609
Support & Engagement Project	22,825	-	22,825
	22,825	294,375	317,200

8. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross salaries	260,610	263,537
Employer's NIC	16,793	16,872
Employer's pension	8,378	8,478
	285,781	288,887

The average headcount during the period was 13 persons (2021: 13 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2021: NIL).

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £45,558 (2021: £44,801).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Website development costs £	Sports and music equipment £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 February 2021	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Additions in year	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2022	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Depreciation				
At 1 February 2021	1,800	410	4,048	6,258
Charge for year	-	-	367	367
At 31 January 2022	1,800	410	4,415	6,625
Net book value				
At 1 February 2021	-	-	468	468
At 31 January 2022	-	-	101	101

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Deferred grant income	133,023	94,968
Accounts payable	9,560	1,752
Accruals	3,711	3,711
HMRC payable	4,614	5,130
Pensions payable	1,313	1,179
	152,221	106,740
Deferred grant income		
As at 1 February 2021	94,968	45,516
Amount released to incoming resources	(94,968)	(45,516)
Amount deferred in year	133,023	94,968
As at 31 January 2022	133,023	94,968

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward 2022 £	Income for the period 2022 £	Expenditure in the period 2022 £	Transfer between funds 2022 £	Balance carried forward 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	185,841	30,649	(33,434)	-	183,056
Unrestricted funds	185,841	30,649	(33,434)	-	183,056
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	129,855	252,751	(263,539)	-	119,067
Art & Cultural Development	37,240	35,607	(23,584)	-	49,263
Early years education	33,626	-	-	-	33,626
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	21,228	24,057	(30,982)	-	14,303
Health information	2,629	38,432	(35,979)	-	5,082
Restricted funds	224,578	350,847	(354,084)	-	221,341
Total funds	410,419	381,496	(387,518)	-	404,397

Restricted expenditure in the period includes an allocation of costs for raising funds where permitted by those funding these specific projects and so this table does not directly reconcile to note 7 of the financial statements.

Advice, advocacy & cultural development:

These are funds that the Charity has received directly for its work advising Roma beneficiaries that have overcome some of the barriers they face in their process of integration within wider society, including, but not exclusively, the Roma Financial Inclusion Project, EU Settlement Scheme Project, Ketane Project and the Roma News Project. It is funded by several funding bodies, and also includes the wider policy and campaigning work carried out by the Charity.

Early years education:

These are funds that the Charity has raised through public fundraising and grant support to work with pre-school Roma children and their families.

Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion:

These are funds the Charity has received for work aimed at increasing the academic attainment, inclusion and aspiration of Roma children and young people. These funds are received from a number of different funding bodies.

Health information:

These funds are restricted for use on health and mental health projects including for the Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Balance brought forward 2021 £	Income for the period 2021 £	Expenditure in the period 2021 £	Transfer between funds 2021 £	Balance carried forward 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	121,352	89,451	(24,962)	-	185,841
Unrestricted funds	121,352	89,451	(24,962)	-	185,841
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	79,990	302,859	(252,994)	-	129,855
Art & Music Development	18,890	27,017	(8,667)	-	37,240
Early years education	33,753	-	(127)	-	33,626
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	7,388	31,737	(17,897)	-	21,228
Health information	504	44,375	(42,250)	-	2,629
Restricted funds	140,525	405,988	(321,935)	-	224,578
Total funds	261,877	495,439	(346,897)	-	410,419

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	101	-	101
Current assets	202,153	354,364	556,517
Current liabilities	(19,198)	(133,023)	(152,221)
	183,056	221,341	404,397
	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	468	-	468
Current assets	197,145	319,546	516,691
Current liabilities	(11,772)	(94,968)	(106,740)
	185,841	224,578	410,419

13. Barrow Cadbury Trust

During the year the Charity continued to receive funding from the Barrow Cadbury Trust for its Roma Policy and Campaigning Project.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022, the Charity received total cash income of £20,000 and brought forward a balance of £6,962 from the prior year.

During the period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £18,456 resulting in a balance of £8,506 at the end of the period.

14. Department of Health and Social Care

During the year the Charity received funding as part of the Health & Wellbeing Alliance from the Department of Health & Social Care.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022, the Charity received total cash income of £19,479.

During the same period, the Charity incurred expenditure of £28,618, resulting in a deficit of £9,139 at the end of the period.

15. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2021: £Nil). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2021: £Nil).

16. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2021: £Nil).



ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1103782

Accounts



Roma Support Group

Trustees Annual Report and Financial
Statements

Year ended 31 January 2021

Charity registration - 1103782

Company number - 04645981



Robert Czibi - collage

Front page - Estera (age 15) GRTHM art competition winner

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Legal and administrative information

Charity name

Roma Support Group

Charity registration no.

1103782

Company registration no.

04645981

Registered office

17 Old Ford Road
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E2 9PJ

Trustees

Prof. Thomas Acton OBE
Ms Roza Kotowicz
Ms Anthea Wormington
Mr Peter Norton
Mr Robert Czibi
Ms Sharon Elliott
Ms Dragica Felja
Ms Michaela Jarosinska
Mr Cornel Rezmives
Mr Mircea Rostas
Mr Michael Tarnoky
Mr Leon Wisniewski

Patron
Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

Company secretary

Sylvia Ingmire

Bank

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Independent auditor

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Accountants

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Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, and Trustees for charity law purposes, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Roma Support Group for the year ended 31 January 2021. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1st January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

Legal and administrative details are shown on page 4 of the annual report, including a full list of the Trustees who served the Charity during the period up until the date of the signing of this report.

Acknowledgements

The achievements of the past year would not be possible without the support from the following organisations: Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, Aston-Mansfield, Barrow Cadbury Trust, Barrow Cadbury Trust Covid-19 Support Fund, BBC Children in Need, City Bridge Trust, Henry Smith Charity, Home Office, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, New Philanthropy Capital's Transition Advice Fund, Odin Charitable Trust, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The Jack Petchey Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, The Respond and Adapt Programme. We would also like to acknowledge the generous donation from Mr and Mrs Chris & Joyce Pountain.

