

ASYLUM JUSTICE

England & Wales · Charity number 1112026

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05447875
Registered	2005-11-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	57 Galleon Way Cardiff CF10 4JA
Phone	02920499421
Email	info@asylumjustice.org.uk
Website	www.asylumjustice.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3. THE OBJECT OF THE CHARITY IS TO PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE, ASSISTANCE AND REPRESENTATION TO PERSONS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES WHO BY REASON OF THEIR INADEQUATE MEANS ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN SUCH ADVICE AND REPRESENTATION FROM THEIR OWN RESOURCES AND WHO, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, HAVE AT ANY STAGE RAISED ARGUMENTS UNDER THE 1951 UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE CONVENTION OR THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OR THE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 1998 TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT OR THE ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION TRIBUNAL OR IN ANY OTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Activities: Asylum Justice provides legal advice and representation to asylum seekers by OISC-registered or exempt immigration advisers, solicitors and barristers.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONALLY
- Cardiff
- City Of Swansea
- Newport City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£634,197	£677,307	£279,246	12
2024-03-31	£647,610	£541,687	£322,356	12
2023-03-31	£533,811	£457,328	£216,433	8
2022-01-31	£318,177	£313,014	-	-
2021-01-31	£223,193	£171,123	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Bernadette Ann RAINEY	Chair	2013-10-19
Aleena Annie		2024-09-25
Courtney Vircavs		2024-09-25
Dr Emma Jane Nishio		2024-09-25
Femmigje Chater		2015-06-23
Holly Taylor		2021-05-28
Mark Baker		2019-05-10
Nirushan Sudarsan		2024-09-25
Richard Smith-James		2024-09-25
Srdjan Todorovic		2024-09-25
Victoria Rachael Goodban		2026-02-02

ASYLUM JUSTICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1112026

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05447875 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1112026



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**
for
Asylum Justice

Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff CF23 8AA



BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA

Registered to carry on audit work
in the UK and regulated for a range
of investment business activities by
the Institute of Chartered Accountant
in England and Wales.

bpu Chartered Accountants is
a trading name of BPU Ltd
Company Number 3723948
Registered in Wales.

A list of directors is available from the
registered office above.

Asylum Justice

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The charity remains a going concern. The reasons are set out in the report below.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Asylum Justice is the only charitable organisation in Wales – considered as a legal aid desert with an ever-shrinking immigration sector – which offers free, specialist (OISC Level 3) immigration advice and representation to asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants up to and including court level. In broad terms we work with those who have made a request for protection in the UK which may be considered under the UN Refugee Convention 1951 or under the European Convention on Human Rights 1950.

We provide legal advice and representation when someone cannot access legal aid because it has been withdrawn or their immigration matter is 'out of scope' of legal aid. No other organisation provides this service in Wales and consequently Asylum Justice is the last place that people can turn to for help in their asylum or immigration case. Where we succeed in securing status or reuniting a family, it is a vital step in ensuring meaningful socio-economic inclusion for some of the most vulnerable individuals in Wales. Wider outcomes include reducing pressure on statutory and third sector agencies, particularly when destitute individuals gain access to social and legal protections. The value of our unique service cannot be stressed enough.

Our specific casework objectives can be broadly summarised as:

1. To assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants in securing and maintaining legal recognition, thereby alleviating destitution and exclusion amongst this client group;
2. To keep families living in the UK together through making initial and further leave applications;
3. To reunite refugee families in Wales by representing them in family reunion applications.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Since 2013, we have primarily focused our limited resources on delivering high-quality legal advice and representation services. Our wider charity objectives expanded slightly in the last three years to include taking steps to participate further in Welsh and UK-wide advocacy trying to address the systemic problems in the asylum and immigration systems which give rise to the need for the services which Asylum Justice provides; as well as beginning to train up new immigration advisers to assure a future supply to the organisation.

Asylum Justice Memorandum and Articles of Association – Objectives (extract)

“The relief of poverty, in particular but not exclusively, for persons including but not limited to asylum seekers and refugees who have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or in any other legal proceedings; and

To provide legal advice, assistance and representation in relation to persons including but not limited to asylum seekers who by reason of their inadequate means are unable to obtain such advice and representation from their own resources and who, in particular but not exclusively, have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or any other legal proceedings.”

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance in planning and managing the activities and work of the organisation for public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Please note statistics cover the reporting period (1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025) for this annual report.

With a shortage of legal aid solicitors in Wales, a shrinking sector, and stringent merits tests, there continues to be large numbers of clients denied access to justice. The extent of this is highlighted in several research reports including ongoing work by the Bevan Foundation. In its 2024 Briefing on free-at-source immigration services in Wales, it notes that:

“Of the two organisations operating above OISC Level 1 (the most basic level), only Asylum Justice offers casework to a broad cohort, focusing on refugees and vulnerable migrants ... This makes Asylum Justice unique in Wales.”¹

¹Bevan Foundation (July 2024) Briefing on Immigration Legal Services in Wales at <https://www.bevanfoundation.org/resources/briefing-immigration-legal-services-wales/> See also Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities. <https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Overall Support Provided by Asylum Justice

In total, we responded to 974 enquiries during this reporting period. This covers those who were taken on for substantive legal advice or/and representation (or added to the waiting list where necessary), given one-off advice, referred to a legal aid provider, or signposted to other organisations. This is significantly more than the 746 enquiries we responded to in 2023/24, a rise of 27%. Out of these cases, we provided substantive legal advice and/or representation where a caseworker was allocated to 663 clients, a 41% rise from the 470 clients provided with substantive legal advice and/or representation in 2023/24.

These figures illustrate the issues outlined above and the strain put on our service over the period. They also highlight the hard work and dedication of our staff and supporting lawyers, in a climate of antipathy and anti-migrant rhetoric impacting on some of the most vulnerable people in society.

Areas of Work

Below is a breakdown of the main areas of work. (Some legal advice/representation is not included due to being ongoing and so not yet quantifiable, or an ad hoc area of work such as a spousal visa or travel document.)

1. Appeals

69% success rate for appeals (2024)

We take on the appeals of asylum seekers denied legal aid on the grounds that solicitors considered their case too 'weak' to win on appeal or where we have represented the client in their initial claim. We often act in appeal cases deemed complex and unlikely to succeed. Despite this, in 2024/25 we won 69% of these appeals.² This demonstrates both the importance of representation at appeal stage, and the high-quality legal support delivered by Asylum Justice.

This area of work usually requires very quick action. This is because clients who have had legal representation withdrawn by their previous legal aid solicitor will have a very short timescale in which to lodge an appeal and, once the appeal is lodged, an initial court hearing can be listed for less than a month later. Clients at this stage of the asylum process are also on the verge of becoming destitute, as Home Office support and accommodation are withdrawn if no appeal is lodged or, indeed, if an appeal is dismissed after a hearing in which the client was unrepresented. We also made a small number of appeals against deportation.

2. Fresh Claims

14% success rate for fresh claims submitted; 14% refused submissions granted right of appeal. (2024)

In 2024/25, we submitted 7 fresh claims for refused asylum seekers who had exhausted all appeal rights. Asylum seekers who have exhausted all appeal rights sometimes have fresh grounds or compelling new evidence with which they can make further submissions to the Home Office in support of their previous asylum claim. Some simply never had their claim fully considered the first time around due to poor quality legal representation or an appeal not being lodged in time.

² This compares to the national average for successful appeals which is 48% for 24/25. See Refugee Council Statistics at <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/stay-informed/explainers/top-facts-from-the-latest-statistics-on-refugees-and-people-seeking-asylum/#:~:text=At%20the%20end%20of%20March,since%20the%20end%20of%202021>.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

This demonstrates the high quality of submissions made, as the overwhelming majority of fresh asylum claims are not granted a right of appeal when refused by the Home Office. The right to have your case heard by an immigration judge dramatically improves an applicant's overall chances of succeeding with a fresh claim.

Many of these clients will be completely destitute, having spent years in enforced poverty and homelessness in the UK due to their lack of legal status. For most, returning home is not an option due to continued fears for their safety. When a fresh claim is successful, it transforms a client's situation immediately, by granting them legal status and associated rights such as the opportunity to work and/or claim benefits. It will also create the right to apply for refugee family reunion, thereby allowing them to recover from recent traumatic experiences and fully integrate into Welsh society.