Structure, governance and management

The Roma Support Group (RSG) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 23 January 2003 and registered as a charity on the 17th May 2004. It is governed by its Articles of Association adopted by a special resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting on the 16 November 2017.

The RSG has an active and experienced Management Committee (MC) that is voted for at the Annual General Meeting. No person other than a Trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or reappointed at any AGM unless s/he is recommended by the Trustees or notice is given by a member who is qualified to vote at the meeting proposing that person for appointment or reappointment, not less than 14 not more than 35 days before the date of the meeting. The Articles of Association of Roma Support Group determines methods of appointment, retirement, disqualification and removal of Trustees (clause 34 - 42). There are no provisions in the Articles of Association that entitle any external body or person to appoint Trustee(s).

None of the members of the MC/ Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of winding up.

The RSG implements an Induction Policy and Staff Development Policy, which also applies to members of the Management Committee. These were agreed on the 2nd December 2002 and are reviewed annually. The RSG's Chief Executive has prepared a MC Handbook, which is updated annually and given to all our MC Members/Trustees. This Handbook enables Trustees to have all information regarding the Charity, its history, mission, aims, service delivery, governing documents, annual accounts, etc. It also describes the duties and responsibilities of the Management Committee as a governing body of the Charity, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the MC Chief Officers and other MC Members/ Trustees. In addition to this, every new MC Member receives an induction from the RSG's Chief Executive and an existing MC Member.

In order to continuously improve the effectiveness of the MC and the Charity, we have developed a Training Development Programme for MC Members/ Trustees depending on their individual and collective needs and/or changes from both within and outside the RSG.

Organisational structure

As noted above, the work of the RSG is managed and developed by an elected MC, which comprises of Roma and non-Roma members/ Trustees. On the date of the signing of this report there were 13 members of the Management Committee, including the Chief Executive, who meet every 2 months. The MC oversees the current work/action plan of the Charity and sets the strategic agenda for the following year.

Specialist sub-committees are created, if necessary, to undertake specific tasks, such as developing and overseeing fundraising strategies; the infrastructure of the organisation; or supporting the development of new projects. These groups report to and are governed by the Management Committee.

The RSG's work is organised and supervised by the Chief Executive, who is responsible to the Board of Trustees (MC), ensuring effective co-operation between the Trustees, staff members and volunteers. The Chief Executive prepares bi-monthly reports for the MC and bears responsibility for the running of the various teams, centres and projects.

Members of staff are responsible for their own work within clear boundaries with on-going support and supervision from the Chief Executive. The staff members are responsible to the Chief Executive.

The RSG also employs a part-time Deputy Manager, who is line managed by the Chief Executive and who shares the responsibility for line-management of selected members of staff and volunteers.

Volunteers are responsible to the relevant project workers and/or to the Chief Executive.

Whilst the structure of the organisation is hierarchical with the Management Committee making final decisions, in practice the RSG's decision-making process is characterised by mutual influence. The RSG organises policy and strategy planning days, which involve Trustees and staff members, giving them an opportunity to review organisational aims, objectives and activities, as well as plan future developments and the ways to achieve them.

Volunteers

The RSG has been able to achieve much more than its resources would allow thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. They are responsible to and supervised by the relevant project workers, the Deputy Manager or the Chief Executive. The RSG has developed a Volunteer Training Programme for each service area and implements a Volunteer Policy in line with good practice guidelines.

During 2020-21, 40 volunteers helped with all our projects, e.g., Advice & Advocacy, Aspiration, Mental Health, Policy & Campaigning projects, as well as online activities, website, graphic design, interpreting and administration. Furthermore, the RSG has benefited from its partnership with the Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, which enables us to host volunteers from an EU country on a full-time basis for the duration of one year.

During the last year our volunteers have contributed an average 113 hours per week, which equals the manpower of 3.2 (Full Time Equivalent) members of staff.

Risk assessment

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan, which allows for the diversification of funding activities whilst reviewing our aims and strategies every four years.

As such, most projects are administered in a matrix system, funded as 'stand-alone' projects – should funding be withdrawn for any one project, other RSG projects will continue unhindered. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of service for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are consistently reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Objectives and activities

Aims and objectives

The principal aims of the Roma Support Group are to:

- improve the quality of life and combat the social exclusion of Roma refugees and migrants by providing advocacy and advice regarding access to health, education, welfare, housing, money management, employability, etc;
- empower Roma communities with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to challenge any discrimination that might prevent them from integrating into UK society and fulfilling their potential;
- raise awareness and help build an understanding of Roma culture, heritage and the significant challenges, which the Roma community face in the UK today;
- provide social inclusion schemes for Roma children and youth.

The Roma Support Group's objects are stated in our governing document, as follows:

Object 1

The relief of poverty by the provision of free advice and assistance to Roma people and other persons, who, for reasons of poverty would otherwise be unable to obtain such advice.

Object 2

To advance education and training of those Roma and other persons in need thereof as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

Object 3

To advance the education of the public about Roma arts, culture and history.

Object 4

The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

Public benefit

The Board of Trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on the public benefit of the Charity.

The Board of Trustees has concluded that:

- the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
- the aims and work done, give identifiable benefits to the Roma community and both indirectly and directly to the individuals in need;
- the benefits are for public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by their ability to pay;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities to any group and/or person.

Roma Support Group's main objectives for the year 2020 - 2021 and strategies for achieving them:

- Continuation and development of our existing frontline projects to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic's impact on our beneficiaries;
- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work in order to empower Roma communities and strengthening our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Strengthening the sustainability of the organisation by implementing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history, as well as sharing models of good practice through the delivery of our training, consultancy work and commissioned interventions, as well as dissemination of our reports and educational resources;
- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Achievements and performance

The Roma Support Group's activities were planned and delivered to fulfil the Charity's aims and objectives. They are underpinned by its commitment to equal opportunities and carried out for the public benefit. In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In serving the aims and objectives of the RSG, the Charity offered the following services during the last year:

Advice, Advocacy, Policy, Campaigning & Engagement

Our frontline **Advice and Advocacy** support enables Roma beneficiaries to overcome some of the problems, which they face every day. Last year we focused on delivering emergency support in response to the Covid-19 crisis helping them to overcome issues that were exacerbated by the pandemic, including destitution, homelessness, unemployment, as well as health/ education inequalities.

Due to the pandemic, we have transformed all our face-to-face services to be delivered via phone and online, thus increasing our geographical reach beyond the London region and making them accessible for Roma community members UK-wide.

The Covid-19 emergency funding has enabled us to adapt and respond to the crisis by producing online information keeping our beneficiaries and Roma communities across the UK well informed about Covid-19 restrictions, rules and available support.

Last year, 3,739 Roma refugees and migrants directly benefitted from our frontline support services and approximately 86,490 people have accessed our online information which helped them navigate through the crisis.

Roma Financial Inclusion Project aims to increase financial inclusion of Roma people in London, enabling them to navigate post-Brexit migration/ benefit systems, exercise their welfare rights, and enhance their confidence to manage their money.

Last year, 241 beneficiaries were supported with one-to-one advice and advocacy sessions to:

- Access the welfare system and exercise their welfare rights (e.g., eligibility, claims, challenges/ appeals);
- Improve their money/ debt management and budgeting skills - (e.g., options for dealing with debts, drawing-up budgets, negotiating with creditors, reducing expenditure);
- Submit their EUSS applications (e.g., language/ digital/ follow-up support and further referrals of complex cases).

We organised 2 consultation meetings attended by 21 beneficiaries to identify their training needs and 6 training sessions held online and attended via Zoom/watched on Facebook by 14,134 beneficiaries, covering: EUSS, Covid-19, access to welfare (Self-employed Income Support Scheme, Test & Trace self-isolation payments, food banks); Energy costs (switching suppliers, Warm Home Discount, payment methods, smart meters, understanding bills); Covid rules (staying safe and avoiding fines for non-compliance); 2021 Census (how to complete and avoid fines).

The Project also delivered bi-monthly peer-support sessions which enabled 48 beneficiaries to explore the link between debt and mental health, saving money on phone/ internet costs, staying safe from money scams, financial support for carers, and completing the 2021 Census.

Furthermore, we produced and disseminated online information material and leaflets in English and community languages (including Polish, Romanian, Slovak, Hungarian, Romanes) on Warm Home Discount, Census, Covid-19 rules, EUSS application process and deadline, Carer's Allowance and other support for carers, reaching over 18,000 people.

100% of beneficiaries of our one-to-one advice & advocacy sessions, community training and peer-support work, reported being:

- More satisfied with their welfare situation following our advice;
- More confident in their money/ debt management and budgeting skills;
- More informed about their rights to EUSS and their entitlements after the Brexit.

Covid-19 Emergency Support Projects enabled us to help an additional 246 beneficiaries through the delivery of one-to-one advice sessions focusing on: accessing emergency support including food banks; distribution of supermarket vouchers for families in need; helping with costs of burials and repatriations of bodies; accessing and navigating the welfare system; supporting rough sleepers to access housing and find employment; and informing people about their housing rights.

We have also delivered online training sessions on welfare support and Covid-19 restrictions, and produced/ distributed information materials in community languages reaching over 3,000 via Facebook.

Many of our beneficiaries are facing barriers when accessing public services, such as language, illiteracy, digital exclusion and not being able to navigate complex systems (including the welfare system) without support. This project helped to address these inequalities not only by offering one-to-one advice and community training but also by helping beneficiaries to access digital platforms and linking them to other services.

EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) Advocacy Project: We have been a member of a pan-London partnership led by Crisis, which involves 9 organisations working with EU citizens across homelessness and migration sectors. The aim of this initiative was to maximise the number of vulnerable and at-risk EU citizens to make EU Settlement Scheme applications, including homeless people, those at risk of becoming homeless and other categories of vulnerable individuals.

Last year, we informed 10,185 Roma migrants about the EUSS through our online information sessions, videos and workshops in community centres and schools. These workshops were delivered in collaboration with the Public Interest Law Centre, Settled and New Europeans, whose legal expertise has empowered Roma community members and enhanced their knowledge about the EUSS process and its requirements.

As a result of this work, last year, we supported 527 Roma people to apply for EUSS by offering language and technical assistance, helping to obtain documents to prove their identity and residence in the UK and effectively helped to submit 234 EUSS applications (147 applications for pre-settled status and 87 for settled status).

Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project aims to:

- Enhance Roma community members' understanding of mental health issues;
- Improve access to mental health services for Roma beneficiaries;

- Support mental health professionals in engaging with Roma patients and enhancing their understanding of the Roma community and culture.

During the pandemic, the intersection of physical and mental health became even more evident, therefore we offered a more flexible approach and also supported beneficiaries with issues related to their physical health. Furthermore, we provided Covid-19 related information that had been approved by the Government and the NHS.

Last year, the Project supported 220 beneficiaries exceeding our annual target by 214%. The key focus of these sessions was supporting beneficiaries' mental health needs through booking appointments with GPs, mental health professionals and interpreters, raising issues related to prescribed medication, making suitable referrals to relevant external services and providing information about mental health support and treatments available.

In addition to our one-to-one advocacy, we also organised 11 Peer Support and mental health awareness sessions which were co-delivered with health professionals and attended by 31 beneficiaries. The sessions provided an opportunity for beneficiaries to meet digitally during lockdowns and share their anxieties, increase awareness, and learn how to cope with mental health difficulties that arose as a result of the pandemic.

Furthermore, we disseminated leaflets – co-produced with our beneficiaries – to convey information about mental health and means of accessing support and treatment via email, WhatsApp and Facebook and regularly produced online content through our website and social media channels in different community languages. This included up-to-date information about Covid-19, Government guidelines and mental health care during the pandemic, making this information accessible to thousands of Roma across the UK. At least 500 people on Facebook viewed our posts and approximately 3,500 viewed our videos.