3. Family Reunion

100% successful Family Reunion applications (2024)

We submitted 2 family reunion applications and 8 Family Reunion Appeals awaiting an outcome. Despite being a fundamental human right, this is an area of law without access to legal aid provision. Without representation, many refugee families remain separated, which impacts significantly on the sponsor's ability to recover and integrate into the host community, whilst relatives remain in often dangerous environments, such as war zones or refugee camps.

4. Leave and Nationality Applications

100% successful indefinite leave to remain, settlement, and naturalisation applications, a 71% successful leave to remain applications and 92% successful further leave applications (2024)

We assist vulnerable migrants, many of whom are failed asylum seekers, to make applications for leave to remain in the UK based on their private and family life. Many of these clients may be part of established Welsh families, with a child or partner who is either a British citizen or legally settled here.

Many of those with leave to remain in the UK on grounds of their family and private life are required to make four separate paid applications over a ten-year period before being able to apply for legal settlement. To find thousands of pounds every few years for application and solicitor's fees is beyond the reach of most. If no extension application is made before an applicant's current leave to remain expires, they will become 'overstayers' overnight, thereby losing the right to work or access to public funds. They also face the risk of detention and forced removal, separating them from their loved ones.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. Initial Asylum Claims

50% success rate for initial asylum claims, with 46% having a Right to Appeal (2024)

Since 2022 the number of providers in Wales have closed their legal aid departments, and the legal aid system in Wales has come near to collapse, in a region already describe as a legal aid desert.³ The remaining providers have been left working at full capacity, with delays in offering appointments, and in some cases unable to take on any new cases at all. This has led to initial asylum claimants (and even unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases) see below) being unable to access a legal aid solicitor. This has meant Asylum Justice is now taking clients who should in theory have access to a Legal Aid solicitor. This has meant we have had to consider how to prioritise our work in a way not envisaged before 2022. In 2024/25, we had 72 clients with initial asylum claims that were considered with a 50% success rate, and 46% of the remaining clients having a right to appeal.

6. Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

85% success rate for UASC claims (2024)

As noted above, due to the lack of immigration providers in Wales, Asylum Justice has entered into an agreement with a number of Local Authorities in Wales to provide legal advice and representation to unaccompanied children. We are now the sole provider of immigration advice to UASCs in five Local Authorities in Gwent as well as providing advice to UASCs in other Local Authorities throughout Wales. In 2024/5 we have provided advice and representation to 74 UASCs. Overall, we have provided legal advice and representation to 105 UASCs since we began this work in late 2023.

7. Lifting the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Condition

In 2024/25 we dealt with 6 applications to lift the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition attached to clients' existing leave to remain. This enables vulnerable clients on the verge of destitution to claim benefits where they are eligible. We submitted one of these applications which was successful.

8. Referrals to Legal Aid Providers

As we do not use legal aid to fund our casework, we refer out clients who are eligible for legal aid to local immigration and asylum solicitors where possible. This has ensured our casework resources could be focused on clients with no access to legal aid. This demonstrates the vital role Asylum Justice plays in securing representation for clients whom we do not directly represent. However, this has become increasingly difficult due to the lack of legal aid providers, and the reason we have expanded our casework to initial asylum claims and unaccompanied asylum seeking children, as detailed above.

9. Lifting the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Condition

In 2024/25 we dealt with 6 applications to lift the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition attached to clients' existing leave to remain. This enables vulnerable clients on the verge of destitution to claim benefits where they are eligible. We submitted one of these applications which was successful.

³ Bevan Foundation (July 2024) Briefing on Immigration Legal Services in Wales at <https://www.bevanfoundation.org/resources/briefing-immigration-legal-services-wales/> See also Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities. <https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

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Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

10. Asylum Justice Fresh Claims Project (Cardiff University)

In March 2024, the Ukraine Project Cymru, an award winning Pro Bono Project in Cardiff School of Law and Politics funded by Asylum Justice with funding from the Wales Sanctuary Support Programme, came to an end. Subsequently, the Welsh Government provided Asylum Justice with funding to support a new Pro Bono Project in Cardiff School of Law and Politics. The Asylum Justice Fresh Claims Project is led by Jennifer Morgan, a lecturer in law and a qualified immigration advisor, along with administrative and student support. The project has helped to provide support to clients on the Asylum Justice waiting list (and other referrals) who are making a Fresh asylum claim. The Project has been renewed for a second year until March 2026.

Service Delivery

Our service can be accessed via an online referral form, a support line or via numerous third sector and statutory services' referral partnerships. Most significantly, in 2024/25 we continued to be part of the Wales Sanctuary Services – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and Displaced People in Action (DPIA)) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

The Client Liaison Officers coordinate between clients, lawyers, interpreters and partners. The Client Liaison Officer plays a particularly important role in ensuring the accessibility of our service by reassuring clients when they first contact Asylum Justice, gathering necessary paperwork for the lawyer to review prior to meeting with a client, and managing expectations around waiting times and how our service works.

Once allocated an adviser, clients receive initial advice and then might be referred on to a legal aid provider, where legal aid is available, or represented directly through Asylum Justice. For some clients, due to the circumstances of their case, it is not possible to assist them further. These clients nonetheless still receive comprehensive advice from us regarding their situation and options. Following advice sessions, we refer clients to other services for assistance for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health, or social isolation. Occasionally, clients need emergency referrals to out-of-hours Social Services departments or Accident and Emergency NHS units.

During 2024/25, we have been successfully providing our advice and substantive casework services in a hybrid format. This demonstrates our continued ability to work with a large number of clients despite working through a mixed modality and with only a small team.

Whether or not the service is offered face-to-face or remotely is dependent on the client's vulnerabilities/needs and adviser's capacity (some work solely remotely). Where clients need to have remote expert appointments or court hearings, we have also been able to offer limited space and equipment to clients.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The demand for our advice and representation has continued to increase during this year and continues to outweigh our ability to supply these services immediately to everyone who approaches us. This is illustrated by the figures above. We have also had to continue to shift the focus of our work to initial asylum claims and Unaccompanied Children (UASC). This is a result of the reduced capacity in the Immigration legal services in Wales (as noted above).

Staffing and Volunteers

Ruth Brown, the Legal Director, is responsible for the charity's casework and office management. Ruth was nominated in 2020 as an 'Inspiring Woman Lawyer' in the UK as part of a study carried out by the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. Ruth is frequently invited to speak on national radio and at panels regarding our work and the wider context of UK immigration policy.

Legal staff included a small number of sessional caseworkers who provide vital specialist advice and representation to clients. We are very fortunate to work with these experienced sessional caseworkers, who frequently secure positive outcomes for our clients. Working alongside the legal staff, we increased capacity by increasing our Client Liaison Officers who ensured effective coordination between clients, staff, and external partners, in addition to offering administration support and being the main point of contact for our offices.

We also have Supervising Caseworkers to carry their own caseload and assist the Legal Director in supervising trainees. Due to a generalised shortage of immigration advisers in Wales, and subsequently a shortage of supply to our own organisation, we continue to train up new caseworkers. We began piloting this in 2020 and subsequently expanded it after securing additional funding. With the increased demand on our service and the additional objective to train new caseworkers, we now see it as a priority to bring more qualified caseworker roles in-house as we secure sufficient funding. We now work with several trainees, currently at OISC Level 1 and 2.

The Funding Officer worked to identify and apply for new funding, maximise the impact of grants, and build up our reserves through careful financial management. Her responsibilities also included monitoring and evaluation for Asylum Justice, including reviewing and improving systems for effectively and efficiently collecting statistics. Our Funding Officer resigned in January 2025 and the funding for the position ended in March 2025. We now have renewed funding for the post. In the interim, we have employed a funding and HR consultant to oversee our grant funding and reporting, and to improve our HR policies and operation.

During 2024, we also recruited a finance officer (P/T) to work alongside the funding officer.

We also hosted a student placement from Cardiff School of Law and Politics, with the student working on data collection and policy with the Funding Officer.

Partnerships and Memberships

While others in the Welsh migration-focused third sector are working on multiple, interrelated issues which affect the rights and integration of asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants – such as destitution, communication issues, mental health and social isolation – no other agency offers free OISC Level 3 immigration advice and representation to those without access to legal aid, nor maintains a central expert role in Wales on issues regarding the legal aid and immigration systems.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

We receive regular referrals from, and we refer regularly to (for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health or social isolation), a wide variety of local public, private and third sector partners. Partners such as local authorities, the faith sector, the Wales Sanctuary Services partners (including the Welsh Refugee Council, EYST, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and DPIA), a range of third sector organisations (such as British Red Cross, Welsh Women's Aid, Homestart, Oasis Cardiff) and the Law Centres Network.

Asylum Justice also has strong working partnerships with a range of other organisations including the Welsh Refugee Coalition, Law Works Cymru, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the Electronic Immigration Network, Refugee Action, the Refugee Legal Group, and Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

Raising funds

This year's achievements have been underpinned by generous financial support from a range of existing and new funding bodies, which are listed below, in addition to individual donations from supporters or local groups/businesses.

(i) Grant income

Tudor Trust: Tudor Trust provides an unrestricted grant which has been renewed from January 2023 – December 2025. This provides the salary for our Legal Director and some core costs.

Wales Sanctuary Services (Welsh Government): Asylum Justice is part of a consortium of third sector organisations (with the Welsh Refugee Council as lead agency) that secured funding from the Welsh Government for a three-year programme to improve services for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales. This has been extended from 2025 until 2027. This funding is used to pay for caseworker costs. It has also covered some interpreting, translation, and expert report costs.

Welsh Government Funding (Legal case worker) The Welsh Government is providing funding for a caseworker post from 2024-2027.

Welsh Government – Asylum Justice Fresh Claims Project (Cardiff University). The Welsh Government has provided funding for the Pro Bono project at Cardiff School of Law and Politics running from March 2024. -March 2026.

Lloyds Bank Foundation: Lloyds Bank Foundation provides unrestricted grant (2024-2027). During this reporting period the grant covered a full-time Client Liaison Officer post and contributed to organisation overheads.

Ministry of Justice (via. Community Justice Fund): Asylum Justice received emergency funding from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) through wave 3 of the Community Justice Fund. This emergency funding part-funded a range of staff posts in addition to some organisation overheads.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation: Asylum Justice continued a multi-year core grant from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to support its casework operations, strengthen its use of casework data, and increase its contribution to sector advocacy and campaigning work. This ended in early 2025. However, a further application to the Foundation has been successful beginning in the Autumn of 2025.

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Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Postcode Community Trust: A grant which supporting casework operations, contributing to sessional caseworkers and interpretation/translation costs.

Justice Together Initiative: Continuing fund granted for a multi-year project in partnership with British Red Cross to support gathering documents, primarily for clients wishing to apply for or renew their leave to remain / settlement and family reunion applicants.

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF): Continuing fund for a multi-year project in partnership with British Red Cross supporting family reunion applications.

AB Charitable Trust: Asylum Justice secured a three year unrestricted grant from 2023-2026

National Lottery (People and Places Funding) Asylum Justice has secured a three year grant (2025 – 2028) for casework and support of our services, with a focus of improving the wellbeing of a vulnerable group of people.

Community Foundation Wales (Nation of Sanctuary Croeso Fund) - This grant runs from 2024 - 2027 and covers some core costs.

Charities Aid Foundation Keystone Project – Funding for 2024-2026, to cover the cost of finance and HR support.

Further funding from 2025 –

Local Authority Funding (Gwent) UASC – Asylum Justice has an Agreement for ongoing funding for Legal Advice given to UASCs within Local Authorities in Gwent.

Albert Hunt Fund - This is a small grant for 2025-26 for core costs and to contribute to our appeal lodging service

(ii) Donations and Activity Fundraising

The focus in 2024/5 has primarily been on funding applications to funding bodies, but we have also received ongoing regular donations from a number of supporters.

In the next financial year, we intend to increase our unrestricted reserves. We will continue to attempt to diversify income during the next year.

Financial Review

The total income for the year ended 31st March 2025 was £634,197 (2024 £647,610) and the total expenditure for the year was £677,307 (2024 £541,687). The income received included restricted/core grant funds of £398,917 (2024 £506,542) and unrestricted grant funds of £185,534 (2024 £128,833). Continuing donations, including from Standing Order supporters and one-off donations and fundraising income was also received, totalling £49,746 (2024 £12,235). The expenditure for the year has largely been on core management costs, including running the offices at Portland House, office rent, the Legal Director's salary, salaries for staff, payment for consultancy casework including interpretation and expert reports. We also had payments for data storage and IT. The restricted fund balance brought forward at 1st April 2024 was £218,499. The balance on the unrestricted fund increased during the year from £103,857 brought forward to £157,640 at 31st March 2025.

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Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Reserves Policy

The unrestricted reserves on 31st March 2025 are £157,640 which is equal to approximately 3 months of expected overall expenditure. The current reserves policy aims for 3 months running costs. Our reserves figure was lower than normal at the end of the financial year. The trustees are aware that the reserves are low and it is a priority to grow reserves during 2026 to ensure sustainability.

The workload of the Funding Officer post during the 2024 year did not allow for an individual giving strategy to be drawn up and implemented. While the reserves are lower than desirable, existing grant agreements were sufficient at the end of March 2025 to cover operating costs for the 3-month minimum, as Asylum Justice receives generous ongoing support from a number of funders.

Risk policy

The trustees are aware of all the major risks regarding the charity including financial and personal risks, which are reviewed on an on-going basis. Financial risk is recognised and controlled by a system of authorisation of expenses and segregation of duties in recording and processing wages and income. Trustees are appointed to check and review personnel matters and Health and Safety and appropriate insurance are in place.

Plans for the future

Asylum Justice will continue to play a unique and essential role within the Welsh refugee and migrant rights sector in terms of outcomes for individuals, reducing pressure on statutory (as demonstrated by research⁴) and other third sector agencies. We have also increasingly become a source of specialist information for wider sector organisations involved in advocacy on refugees'/migrants' rights.

We will continue to be part of the Wales Sanctuary Services (WSS) programme – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, TGP, BAWSO, and DPIA) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

The events of the last year have demonstrated our resilience as an organisation to adapt and continue to provide our service. It has also led us to reflect on gaps in our resources and consider solutions, such as the supply of future qualified immigration advisors in Wales. Asylum Justice has focused some of its resources on training up new advisors to ensure sustainability of available advisors for Asylum Justice in the coming years.

⁴ Leckie C. , Munro R. , and Pragnell M. (September 2021) *Defending the public purse: The economic value of the free legal advice sector* [<https://atjf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Defending-the-public-purse-The-economic-value-of-the-free-legal-advice-sector-September-2021.pdf>]

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

We will continue to improve the organisation's monitoring and evaluation work, producing casework statistics in addition to increasing the number of testimonials gathered from previous clients. This is work which will assist us to identify improvements we can make to our service, demonstrating the need for, and high quality of, our service in future funding applications. It also means that we are in a unique position to evidence issues and problems occurring within both the asylum and immigration system and the legal aid system. The Legal Director is regularly contacted by academics undertaking research in these areas, and our greater involvement in general advocacy work is an area of work that we continue to develop.

Securing further medium to long-term funding is a priority for Asylum Justice, so that we can ensure the sustainability of its current services but also develop our ability to better resource the organisation's infrastructure. A better resourced infrastructure will relieve pressure from key members of staff, ensure we can provide our service in a timely manner to all those who need to access it, and free up experienced members of staff to concentrate on casework.

During 2024/5, we have seen a continuing increase in demand for our services. In 2025/6, we will prioritise maximising efficiency and expanding capacity where necessary and where we are able. Due to the collapse of the legal aid system, it is also likely that Asylum Justice will experience further increase in demand and may need to continue to take on cases that were previously referred out to legal aid providers, such as initial asylum claims and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases). For 2025/6 Asylum Justice will continue to assess how to meet the rapidly growing need, whilst ensuring sustainability of our services.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Asylum Justice is also registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. The charity is also registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for data protection purposes.

The charity is managed directly by its board of trustees. Each Trustee is ex officio a member of the company. There are no other members. The board consists of eight Trustees. A Trustee who has served a continuous term of six years must resign for at least one year but then may stand for re-election to the board.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at a general meeting; the members of the charity may, by ordinary resolution, appoint a trustee or the trustees may appoint a trustee themselves.

A trustee is appointed and holds office until the next Annual General Meeting. If not re-appointed at the AGM they should then vacate office. Since March 2024, we have initiated a recruitment process to increase the number and diversity of trustees on the Board, including members who have lived experience of the asylum and immigration system in the UK.