As a result of the Project's activities,

- 80% of beneficiaries reported increased understanding of mental health issues/ services;
- 75% of beneficiaries reported increased confidence in making positive choices related to their mental health; and
- 70% of beneficiaries reported enhanced sense of self-empowerment when interacting with health professionals.

The Project's activities were vital during the pandemic as we were able to outreach beneficiaries via phone and provide one-to-one advocacy and emotional support. Our beneficiaries told us that our services have had a significant impact on their ability to adjust to the "new normal", which in turn improved their overall wellbeing, ability to cope with problems and access relevant support digitally.

The Project also supported 112 professionals in their work with Roma patients. We worked closely with 68 professionals from CCGs, primary and secondary mental health services, such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT), Access and Brief Treatment teams and Recovery Teams in different London boroughs.

Additionally, we engaged with 59 professionals through our training seminars enhancing their understanding of Roma culture and health needs.

We have worked with ThriveLDN and Healthwatch Newham to provide feedback on mental health service provision during the pandemic and promote improvements in service delivery to Roma patients.

90% of mental health professionals directly involved in supporting our beneficiaries reported improved engagement with their Roma patients as a result of our collaboration.

Roma Policy and Campaigning Project aims to promote the fair treatment of Roma refugees and migrants in the UK and address the disadvantages and discrimination they face.

Roma people are among the EU citizens most at risk from Brexit, both of losing their immigration status in the UK and of not being able to access their rights, therefore, one of our priorities is to maximise opportunities for Roma migrants to be permanently resident in the UK under the EU Settlement Scheme

(EUSS).

Meanwhile, the Covid-19 pandemic has led to increased vulnerability and need for support among Roma communities, and created new barriers for Roma people to access services. Our policy and campaigning team has been working to ensure that the Roma perspective is represented in national and local discussions on immigration, education and health policy, and that members of the community are able to talk about their lived experiences to decision-makers.

Last year, our work focused on:

- a) Campaigning and policy work in response to the Covid-19 pandemic;
- b) Communicating and campaigning with Roma communities to raise their awareness about the EUSS;
- c) Collaborating with advocacy/ campaigning/ legal groups and voluntary organisations to raise their awareness about concerns shared by Roma communities with regards to the EUSS and to enable them to provide support to Roma communities;
- d) Influencing and raising awareness of decision makers at local, regional and national levels on the issues concerning the Roma community and the EUSS.

Re: a) As the pandemic created panic, confusion and fear throughout Roma communities across Britain, we have created videos and other resources for Roma communities on Covid-19 rules, restrictions, government's responses/support, messages from community leaders, etc. Roma advocates, church and community leaders have helped us to share Covid-19 information within their communities.

We worked with our beneficiaries, as well as Roma-led and Roma-supporting NGOs across the UK to consult and support them through the crisis, co-facilitating community meetings with local authorities, central Government, health agencies and civil society groups to raise awareness of Roma inequalities and risks and co-shape their strategies and action plans for supporting Roma communities during and after the pandemic.

We have designed a survey distributed to our beneficiaries and other Roma-led NGOs to assess the impact of Covid-19 on Roma families and their access to public services, the result of which was used by us to create a toolkit and recommendations to local authorities and other public services. The Project has also drawn attention to concerns regarding the Roma in the [Covid 19](#) context through the media.

Re: b) As the implementation of the Project was affected by the crisis, our face-to-face work with Roma communities was replaced with engagement through online platforms and social media channels reaching over 180,000 people. We have created videos and other resources for Roma communities in community languages on EUSS, some of which were produced in partnership with GLA, Public Interest Law Centre (PILC), New Europeans and explored themes around the difference between Pre-Settled and Settled Status, EUSS application process (step-by-step), and Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR).

Furthermore, during the pandemic, we have increased our outreach through working closely with church leaders, Roma advocates and Roma professionals in different regions, who have helped us to assist vulnerable people and share EUSS information within their communities via online platforms. Just one of such events – organised in partnership with Luton Roma Trust and Polish Migrants Organise for Change (POMOC) was viewed by 12,000 people. The Project has also drawn attention to concerns regarding the Roma community in the [EUSS](#) context through the media.

Re: c) The Project has continued to coordinate and facilitate the Roma EUSS Network to address concerns regarding the EUSS' impact on Roma migrants, share good practice and discuss strategies to increase the chances for as many Roma as possible to make EUSS applications before the deadline. In June 2020, the Project has published the [Brexit, EU Settlement Scheme and the Roma Communities in the UK report](#) based on the findings identified through collaboration with the Roma EUSS Network. The Network has developed a campaign for more EUSS support for Roma communities and proposed changes to EUSS digital-only status highlighting the risks it presents for Roma communities.

The Project has facilitated and supported research around the EUSS and Roma, including collaboration between Liverpool University and the Roma EUSS network, which focused on the issues of Roma children in relation to the [EUSS](#) and [British citizenship](#), as well as [research implemented by New Europeans](#) looking

at the EUSS digital-only status for Roma communities and elderly people.

Our [EUSS toolkit for organisations and local authorities](#) on how to engage and support Roma communities with their EUSS applications was received (among other agencies) by all Citizens Advice Bureaus funded by the Home Office for their EUSS support and distributed by the National Education Union to all their members through their [website](#).

Re: d) The Project has influenced decision makers at all levels. Through the [campaign on digital-only status](#) we have worked with numerous local authorities as well as MPs and Peers. Our briefing was referred to in the parliamentary debates by several MPs and Peers ([Stephen Timms MP](#), [Lord Alton](#)) on the EU Withdrawal Bill seeking to include an amendment that would provide EU citizens with physical proof of their status. As a consequence of our work, the [HO Policy Equality Statement](#), published in November 2020, makes a specific reference to Roma communities in relation to disadvantages regarding digital-only status.

In November 2020, the Project hosted [an online event](#) with the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers to discuss the impact of the EUSS on the Roma communities. The event was attended by over 70 people, including MPs and Peers, as well as lawyers and academics and Roma activists and was summarised in the report: [“Falling through the gaps: the EU Settlement Scheme and the case of Roma communities in the UK”](#).