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel are considered to be the trustees and the Directors. Trustees receive no remuneration.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRATEGIC REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05447875 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1112026

Registered office

Portland House
113 Bute Street
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF10 5EQ

Trustees

B Rainey
M Baker
F E Chater
T Godwin (resigned 19/5/2025)
V Goodban (resigned 1/5/2025)
J G Morgan (resigned 24/1/2025)
H Taylor
K Toner-Bass (resigned 23/6/2025)
A Annie (appointed 25/9/2024)
E J Nishio (appointed 25/9/2024)
R Smith-James (appointed 25/9/2024)
N Sudarsan (appointed 25/9/2024)
S Todorovic (appointed 25/9/2024)
C Vircavs (appointed 25/9/2024)

Asylum Justice

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

John Huw Palin FCA
BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA

Office of the OISC Registration Number

N200800025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

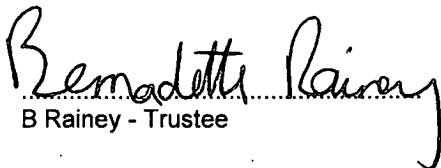
The trustees (who are also the directors of Asylum Justice for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 09/12/25 and signed on the board's behalf by:


B Rainey - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Asylum Justice**



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Asylum Justice ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

John Huw Palin FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants

Date: 12 December 2025

Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff CF23 8AA

Registered to carry on audit work
in the UK and regulated for a range
of investment business activities by
the Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales.

bpu Chartered Accountants is
a trading name of BPU Ltd
Company Number 3723948
Registered in Wales.

A list of directors is available from the
registered office above.

Asylum Justice

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	3,885	1,998	5,883	9,264
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable activities		185,534	398,917	584,451	635,375
Other trading activities	3	1,476	41,940	43,416	2,541
Investment income	4	447	-	447	430
Total		191,342	442,855	634,197	647,610
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	123	-	123	371
Charitable activities	7				
Charitable activities		106,655	570,529	677,184	541,316
Total		106,778	570,529	677,307	541,687
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	18	84,564 (30,781)	(127,674) 30,781	(43,110) -	105,923 -
Net movement in funds		53,783	(96,893)	(43,110)	105,923
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		103,857	218,499	322,356	216,433
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		157,640	121,606	279,246	322,356

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

**Balance Sheet
31 March 2025**

		2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS	Notes		
Tangible assets	14	4,477	7,252
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	15	293,299	19,299
Cash at bank		<u>61,482</u>	<u>326,402</u>
		354,781	345,701
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(80,012)</u>	<u>(30,597)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>274,769</u>	<u>315,104</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>279,246</u>	<u>322,356</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>279,246</u>	<u>322,356</u>
FUNDS	18		
Unrestricted funds		157,640	103,857
Restricted funds		<u>121,606</u>	<u>218,499</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>279,246</u>	<u>322,356</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

**Balance Sheet - continued
31 March 2025**

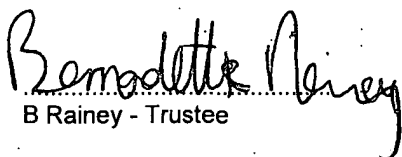
The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 09/12/25 and were signed on its behalf by:


B Rainey - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(264,050)</u>	<u>159,760</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(264,050)</u>	<u>159,760</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(1,317)</u>	-
Interest received		<u>447</u>	<u>430</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(870)</u>	<u>430</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		<u>(264,920)</u>	<u>160,190</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>326,402</u>	<u>166,212</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>61,482</u>	<u>326,402</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(43,110)	105,923
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,092	4,361
Interest received	(447)	(430)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(274,000)	50,534
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>49,415</u>	<u>(628)</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(264,050)</u>	<u>159,760</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/24 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>326,402</u>	<u>(264,920)</u>	<u>61,482</u>
	<u>326,402</u>	<u>(264,920)</u>	<u>61,482</u>
Total	<u>326,402</u>	<u>(264,920)</u>	<u>61,482</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with 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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- i) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in accounts when receivable.
- ii) Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant which will normally be when the grant is actually received. Grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Deferred income represents grant monies received for future periods and released to incoming resources in the period to which it relates.
- iii) Trading income is included when receivable.
- iv) Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and are material.
- v) Investment income and all other income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Furniture | - 25% straight line |
| Computer equipment | - 25% straight line |

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	<u>5,883</u>	<u>9,264</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising events	1,476	2,541
Income from services provided	<u>41,940</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>43,416</u>	<u>2,541</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank interest	<u>447</u>	<u>430</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants	<u>584,451</u>	<u>635,375</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Community Justice Fund - Wave 2 & 3 (CJF Consortium)	20,000	-
AB Charitable Trust	29,000	25,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,668	25,500
Tudor Trust	48,333	48,333
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared Ground	-	110,000
Justice Collaborations	133,334	215,336
British Red Cross Society - Repair programme	22,500	-
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	40,000	35,000
The Access to Justice Foundation	-	17,500
Welsh Government - Sanctuary Services	54,433	49,231
WSS Ukraine project	30,154	-
Postcode Community Trust	-	20,000
Awards for All	-	9,975
Ben & Jerry's Foundation	-	5,000
Albert Hunt Trust	-	3,000
Justice First Fellowship	7,763	2,500
Welsh Government	45,448	39,000
Other	30,000	30,000
Welsh Government - Cardiff University Project	35,000	-
Charities Aid Foundation - Keystone Project	30,532	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	30,286	-
	<u>584,451</u>	<u>635,375</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

6. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2025	2024
	£	£
Sundry	<u>123</u>	<u>371</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 8) £	Support costs (see note 9) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	<u>527,839</u>	<u>87,749</u>	<u>61,596</u>	<u>677,184</u>

8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2025	2024
	£	£
Charitable activities	<u>87,749</u>	<u>26,446</u>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other £
Charitable activities	<u>61,596</u>

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>4,092</u>	<u>4,361</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

12. STAFF COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	289,335	273,518
Social security costs	26,536	18,850
Other pension costs	6,735	5,806
	<u>322,606</u>	<u>298,174</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Advocacy and Advice	11	11
Funding Co-ordinator	1	1
	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	4,262	5,002	9,264
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	128,833	506,542	635,375
Other trading activities	2,541	-	2,541
Investment income	430	-	430
Total	<u>136,066</u>	<u>511,544</u>	<u>647,610</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	371	-	371

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES -
continued**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	<u>141,207</u>	<u>400,109</u>	<u>541,316</u>
Total	<u>141,578</u>	<u>400,109</u>	<u>541,687</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)			
Transfers between funds	(5,512)	111,435	105,923
	<u>(14,522)</u>	<u>14,522</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(20,034)	125,957	105,923
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	123,891	92,542	216,433
	<u>123,891</u>	<u>92,542</u>	<u>216,433</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>103,857</u>	<u>218,499</u>	<u>322,356</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Furniture £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024	596	16,844	17,440
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>1,317</u>	<u>1,317</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>596</u>	<u>18,161</u>	<u>18,757</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	372	9,816	10,188
Charge for year	<u>149</u>	<u>3,943</u>	<u>4,092</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>521</u>	<u>13,759</u>	<u>14,280</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	<u>75</u>	<u>4,402</u>	<u>4,477</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>224</u>	<u>7,028</u>	<u>7,252</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	280,672	11,885
Other debtors	10,138	4,925
Prepayments	2,489	2,489
	<u>293,299</u>	<u>19,299</u>

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	67,182	6,397
Social security and other taxes	7,592	-
Other creditors	1,288	-
Accruals and deferred income	3,950	24,200
	<u>80,012</u>	<u>30,597</u>

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	2,605	1,872	4,477	7,252
Current assets/(liabilities)	<u>155,035</u>	<u>119,734</u>	<u>274,769</u>	<u>315,104</u>
	<u>157,640</u>	<u>121,606</u>	<u>279,246</u>	<u>322,356</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	103,857	84,564	(30,781)	157,640
Restricted funds				
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	-	2,000	-	2,000
Tudor Trust	50	(50)	-	-
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	1,418	(232)	-	1,186
Ministry of Justice	1,547	(1,389)	-	158
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	86,632	(87,052)	519	99
Postcode Community Trust	435	(1,755)	1,320	-
Justice Collaborations	88,211	(61,214)	-	26,997
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	12,359	(13,008)	649	-
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	-	(1,193)	1,193	-
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	-	14,502	-	14,502
WSS Ukraine Project	1,483	28,340	-	29,823
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	3,061	(2,877)	-	184
Gwent LAs	-	4,964	-	4,964
Justice First Fellowship	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Awards For All	2,331	(455)	-	1,876
Community Foundation Wales	-	(27,100)	27,100	-
Welsh Government	18,472	(4,579)	-	13,893
Welsh Government - Cardiff Uni Project	-	7,249	-	7,249
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	18,675	-	18,675
	<u>218,499</u>	<u>(127,674)</u>	<u>30,781</u>	<u>121,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>322,356</u>	<u>(43,110)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>279,246</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	191,342	(106,778)	84,564
Restricted funds			
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	2,000	-	2,000
Tudor Trust	-	(50)	(50)
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	-	(232)	(232)
Ministry of Justice	-	(1,389)	(1,389)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	(87,052)	(87,052)
Postcode Community Trust	-	(1,755)	(1,755)
Justice Collaborations	133,334	(194,548)	(61,214)
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	22,501	(35,509)	(13,008)
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	39,999	(41,192)	(1,193)
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	54,432	(39,930)	14,502
WSS Ukraine Project	30,154	(1,814)	28,340
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	-	(2,877)	(2,877)
Gwent LAs	41,940	(36,976)	4,964
Justice First Fellowship	7,763	(10,263)	(2,500)
Awards For All	-	(455)	(455)
Community Foundation Wales	-	(27,100)	(27,100)
Welsh Government	45,447	(50,026)	(4,579)
Welsh Government - Cardiff Uni Project	35,000	(27,751)	7,249
The National Lottery Community Fund	30,285	(11,610)	18,675
	<u>442,855</u>	<u>(570,529)</u>	<u>(127,674)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>634,197</u>	<u>(677,307)</u>	<u>(43,110)</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,891	(5,512)	(14,522)	103,857
Restricted funds				
Tudor Trust	126	(76)	-	50
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	1,988	(570)	-	1,418
Ministry of Justice	3,346	(1,799)	-	1,547
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,443	66,189	-	86,632
Postcode Community Trust	-	435	-	435
Justice Collaborations	26,378	61,833	-	88,211
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	41,564	(29,205)	-	12,359
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	2,331	(2,390)	59	-
The Access to Justice Foundation	(6,506)	5,270	1,236	-
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	(54)	(3,436)	3,490	-
WSS Ukraine Project	2,926	(7,236)	5,793	1,483
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	-	3,061	-	3,061
Gwent LAs	-	(3,944)	3,944	-
Justice First Fellowship	-	2,500	-	2,500
Awards For All	-	2,331	-	2,331
Welsh Government	-	18,472	-	18,472
	<u>92,542</u>	<u>111,435</u>	<u>14,522</u>	<u>218,499</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>216,433</u>	<u>105,923</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>322,356</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	136,066	(141,578)	(5,512)
Restricted funds			
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary Tudor Trust	5,000 -	(5,000) (76)	- (76)
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	-	(570)	(570)
Ministry of Justice	-	(1,799)	(1,799)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	110,000	(43,811)	66,189
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	(19,565)	435
Justice Collaborations	215,337	(153,504)	61,833
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	-	(29,205)	(29,205)
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	35,001	(37,391)	(2,390)
The Access to Justice Foundation	17,499	(12,229)	5,270
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	49,231	(52,667)	(3,436)
WSS Ukraine Project	(1)	(7,235)	(7,236)
Albert Hunt Trust	3,000	(3,000)	-
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	5,000	(1,939)	3,061
Gwent LAs	-	(3,944)	(3,944)
Justice First Fellowship	2,500	-	2,500
Awards For All	9,975	(7,644)	2,331
Welsh Government	<u>39,002</u>	<u>(20,530)</u>	<u>18,472</u>
	<u>511,544</u>	<u>(400,109)</u>	<u>111,435</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>647,610</u>	<u>(541,687)</u>	<u>105,923</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,891	79,052	(45,303)	157,640
Restricted funds				
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	-	2,000	-	2,000
Tudor Trust	126	(126)	-	-
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	1,988	(802)	-	1,186
Ministry of Justice	3,346	(3,188)	-	158
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,443	(20,863)	519	99
Postcode Community Trust	-	(1,320)	1,320	-
Justice Collaborations	26,378	619	-	26,997
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	41,564	(42,213)	649	-
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	2,331	(3,583)	1,252	-
The Access to Justice Foundation	(6,506)	5,270	1,236	-
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	(54)	11,066	3,490	14,502
WSS Ukraine Project	2,926	21,104	5,793	29,823
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	-	184	-	184
Gwent LAs	-	1,020	3,944	4,964
Awards For All	-	1,876	-	1,876
Community Foundation Wales	-	(27,100)	27,100	-
Welsh Government	-	13,893	-	13,893
Welsh Government - Cardiff Uni Project	-	7,249	-	7,249
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	18,675	-	18,675
	<u>92,542</u>	<u>(16,239)</u>	<u>45,303</u>	<u>121,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>216,433</u>	<u>62,813</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>279,246</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	327,408	(248,356)	79,052
Restricted funds			
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	7,000	(5,000)	2,000
Tudor Trust	-	(126)	(126)
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	-	(802)	(802)
Ministry of Justice	-	(3,188)	(3,188)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	110,000	(130,863)	(20,863)
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	(21,320)	(1,320)
Justice Collaborations	348,671	(348,052)	619
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	22,501	(64,714)	(42,213)
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	75,000	(78,583)	(3,583)
The Access to Justice Foundation	17,499	(12,229)	5,270
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary			
Services	103,663	(92,597)	11,066
WSS Ukraine Project	30,153	(9,049)	21,104
Albert Hunt Trust	3,000	(3,000)	-
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	5,000	(4,816)	184
Gwent LAs	41,940	(40,920)	1,020
Justice First Fellowship	10,263	(10,263)	-
Awards For All	9,975	(8,099)	1,876
Community Foundation Wales	-	(27,100)	(27,100)
Welsh Government	84,449	(70,556)	13,893
Welsh Government - Cardiff Uni Project	35,000	(27,751)	7,249
The National Lottery Community Fund	30,285	(11,610)	18,675
	<u>954,399</u>	<u>(970,638)</u>	<u>(16,239)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,281,807</u>	<u>(1,218,994)</u>	<u>62,813</u>

Asylum Justice

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Asylum Justice

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	5,883	9,264
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	1,476	2,541
Income from services provided	<u>41,940</u>	<u>-</u>
	43,416	2,541
Investment income		
Bank interest	447	430
Charitable activities		
Grants	<u>584,451</u>	<u>635,375</u>
Total incoming resources	634,197	647,610
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Sundry	123	371
Charitable activities		
Wages	289,335	273,518
Social security	26,536	18,850
Pensions	6,735	5,806
Staff training	3,447	1,886
Staff travel expenses	4,159	2,183
Legal and Professional	197,627	155,962
British Red Cross grant	67,649	26,446
Cardiff University	<u>20,100</u>	<u>-</u>
	615,588	484,651
Support costs		
Other		
Rates and water	1,929	169
Carried forward	1,929	169

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Asylum Justice

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other		
Brought forward	1,929	169
Insurance	3,142	2,550
Telephone	1,138	1,606
Postage and stationery	3,492	3,849
Rent & room hire	21,890	19,200
Legal & Professional	2,752	1,705
Subscriptions	1,546	3,127
Sundry expenses	-	199
Software, IT & website	16,031	14,877
Staff wellbeing	372	570
Bank charges	110	36
Independent examiners fees	5,102	4,416
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,092	4,361
	<u>61,596</u>	<u>56,665</u>
Total resources expended	<u>677,307</u>	<u>541,687</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(43,110)</u>	<u>105,923</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASYLUM JUSTICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1112026

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05447875 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHAIRTY NUMBER: 1112026



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
For
Asylum Justice**

Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff CF23 8AA



BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA

Registered to carry on audit work
in the UK and regulated for a range
of investment business activities by
the Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales.

bpu Chartered Accountants is
a trading name of BPU Ltd
Company Number: 3723948
Registered in Wales.

A list of directors is available from the
registered office above.

Asylum Justice

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The charity remains a going concern. The reasons are set out in the report below.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Asylum Justice is the only charitable organisation in Wales – considered as a legal aid desert with an ever-shrinking immigration sector – which offers free, specialist (OISC Level 3) immigration advice and representation to asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants up to and including court level. In broad terms we work with those who have made a request for protection in the UK which may be considered under the UN Refugee Convention 1951 or under the European Convention on Human Rights 1950.