We followed up this event by publishing a [toolkit for organisations and local authorities](#) (January 2021), co-developed with local authorities (LAs) and the Roma EUSS Network. The Home Office (HO) shared it through their internal communication platform with all EUSS grant funded organisation reaching over 70 lead organisations (including local authorities) and a total of around 300 organisations benefiting from the HO's EUSS funding.

We regularly contributed to the Home Office Safeguarding User Group on vulnerable groups of EU citizens. Concerns raised with other campaign organisations on safeguarding vulnerable EU citizens led to the Government adopting a “generous approach” to late applications to the EUSS.

In February 2021, we held an [online Q&A session](#) on good practice in outreaching/ supporting Roma communities. We polled attendees on what they learned from the session and 63% of attendees said they knew more at the end of the session about which organisations in their local area support the Roma community and how to work with them. As a direct result of this event and our campaign, Newham Council has agreed to dedicate funding to the [consortium of voluntary organisations](#) in this borough to deliver EUSS support to Newham residents, including Roma. We also collaborated with the Greater London Authority (GLA) on how to provide more adequate support for Roma rough sleepers and published an [article](#) at FEANTSA's magazine highlighting the experience of Roma rough sleepers in the UK.

Last year, we have also produced 7 newsletters – sent to over 530 subscribers – featuring debates and information on forthcoming events across the country, and contributed to the change in the way Roma migrants are portrayed in the media by increasing representation of Roma voice in local and national media.

‘Ketane - Together: Roma Shaping Futures’ Project aims to:

- Empower Roma communities with training, information resources, and specialist advice regarding the post-Brexit changes which will impact on their rights for settlement in the UK;
- Increase self-help capacity of Roma communities through IT support and a peer advocacy programme;
- Support the voice of Roma communities through campaigning and policy work.

The Project empowers Roma migrant communities across the UK through a programme of inter-connected training, advocacy and campaigning to improve their capacity for self-help actions and self-representation in post-Brexit Britain.

Last year, we have established partnerships with four Roma-led/ Roma-supporting agencies (Rugul Aprins in Ipswich; Community Renewal in Glasgow; Granby Toxteth Development Trust in Liverpool; and Roma Access in Newcastle) and delivered focus group meetings (face-to-face and virtual) with 80 Roma community members to identify their training needs and share their concerns, which mainly related to EUSS and the economic, health, educational and housing impact of the Covid-19 crisis on Roma communities.



Ana Maria (age 18) GRTHM art competition winner

We have delivered four training sessions (face-to-face and online) in collaboration with PILC and POMOC, which have further explored the issues identified during the focus groups. These training sessions were translated into Romanes, Romanian and Polish, accessed by 56 beneficiaries (face-to-face) and 2,888 Roma community members online.

The Project has produced several information resources including videos and digital leaflets about Covid-19 and the immigration changes affecting Roma migrants, translated these resources into several languages, Polish, Romanes, Slovak, Romanian, and Hungarian, and shared them on various social media platforms accessed by 9,288 people.

Furthermore, in collaboration with PILC, we provided one-to-one advice and advocacy for 93 beneficiaries in London supporting them to submit their EUSS applications.

In order to enhance self-help capacity of Roma communities, we created a programme of online [ESOL classes](#) in collaboration with the East London Advice Technology Training (ELATT) reaching 3,265 people.

We also facilitated collaboration between two Roma-led/ Roma-supporting organisations and their local Law Centres in Ipswich and Glasgow. These partnerships resulted in an increased number of EUSS applications being submitted in areas outside of London and enabled Roma organisations to become part of the Law Centres' locally-based legal advice networks. These collaborations are making a real difference in the lives of Roma community members living in Suffolk and Glasgow, as they are now empowered with knowledge, which helps them to exercise their rights as settled immigrants in the UK, as well as having direct access to legal expertise locally, which results in stronger and more connected communities.

Engaging with Roma advocates in different regions has enabled us to build a network of Roma advocates and Roma-led organisations across the UK that can campaign for Roma rights and affect policy on local and national levels thus increasing Roma advocates' role in local and national decision-making processes; encouraging a practice that is more responsive to the needs of Roma migrants; influencing and co-shaping policies, which affect Roma in Britain, while ensuring that their voice/perspective is effectively communicated to the UK Government, statutory sector, the media and other key stakeholders.

Education Support & Aspiration Projects:

Roma Aspiration Project supports Roma children and young people through a combination of one-to-one education advocacy, in-depth outreach work and a programme of after-school activities. These activities shape our holistic approach to working with young Roma people aiming to enhance their self-confidence, life aspirations and improve their health and well-being.

Last year, the Aspiration Project assisted 104 beneficiaries through face-to-face, via phone and online support carrying out needs assessment, and helping them to communicate with schools, secure digital equipment, access online school/ teaching platforms and resources, school admissions, food vouchers, health services, etc. We have continued our work with children with disabilities, complex mental and physical health facilitating their access to appropriate services and supporting families on child protection register, foster care and/ or in court proceedings.

Beneficiaries were also internally referred to our Financial Inclusion team to help those whose parents lost their jobs and become destitute, and to local authorities for emergency COVID-19 support.

The Project scaled-up our homework support for 30 children and their parents, so they can access and benefit from online school education. We have coordinated a programme of online tutorials to help with maths, science and literacy delivered in partnership with volunteers from Turn Around (most of whom are teachers or former teachers) and tutors from the King's College/ Traveller Movement tutoring programme. The Project Worker has provided technical support for beneficiaries and their parents and shared additional online educational resources.

Throughout the pandemic, beneficiaries have been involved in our weekly aspiration-raising afterschool activities, delivered online, which enabled them to stay socially connected with their friends and peers and develop their skills in music, art (e.g., by participating in our [Gypsy, Roma Traveller History Month Art Competition](#)).

Roma News Project aims to bring relevant information to Roma communities in the UK, enhance media skills and a voice of young Roma people and raise public awareness about Roma culture and their situation in Britain. The Roma News programme is a platform for young Roma to learn, improve and express their media skills and to empower them to become actors of the change they are seeking.