We provide legal advice and representation when someone cannot access legal aid because it has been withdrawn or their immigration matter is 'out of scope' of legal aid. No other organisation provides this service in Wales and consequently Asylum Justice is the last place that people can turn to for help in their asylum or immigration case. Where we succeed in securing status or reuniting a family, it is a vital step in ensuring meaningful socio-economic inclusion for some of the most vulnerable individuals in Wales. Wider outcomes include reducing pressure on statutory and third sector agencies, particularly when destitute individuals gain access to social and legal protections. The value of our unique service cannot be stressed enough.

Our specific casework objectives can be broadly summarised as:

1. To assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants in securing and maintaining legal recognition, thereby alleviating destitution and exclusion amongst this client group;
2. To keep families living in the UK together through making initial and further leave applications;
3. To reunite refugee families in Wales by representing them in family reunion applications.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Since 2013, we have primarily focused our limited resources on delivering high-quality legal advice and representation services. Our wider charity objectives expanded slightly in the last three years to include taking steps to participate further in Welsh and UK-wide advocacy trying to address the systemic problems in the asylum and immigration systems which give rise to the need for the services which Asylum Justice provides; as well as beginning to train up new immigration advisers to assure a future supply to the organisation.

Asylum Justice Memorandum and Articles of Association – Objectives (extract)

“The relief of poverty, in particular but not exclusively, for persons including but not limited to asylum seekers and refugees who have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or in any other legal proceedings; and

To provide legal advice, assistance and representation in relation to persons including but not limited to asylum seekers who by reason of their inadequate means are unable to obtain such advice and representation from their own resources and who, in particular but not exclusively, have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or any other legal proceedings.”

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance in planning and managing the activities and work of the organisation for public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Please note statistics cover the reporting period (1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024) for this annual report.

1. Appeals

57 % success rate for appeals (2023)

With a shortage of legal aid solicitors in Wales, a shrinking sector, and stringent merits tests, there continues to be large numbers of clients denied access to justice. The extent of this is highlighted in Jo Wilding’s 2022 report, “No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants & Our Communities” (2022)¹.

We take on the appeals of asylum seekers denied legal aid on the grounds that solicitors considered their case too ‘weak’ to win on appeal. As such, we act in appeal cases deemed complex and unlikely to succeed. Despite this, in 2023 we won 57 % of these appeals, 2. This demonstrates both the importance of representation at appeal stage, and the high-quality legal support delivered by Asylum Justice.

¹ Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities. <https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

² UK Government. There are no available statistics to provide a comparison between Asylum Justice and the national success rate due to an upgrading in the UK casework system – figures available are up to March 2023 where the success rate nationally was 49% for first quarter of 2023 National statistics: How many people do we grant protection to?. Accessed 01.11.24 at: [How many people do we grant protection to? - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/how-many-people-do-we-grant-protection-to)

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

This area of work usually requires very quick action. This is because clients who have had legal representation withdrawn by their previous legal aid solicitor will have a very short timescale in which to lodge an appeal and, once the appeal is lodged, an initial court hearing can be listed for less than a month later. Clients at this stage of the asylum process are also on the verge of becoming destitute, as Home Office support and accommodation are withdrawn if no appeal is lodged or, indeed, if an appeal is dismissed after a hearing in which the client was unrepresented.

First-tier Tribunal Appeals

We submitted 2 applications for Permission to Appeal to the First-tier Tribunal and have represented 24 applicants at First-tier Tribunal Appeals.

Upper Tribunal Appeals

Asylum Justice made 11 'permission to appeal' applications to the Upper Tribunal during this reporting period. Decision responses on permission to appeal applications has were subject to delay in 2023. In this reporting period, we represented 3 clients at an Upper Tribunal appeal hearing.

2. Fresh Claims

20% success rate (2022) for fresh claims submitted; 50% refused submissions granted right of appeal.

In 2023, we submitted 14 fresh claims for refused asylum seekers who had exhausted all appeal rights. Asylum seekers who have exhausted all appeal rights sometimes have fresh grounds or compelling new evidence with which they can make further submissions to the Home Office in support of their previous asylum claim. Some simply never had their claim fully considered the first time around due to poor quality legal representation or an appeal not being lodged in time.

Most notably, 50% of the further submissions (i.e., fresh claims) made by Asylum Justice were granted a right of appeal in 2022. 5 Fresh claim appeals were heard and 4 fresh claims were granted permission to apply to the Upper Tribunal. This demonstrates the high quality of submissions made, as the overwhelming majority of fresh asylum claims are not granted a right of appeal when refused by the Home Office. The right to have your case heard by an immigration judge dramatically improves an applicant's overall chances of succeeding with a fresh claim.

Many of these clients will be completely destitute, having spent years in enforced poverty and homelessness in the UK due to their lack of legal status. For most, returning home is not an option due to continued fears for their safety. When a fresh claim is successful, it transforms a client's situation immediately, by granting them legal status and associated rights such as the opportunity to work and/or claim benefits. It will also create the right to apply for refugee family reunion, thereby allowing them to recover from recent traumatic experiences and fully integrate into Welsh society. From June 2024, a new Pro Bono Project in collaboration with the Cardiff University School of Law and Politics, funded by the Welsh Government, will focus on clients with fresh claims and so increase our capacity to advise and represent these clients.

3. Family Reunion

57% successful Family Reunion applications (2022)

We submitted 2 family reunion applications and 11 Family Reunion Appeals, 10 in the First Tier Tribunal and 1 in the Upper Tribunal. Despite being a fundamental human right, this is an area of law without access to legal aid provision. Without representation, many refugee families remain separated, which impacts significantly on the sponsor's ability to recover and integrate into the host community, whilst relatives remain in often dangerous environments, such as war zones or refugee camps.

There have been continuing delays for applications being considered by the Home Office in 2023. This has left some clients waiting many months, or even over a year, for a decision on their family reunion case.

4. Leave and Nationality Applications

91% successful leave, further leave, settlement, and naturalisation applications (2023)

We assist vulnerable migrants, many of whom are failed asylum seekers, to make applications for leave to remain in the UK based on their private and family life. Many of these clients may be part of established Welsh families, with a child or partner who is either a British citizen or legally settled here.

Many of those with leave to remain in the UK on grounds of their family and private life are required to make four separate paid applications over a ten-year period before being able to apply for legal settlement. To find thousands of pounds every few years for application and solicitor's fees is beyond the reach of most. If no extension application is made before an applicant's current leave to remain expires, they will become 'overstayers' overnight, thereby losing the right to work or access to public funds. They also face the risk of detention and forced removal, separating them from their loved ones.

This year we submitted 10 leave applications and 9 settlement applications (1 of which was a Domestic Violence Settlement application), with accompanying fee waivers applications where relevant (12 in total). We also submitted 3 naturalisation applications.

5. Lifting the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Condition

In 2023 we made 2 applications to lift the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition attached to clients' existing leave to remain. This enables vulnerable clients on the verge of destitution to claim benefits where they are eligible.

We also made 2 successful applications concerning NASS (National Asylum Support Service) to provide accommodation and financial support to eligible asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute.

6. Strategic Litigation

Pre-Action Protocols for further accommodation and support issues

We submitted 3 pre-action protocol letters to initiate judicial review proceedings of which two were successful.

7. Referrals to Legal Aid Providers

As we do not use legal aid to fund our casework, we refer out clients who are eligible for legal aid to local immigration and asylum solicitors. This has ensured our casework resources could be focused on clients with no access to legal aid. In this reporting period, we referred at least 32 clients to legal aid advisers, demonstrating the vital role Asylum Justice plays in securing representation for clients whom we do not directly represent.

8. Initial Asylum Claims

82% success rate for initial asylum claims (2023)

However, since 2022 when a number of providers in Wales closed their legal aid departments, the legal aid system in Wales has come near to collapse, in a region already describe as a legal aid desert.³ The remaining providers have been left working at full capacity, with delays in offering appointments, and in some cases unable to take on any new cases at all. This has led to initial asylum claimants and even unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases) being unable to access a legal aid solicitor. This has meant Asylum Justice is now taking clients who should in theory have access to a Legal Aid solicitor. This has meant we have had to consider how to prioritise our work in a way not envisaged before 2022. In 2023, we had 39 clients with initial asylum claims with an 82% success rate, higher than the national average of 62%.⁴ We also began to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases) during the reporting period in partnership with local authorities. (No separate UASC figures available for this period but data will be available in the next reporting period as we formalise referrals from local authorities.)