Last year, 14 beneficiaries were involved in attending monthly workshops on filming, video editing, script writing and social media and producing Roma News videos, each reaching on average some 2,500 people and viewed by 600 people.

Furthermore, in partnership with On Road Media, we co-delivered workshops and peer-support sessions engaging ten young Roma activists and community leaders to enhance their media skills with a strong focus on self-care and peer support, interviewing skills and learning how the media works and being strategic in communicating with the media – moving away from awareness raising to shifting what people think about Roma.

Training and Capacity Building:

Roma Support & Engagement Programme (RSEP) aims to support statutory and voluntary agencies to respond effectively to the needs of Roma refugees and migrants across the UK.

In 2020-21, four members of our staff and five Roma professionals took part in the delivery of this programme, including:

- A specialist intervention service for professionals working with Roma individuals and families;
- Training sessions for professionals and the community;
- Specialist support for research and consultation.

Last year, we delivered:

- 13 training sessions and presentations including delivery of online training and awareness sessions;
- 6 commissioned interventions and consultations;
- Support for 362 professionals who work with over 27,170 Roma individuals.

Over 90% of respondents rated our training as 'excellent' or 'good'.

Some of the agencies and organisations supported by RSEP include: East of England LGA – Parallel Lives Roma Project, Tower Hamlets Children's Services, Manchester University, Westminster Adult Services, NELFT etc.

Plans for the future

- Continuing to develop all our existing frontline projects while ensuring that they answer the needs of Roma communities through Covid recovery and post-Brexit period;
- Developing our local and national Policy, Information and Campaigning work in order to empower Roma communities and strengthen our effectiveness and capacity to influence policy and decision makers;
- Further developing the Roma Support and Engagement Programme, which enables us to share our expertise and models of good practice with statutory and non-statutory agencies and develop our enterprising skills;
- Promoting an understanding of Roma culture and history; and
- Implementing our fundraising strategy to ensure the continuity of frontline services in the areas of advice & advocacy, education support, aspiration, as well as art/ culture, policy and campaigning projects.

Financial review

Financial position and available funds

The Charity achieved a surplus of £148,542 in the year ended 31 January 2021 (2020: £500), increasing total funds at the year-end to £410,419 (2020: £261,877).

Of the total funds, £185,841 related to unrestricted funds/free reserves (2020: £121,352) and £224,578 to restricted funds (2019: £140,525).

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific purpose and are not committed or invested in tangible assets, ("the free reserves") should be between three and six months of the resources expended. On present expenditure levels this equates to between £87,000 and £173,000 in general funds.

At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. In such a case, it would be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed.

Our present free reserves level of £185,841 falls slightly above this limit but is not deemed excessive, especially considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and our emergency package of support to respond to the community's needs during the crisis.

Going concern

Based on the funding commitments in place both at the year-end and on the date of approval of this report, as well as the current free reserves level, the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity will be able to continue its objectives for the next financial year. Whilst COVID-19 has meant the Charity has had to modify some of its project implementation, the ongoing pandemic has had no significant impact on this assessment.

Statement of board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 17 of this document meet the requirements of both the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law and the Directors' Report under company law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Information provided to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and,
- the Trustee has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Preparation of the report

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

The auditors, Ferguson Maidment Accountants Ltd, have indicated their willingness to accept re-appointment under Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 25 October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER



SYLVIA INGMIRE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE &
COMPANY SECRETARY

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Roma Support Group (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 January 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 January 2021 and of its 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, and health and safety legislation.
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur; by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in note 1 were indicative or potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Charity and how the Charity is complying with that framework;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's policies and procedures and how the Charity has complied with these, through discussions and sample testing;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's risk assessment process, including the risk of fraud;
- designing our audit procedures to respond to our risk assessment; and
- performing audit testing over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibility for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



PAUL MANALO

SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR

For and on behalf of:
Ferguson Maidment & Co.
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor
167 Fleet Street
London, EC4A 2EA

Date: 28 October 2021

Statement of financial activities

Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account & Statement of Realised Gains and Losses

For the year ended 31 January 2021

		Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations	3	80,102	405,988	486,090	316,900
Charitable activities	4	9,300	-	9,300	35,108
Investments		49	-	49	96
Other		-	-	-	163
Total income		89,451	405,988	495,439	352,267
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5 & 6	2,137	27,560	29,697	33,572
Charitable activities:					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	231,336	231,336	192,952
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	7,925	7,925	17,107
Early Years Education	5 & 7	-	116	116	5,758
Education Support	5 & 7	-	16,365	16,365	21,981
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	38,633	38,633	37,734
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	-	-	-	1,380
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	22,825	-	22,825	41,283
Total expenditure		24,962	321,935	346,897	351,767
Net income/(expenditure)		64,489	84,053	148,542	500
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	121,352	140,525	261,877	261,377
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	185,841	224,578	410,419	261,877

The notes on pages 24 to 39 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 January 2021

	Notes	£	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	9		468	1,005
Current assets:				
Accounts receivable		-		11,304
Accrued income		843		-
Prepayments		2,455		1,153
Cash at bank and in hand		513,393		310,980
		516,691		323,437
Creditors:				
amounts falling due within one year	10	(106,740)		(62,565)
Net current assets			409,951	260,872
Net assets			410,419	261,877
Funds of the charity:				
Restricted funds	11 & 12		224,578	140,525
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	11 & 12	185,841		121,352
		185,841		121,352
		410,419		261,877

The notes on pages 24 to 39 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 415A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and FRS 102 Section 1A.

They were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 13 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



ANTHEA WORMINGTON
TREASURER

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 January 2021, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 January 2021 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment.

Legal status

Roma Support Group is a charitable company registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member. The registered address is 17 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Income (continued from previous page)

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future period, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities, including contract income and client fees, is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to total direct costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life of three years, on a straight-line basis pro-rated over the proportion of the year in which it has been held. This rate applies to all three categories of tangible fixed assets.