9. Advice-Only Clients

Our caseworkers provided one-off legal advice to 30 clients. 'Advice-only' statistics do not include clients who subsequently progress onto our waiting list for substantive casework to be undertaken on their behalf. Most clients progress on to our waiting list, as there is no other appropriately accredited organisation to which we can refer them to access the legal representation they need.

Where an enquiry falls outside the scope of our work or the individual lives outside of Wales, our Client Liaison team plays a crucial role in responding and signposting to more appropriate services where possible. In total, we received 679 enquiries during this reporting period. This covers those who were taken on for substantive representation (or added to the waiting list where necessary), given one-off advice, referred to a legal aid provider, signposted to other organisations and those whose matters fell out of our scope. **This is significantly more than the 380 enquiries we had in 2022, illustrating the issues outlined above and the strain put on our service over the period.**

³ Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities. <https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

⁴ See <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/asylum-and-resettlement-summary-previous-data-tables> (accessed 3rd December 2024)

10. Ukraine Project Cymru

Extra funding was provided in September 2022 by the Welsh Government via the Wales Sanctuary Service to support Ukrainian refugees in Wales. The funding provided to Asylum Justice has been used in collaboration with Cardiff School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University to provide free Legal Advice to Ukrainian Refugees through the Ukraine Project Cymru. The Project has been led by Jennifer Morgan, a lecturer in law and a qualified immigration advisor, along with administrative support and a number of students. The Project is based in the Pro Bono Unit in Cardiff School of Law and Politics and was nominated for an award at the LawWorks Pro Bono Awards 2023 and won the Cardiff and District Law Society best access to Justice Initiative (Pro Bono) Award 2023. The Funding was extended for the year April 2023 – March 2024. This project has now come to an end. However, the Welsh Government has agreed to fund a new scheme outside of the Wales Sanctuary Service. The new Pro Bono Scheme will target those who are seeking to make a fresh Claim for Asylum.

Service Delivery

Our service can be accessed via an online referral form, a support line or via numerous third sector and statutory services' referral partnerships. Most significantly, in 2023 we were part of the Wales Sanctuary Services – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and Displaced People in Action (DPIA)) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

During the year we expanded Client Liaison Officer capacity, The Client Liaison Officers coordinate between clients, lawyers, interpreters and partners. The Client Liaison Officer plays a particularly important role in ensuring the accessibility of our service by reassuring clients when they first contact Asylum Justice, gathering necessary paperwork for the lawyer to review prior to meeting with a client, and managing expectations around waiting times and how our service works.

Once allocated an adviser, clients receive initial advice and then might be referred on to a legal aid provider, where legal aid is available, or represented directly through Asylum Justice. For some clients, due to the circumstances of their case, it is not possible to assist them further. These clients nonetheless still receive comprehensive advice from us regarding their situation and options. Following advice sessions, we refer clients to other services for assistance for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health, or social isolation. Occasionally, clients need emergency referrals to out-of-hours Social Services departments or Accident and Emergency NHS units.

During 2023, we have been successfully providing our advice and substantive casework services in a hybrid format. This demonstrates our continued ability to work with a large number of clients despite working through a mixed modality and with only a small team.

Whether or not the service is offered face-to-face or remotely is dependent on the client's vulnerabilities/needs and adviser's capacity (some work solely remotely). Where clients need to have remote expert appointments or court hearings, we have also been able to offer limited space and equipment to clients.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The demand for our advice and representation has increased significantly during this year and continues to outweigh our ability to supply these services immediately to everyone who approaches us. This is illustrated by the above figures showing our overall workload was nearly double that in 2023.

Staffing and Volunteers

Ruth Brown, the Legal Director, is responsible for the charity's casework and office management. Ruth was nominated in 2020 as an 'Inspiring Woman Lawyer' in the UK as part of a study carried out by the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. Ruth is frequently invited to speak on national radio and at panels regarding our work and the wider context of UK immigration policy.

Legal staff included a small number of sessional caseworkers who provide vital specialist advice and representation to clients. We are very fortunate to work with these experienced sessional caseworkers, who frequently secure positive outcomes for our clients. Working alongside the legal staff, we increased capacity by increasing our Client Liaison Officers who ensured effective coordination between clients, staff, and external partners, in addition to offering administration support and being the main point of contact for our offices.

We also have two Supervising Caseworkers to carry their own caseload and assist the Legal Director in supervising trainees. Due to a generalised shortage of immigration advisers in Wales, and subsequently a shortage of supply to our own organisation, we continue to train up new caseworkers. We began piloting this in 2020 and subsequently expanded it in 2021 and 2022 after securing additional funding. With the increased demand on our service and the additional objective to train new caseworkers, we now see it as a priority to bring more qualified caseworker roles in-house as we secure sufficient funding. We now work with several trainees, currently at OISC Level 1 and 2.

The Funding Officer worked to identify and apply for new funding, maximise the impact of grants, and build up our reserves through careful financial management. Her responsibilities were also expanded to work on monitoring, learning and evaluation for Asylum Justice, including reviewing and improving systems for effectively and efficiently collecting statistics.

During 2024, we also recruited a finance officer (P/T) to work alongside the funding officer.

We also hosted a student placement from Cardiff School of Law and Politics, with the student working on data collection and policy with the Funding Officer.

Partnerships and Memberships

While others in the Welsh migration-focused third sector are working on multiple, interrelated issues which affect the rights and integration of asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants – such as destitution, communication issues, mental health and social isolation – no other agency offers free OISC Level 3 immigration advice and representation to those without access to legal aid, nor maintains a central expert role in Wales on issues regarding the legal aid and immigration systems.

We receive regular referrals from, and we refer regularly to (for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health or social isolation), a wide variety of local public, private and third sector partners. Partners such as local authorities, the faith sector, the Wales Sanctuary Services partners (including the Welsh Refugee Council, EYST, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and DPIA), a range of third sector organisations (such as British Red Cross, Welsh Women's Aid, Homestart, Oasis Cardiff) and the Law Centres Network.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Asylum Justice also has strong working partnerships with a range of other organisations including the Welsh Refugee Coalition, Law Works Cymru, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the Electronic Immigration Network, Refugee Action, the Refugee Legal Group, and Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

Raising funds

This year's achievements have been underpinned by generous financial support from a range of existing and new funding bodies, which are listed below, in addition to individual donations from supporters or local groups/businesses.

(i) Grant income

Tudor Trust: Tudor Trust provides an unrestricted grant which has been renewed from January 2023 – December 2025. This provides the salary for our Legal Director and some core costs.

Wales Sanctuary Services (Welsh Government): Asylum Justice is part of a consortium of third sector organisations (with the Welsh Refugee Council as lead agency) that secured funding from the Welsh Government for a three-year programme to improve services for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales. This funding is used to pay for caseworker costs. It has also covered some interpreting, translation, and expert report costs. As part of this grant, extra funding was provided by the Welsh Government in September 2022 to support Ukrainian refugees in Wales and this was renewed for another year in 2023. It came to an end in March 2024. The funding provided to Asylum Justice has been used in collaboration with Cardiff School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University to fund the Ukraine Project Cymru.

Lloyds Bank Foundation: Lloyds Bank Foundation provided a two-year unrestricted grant (renewed 2024-2027). During this reporting period the grant covered a full-time Client Liaison Officer post and contributed to organisation overheads.

Ministry of Justice (via. Community Justice Fund): Asylum Justice received emergency funding from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) through wave 3 of the Community Justice Fund. This emergency funding part-funded a range of staff posts in addition to some organisation overheads.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation: Asylum Justice continued a multi-year core grant from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to support its casework operations, strengthen its use of casework data, and increase its contribution to sector advocacy and campaigning work.

Postcode Community Trust: A one-year grant ending in November 2024, which supports casework operations, contributing to sessional caseworkers and interpretation/translation costs.

Justice Together Initiative: Continuing fund granted for a multi-year project in partnership with British Red Cross to support gathering documents, primarily for clients wishing to apply for or renew their leave to remain / settlement and family reunion applicants.

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF): Continuing fund for a multi-year project in partnership with British Red Cross supporting family reunion applications.

Ministry of Justice (via Access to Justice; Help Accessing Legal Support Scheme): Asylum Justice secured a 6-month one-off grant to support delivery of its legal casework services. A further three months were later granted, ending June 2023.

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

AB Charitable Trust: Asylum Justice secured a three year unrestricted grant from 2023-2026

Awards For All – National Lottery Community Fund: Asylum Justice secured a one year grant for interpretation and translation

Ben and Jerry's Foundation: Single year grant for Advocacy and Campaigning

(ii) Donations and Activity Fundraising

The focus in 2024 has primarily been on funding applications to funding bodies, but we have also received ongoing regular donations from a number of supporters.