Costs incurred in the development of the website have been capitalised as a tangible fixed asset as the combined direct cash flow benefits and indirect economic benefit through the provision of educational information to beneficiaries are expected to be greater than the amount capitalised.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and accruals

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Finance and operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is occurred.

No assets have been purchased under finance leases.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
	Notes			
Income from:				
Donations	3	36,961	279,939	316,900
Charitable activities	4	35,108	-	35,108
Investments		96	-	96
Other		163	-	163
Total income		72,328	279,939	352,267
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5 & 6	4,501	29,071	33,572
Charitable activities:				
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	5 & 7	-	192,952	192,952
Art & Cultural Development	5 & 7	-	17,107	17,107
Early Years Education	5 & 7	-	5,758	5,758
Education Support	5 & 7	-	21,981	21,981
Mental Health Advocacy	5 & 7	-	37,734	37,734
Sport Inclusion	5 & 7	1,380	-	1,380
Support & Engagement Project	5 & 7	41,283	-	41,283
Total expenditure		47,164	304,603	351,767
Net income/(expenditure)		25,164	(24,664)	500
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	11 & 12	96,188	165,189	261,377
Total funds carried forward	11 & 12	121,352	140,525	261,877

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	60,250	405,988	466,238
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	672	-	672
Other donations	19,180	-	19,180
Total income from donations	80,102	405,988	486,090
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Aston-Mansfield	-	208	208
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust (COVID-19 Support Fund)	-	22,700	22,700
BBC Children in Need	-	31,404	31,404
City Bridge Trust	10,250	43,800	54,050
Henry Smith Charity	-	43,650	43,650
Home Office	-	54,210	54,210
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,250	1,250
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	48,756	48,756
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	115,212	115,212
New Philanthropy Capital's Transition Advice Fund	-	11,250	11,250
Odin Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,000	60,000	80,000
Respond and Adapt Fund	30,000	-	30,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	45,516	45,516
Carried forward	-	(94,968)	(94,968)
	60,250	405,988	466,238

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Grant income (see analysis below)	22,275	279,939	302,214
Other donations	14,686	-	14,686
Total income from donations	36,961	279,939	316,900
Analysis of grant income			
Cash received in year			
Aston-Mansfield	-	4,996	4,996
Barrow Cadbury Trust (see note 13)	-	20,000	20,000
BBC Children in Need	-	29,264	29,264
City Bridge Trust	-	30,750	30,750
Comic Relief	22,275	-	22,275
Henry Smith Charity	-	21,850	21,850
Home Office	-	48,309	48,309
The Jack Petchey Foundation	-	1,500	1,500
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	22,500	22,500
Law Centres Network Guardian Christmas Appeal Fund	-	6,250	6,250
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	47,757	47,757
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	37,802	37,802
New Philanthropy Capital's Transition Advice Fund	-	11,250	11,250
Trust for London	-	10,000	10,000
Deferred revenue			
Brought forward	-	33,227	33,227
Carried forward	-	(45,516)	(45,516)
	22,275	279,939	302,214

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Commissioned services and consultancy	6,276	-	6,276
Training seminars & workshops	2,959	-	2,959
Sales of resources	65	-	65
	9,300	-	9,300

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Commissioned services and consultancy	16,112	-	16,112
Training seminars & workshops	18,830	-	18,830
Sales of resources	166	-	166
	35,108	-	35,108

5. Total expenditure

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	22,400	-	2,738	4,559	29,697
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	171,201	3,618	21,209	35,308	231,336
Art & Cultural Development	4,837	1,421	626	1,041	7,925
Early Years Education	-	116	-	-	116
Education Support	12,344	-	1,509	2,512	16,365
Mental Health Advocacy	29,140	-	3,562	5,931	38,633
Support & Engagement Project	17,216	-	2,105	3,504	22,825
	257,138	5,155	31,749	52,855	346,897

	Direct costs		Indirect costs		Total
	Staff costs	Other costs	Staff costs	Other costs	expenditure
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	22,412	-	3,420	7,740	33,572
Charitable activities					
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	126,283	3,712	19,291	43,666	192,952
Art & Cultural Development	9,404	3,020	1,435	3,248	17,107
Early Years Education	2,426	1,691	503	1,138	5,758
Education Support	14,674	-	2,239	5,068	21,981
Mental Health Advocacy	25,190	-	3,844	8,700	37,734
Sport Inclusion	-	953	131	296	1,380
Support & Engagement Project	14,448	14,340	3,829	8,666	41,283
	214,837	23,716	34,692	78,522	351,767

Indirect costs have been allocated based on a proportion of direct staff costs and direct other costs attributable to each activity.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 8.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

5. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs includes:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	31,749	34,692
Staff travel and support costs	11,724	18,372
Premises and venue hire	18,291	21,770
Professional fees	13,968	16,232
Administrative and other costs	5,837	18,955
Governance	3,035	3,193
	84,604	113,214

Governance costs includes:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Audit fee	1,980	1,800
Insurance	1,055	993
Meeting expenses	-	400
	3,035	3,193

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	1,612	20,788	22,400
Indirect costs	525	6,772	7,297
	2,137	27,560	29,697

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	3,005	19,407	22,412
Indirect costs	1,496	9,664	11,160
	4,501	29,071	33,572

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	171,201	171,201
Direct other costs	-	3,618	3,618
Indirect costs	-	56,517	56,517
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	231,336	231,336
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct staff costs	-	4,837	4,837
Direct other costs	-	1,421	1,421
Indirect costs	-	1,667	1,667
Art & Cultural Development	-	7,925	7,925
Early Years Education			
Direct other costs	-	116	116
Early Years Education	-	116	116
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	12,344	12,344
Indirect costs	-	4,021	4,021
Education Support	-	16,365	16,365
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	29,140	29,140
Indirect costs	-	9,493	9,493
Mental Health Advocacy	-	38,633	38,633
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	17,216	-	17,216
Indirect costs	5,609	-	5,609
Support & Engagement Project	22,825	-	22,825
	22,825	294,375	317,200

7. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning			
Direct staff costs	-	126,283	126,283
Direct other costs	-	3,712	3,712
Indirect costs	-	62,957	62,957
Advice, Advocacy & Campaigning	-	192,952	192,952
Art & Cultural Development			
Direct staff costs	-	9,404	9,404
Direct other costs	-	3,020	3,020
Indirect costs	-	4,683	4,683
Art & Cultural Development	-	17,107	17,107
Early Years Education			
Direct staff costs	-	2,426	2,426
Direct other costs	-	1,691	1,691
Indirect costs	-	1,641	1,641
Early Years Education	-	5,758	5,758
Education Support			
Direct staff costs	-	14,674	14,674
Indirect costs	-	7,307	7,307
Education Support	-	21,981	21,981
Mental Health Advocacy			
Direct staff costs	-	25,190	25,190
Indirect costs	-	12,544	12,544
Mental Health Advocacy	-	37,734	37,734
Sport Inclusion			
Direct other costs	953	-	953
Indirect costs	427	-	427
Sport Inclusion	1,380	-	1,380
Support & Engagement Project			
Direct staff costs	14,448	-	14,448
Direct other costs	14,340	-	14,340
Indirect costs	12,495	-	12,495
Support & Engagement Project	41,283	-	41,283
	42,663	275,532	318,195

8. Staff costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross salaries	263,537	228,036
Employer's NIC	16,872	13,884
Employer's pension	8,478	7,608
	288,887	249,528

The average headcount during the period was 13 persons (2020: 13 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2020: NIL).

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £44,801 (2020: £44,823).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Website development costs	Sports and music equipment	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 February 2020	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Additions in year	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2021	1,800	410	4,516	6,726
Depreciation				
At 1 February 2020	1,800	410	3,511	5,721
Charge for year	-	-	537	537
At 31 January 2021	1,800	410	4,048	6,258
Net book value				
At 1 February 2020	-	-	1,005	1,005
At 31 January 2021	-	-	468	468

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Deferred grant income	94,968	45,516
Accounts payable	1,752	6,409
Accruals	3,711	3,125
HMRC payable	5,130	5,838
Pensions payable	1,179	1,677
	106,740	62,565
Deferred grant income		
As at 1 February 2020	45,516	33,227
Amount released to incoming resources	(45,516)	(33,227)
Amount deferred in year	94,968	45,516
As at 31 January 2021	94,968	45,516

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward 2021 £	Income for the period 2021 £	Expenditure in the period 2021 £	Transfer between funds 2021 £	Balance carried forward 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	121,352	89,451	(24,962)	-	185,841
Unrestricted funds	121,352	89,451	(24,962)	-	185,841
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	79,990	302,859	(252,994)	-	129,855
Art & Cultural Development	18,890	27,017	(8,667)	-	37,240
Early years education	33,753	-	(127)	-	33,626
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	7,388	31,737	(17,897)		21,228
Health information	504	44,375	(42,250)	-	2,629
Restricted funds	140,525	405,988	(321,935)	-	224,578
Total funds	261,877	495,439	(346,897)	-	410,419

Restricted expenditure in the period includes an allocation of costs for raising funds where permitted by those funding these specific projects and so this table does not directly reconcile to note 7 of the financial statements.

Advice, advocacy & cultural development:

These are funds that the Charity has received directly for its work advising Roma beneficiaries that have overcome some of the barriers they face in their process of integration within wider society, including, but not exclusively, the Roma Financial Inclusion Project, EU Settlement Scheme Project, Ketane Project and the Roma News Project. It is funded by several funding bodies, and also includes the wider policy and campaigning work carried out by the Charity.

Early years education:

These are funds that the Charity has raised through public fundraising and grant support to work with pre-school Roma children and their families.

Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion:

These are funds the Charity has received for work aimed at increasing the academic attainment, inclusion and aspiration of Roma children and young people. These funds are received from a number of different funding bodies.

Health information:

These funds are restricted for use on health and mental health projects including for the Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Balance brought forward 2020 £	Income for the period 2020 £	Expenditure in the period 2020 £	Transfer between funds 2020 £	Balance carried forward 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	96,188	72,328	(47,164)	-	121,352
Unrestricted funds	96,188	72,328	(47,164)	-	121,352
Restricted funds					
Advice & advocacy	122,014	171,286	(213,310)	-	79,990
Art & Music Development	-	37,802	(18,912)	-	18,890
Early years education	40,119	-	(6,366)	-	33,753
Education support, youth aspiration & inclusion	-	31,688	(24,300)	-	7,388
Health information	3,056	39,163	(41,715)	-	504
Restricted funds	165,189	279,939	(304,603)	-	140,525
Total funds	261,377	352,267	(351,767)	-	261,877

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	468	-	468
Current assets	197,145	319,546	516,691
Current liabilities	(11,772)	(94,968)	(106,740)
	185,841	224,578	410,419
	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,005	-	1,005
Current assets	137,396	186,041	323,437
Current liabilities	(17,049)	(45,516)	(62,565)
	121,352	140,525	261,877

13. Barrow Cadbury Trust

During the year the Charity continued to receive funding from the Barrow Cadbury Trust for its Roma Policy and Campaigning Project within two grants - on terminating in November 2020 and a new one starting in December 2020.

As per the figure in note 3, during the financial year 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021, the Charity received total cash income of £20,000 of which £10,000 related to the grant ending in the period and £10,000 related to the new grant.

On the existing grant the Charity brought forward £6,992 from the prior period. Expenditure of £16,756 was incurred against this grant in the year, resulting in a balance of £236 at the end of the grant.

On the new grant, the Charity incurred expenditure of £3,038, resulting in a balance of £6,962 at the end of the period.

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2020: £Nil). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2020: £Nil).

15. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2020: £Nil).

16. Other financial commitments

At 31 January 2021, the Charity had annual future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases (all for office equipment) as set out below:

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Operating lease which expire:		
within one year	-	2,202
	-	2,202



Aaminah (age 7) GRTHM art competition winner