In the next financial year, we intend to run some fundraising events and individual giving campaigns in order to increase our unrestricted reserves. We will continue to attempt to diversify income during the next year.

Financial Review

The total income for the year ended 31st March 2024 was £647,610 (2023 £533,811) and the total expenditure for the year was £541,687 (2023 £457,328). The income received included restricted/core grant funds of £506,542 (2023 £375,417) and unrestricted grant funds of £128,833 (2023 £142,780). Continuing donations, including from Standing Order supporters and one-off donations and fundraising income was also received, totalling £12,235 (2023 £15,614). The expenditure for the year has largely been on core management costs, including running the offices at Portland House, office rent, the Legal Director's salary, salaries for staff, payment for consultancy casework including interpretation and expert reports. We also had payments for data storage and IT. The restricted fund balance brought forward at 1st April 2023 was £92,542 and £218,499 was carried forward at 31st March 2024. The balance on the unrestricted fund decreased during the year from £123,891 brought forward to £103,857 at 31st March 2024.

Reserves Policy

The unrestricted reserves on 31st March 2024 are £103,857, which is equal to approximately 2.3 months of expected overall expenditure. The current reserves policy aims for 3 months running costs. Our reserves figure was lower than normal at the end of the financial year. The trustees are aware that the reserves are low and it is a priority to grow reserves during 2025 to ensure sustainability.

The workload of the Funding Officer post during the 2023 year did not allow for an individual giving strategy to be drawn up and implemented. While the reserves are lower than desirable, existing grant agreements were sufficient at the end of January 2024 to cover operating costs for the 3-month minimum, as Asylum Justice receives generous ongoing support from a number of funders.

Risk policy

The trustees are aware of all the major risks regarding the charity including financial and personnel risks, which are reviewed on an on-going basis. Financial risk is recognised and controlled by a system of authorisation of expenses and segregation of duties in recording and processing wages and income. Trustees are appointed to check and review personnel matters and Health and Safety and appropriate insurance are in place.

Plans for the future

Asylum Justice will continue to play a unique and essential role within the Welsh refugee and migrant rights sector in terms of outcomes for individuals, reducing pressure on statutory (as demonstrated by recent research⁵) and other third sector agencies. We have also increasingly become a source of specialist information for wider sector organisations involved in advocacy on refugees'/migrants' rights.

Most significantly we will continue to be part of the Wales Sanctuary Services (WSS) programme – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, TGP, BAWSO, and DPIA) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

The events of the last year have demonstrated our resilience as an organisation to adapt and continue to provide our service. It has also led us to reflect on gaps in our resources and consider new solutions, such as regarding the supply of future qualified immigration advisors in Wales. Asylum Justice has focused some of its resources on training up new advisors to ensure sustainability of available advisors for Asylum Justice in the coming years. In 2023, our OISC Level 2 trainees participated in an intensive pilot programme of training, supervision, and peer support for immigration advisers delivered by Asylum Aid. This was a fantastic opportunity for our trainees and the programme demonstrated that investment in training a sustainable pipeline of expert immigration advisers is a key element in creating a strengthened, better coordinated and well-networked immigration advice system.

The Funding Officer, with support from the Legal Director and trustees, is also focusing further efforts on our income generation. This includes continuing to improve the organisation's monitoring and evaluation work, producing casework statistics more regularly in addition to increasing the number of testimonials gathered from previous clients. This is work, which will assist us to identify improvements we can make to our service, demonstrating the need for, and high quality of, our service in future funding applications. It also means that we are in a unique position to evidence issues and problems occurring within both the asylum and immigration system and the legal aid system. The Legal Director is regularly contacted by academics undertaking research in these areas, and our greater involvement in general advocacy work is an area of work that we continue to develop.

Securing further medium to long-term funding is a priority for Asylum Justice, so that we can ensure the sustainability of its current services but also develop our ability to better resource the organisation's infrastructure. A better resourced infrastructure will relieve pressure from key members of staff, ensure we can provide our service in a timely manner to all those who need to access it, and free up experienced members of staff to concentrate on casework.

⁵ Leckie C. , Munro R. , and Pragnell M. (September 2021) *Defending the public purse: The economic value of the free legal advice sector* [<https://atjf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Defending-the-public-purse-The-economic-value-of-the-free-legal-advice-sector-September-2021.pdf>]

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

During 2023, we have seen a continuing increase in demand for our services. In 2024, we will prioritise maximising efficiency and expanding capacity where necessary and where we are able. Due to the collapse of the legal aid system, it is also likely that Asylum Justice will experience further increase in demand and may need to continue to take on cases that were previously referred out to legal aid providers, such as initial asylum claims and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases). For 2024 Asylum Justice will continue to assess how to meet the rapidly growing need, whilst ensuring sustainability of our services.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Asylum Justice is also registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. The charity is also registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for data protection purposes.

The charity is managed directly by its board of trustees. Each Trustee is ex officio a member of the company. There are no other members. The board consists of fourteen Trustees. A Trustee who has served a continuous term of six years must resign for at least one year but then may stand for re-election to the board.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at a general meeting; the members of the charity may, by ordinary resolution, appoint a trustee or the trustees may appoint a trustee themselves.

A trustee is appointed and holds office until the next Annual General Meeting. If not re-appointed at the AGM they should then vacate office. Since March 2024, we have initiated a recruitment process to increase the number and diversity of trustees on the Board, including members who have lived experience of the asylum and immigration system in the UK.

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel are considered to be the trustees and the Directors. Trustees receive no remuneration.

STRATEGIC REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05447875 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1112026

Registered office

Portland House
113 Bute Street
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF10 5EQ

Trustees

B Rainey
M Baker
F E Chater
T Godwin
V Goodban
J G Morgan
H Taylor
K Toner-Bass
A Annie (appointed 25/9/2024)
E J Nishio (appointed 25/9/2024)
R Smith-James (appointed 25/9/2024)
N Sudarsan (appointed 25/9/2024)
S Todorovic (appointed 25/9/2024)
C Vircavs (appointed 25/9/2024)

Asylum Justice

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

John Huw Palin FCA
BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA

Office of the OISC Registration Number

N200800025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Asylum Justice for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on16/12/24..... and signed on the board's behalf by:


B Rainey - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Asylum Justice**



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Asylum Justice ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

John Huw Palin FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants

Date: 18th December 2024

Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff CF23 8AA

Registered to carry on audit work in the UK and regulated for a range of investment business activities by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

bpu Chartered Accountants is a trading name of BPU Ltd
Company Number 3723948
Registered in Wales.

A list of directors is available from the registered office above.

Asylum Justice

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Year Ended 31/3/24 Total funds £	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	4,262	5,002	9,264	10,285
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable activities		128,833	506,542	635,375	518,197
Other trading activities	3	2,541	-	2,541	2,211
Investment income	4	430	-	430	202
Other income		-	-	-	2,916
Total		136,066	511,544	647,610	533,811
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	371	-	371	310
Charitable activities	7				
Charitable activities		141,207	400,109	541,316	457,018
Total		141,578	400,109	541,687	457,328
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	18	(5,512) (14,522)	111,435 14,522	105,923 -	76,483 -
Net movement in funds		(20,034)	125,957	105,923	76,483
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		123,891	92,542	216,433	139,950
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		103,857	218,499	322,356	216,433

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice**Balance Sheet
31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	14	7,252	11,613
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	15	19,299	69,833
Cash at bank		<u>326,402</u>	<u>166,212</u>
		345,701	236,045
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(30,597)</u>	<u>(31,225)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>315,104</u>	<u>204,820</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>322,356</u>	<u>216,433</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>322,356</u>	<u>216,433</u>
FUNDS	18		
Unrestricted funds		103,857	123,891
Restricted funds		<u>218,499</u>	<u>92,542</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>322,356</u>	<u>216,433</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

Balance Sheet - continued
31 March 2024

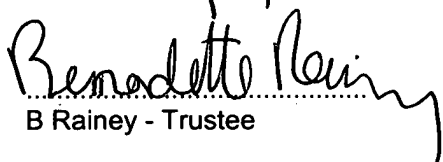
The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16/12/24 and were signed on its behalf by:


B Rainey - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Year Ended 31/3/24 £	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23 £
	Notes	
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations	1 <u>159,760</u>	<u>50,112</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>159,760</u>	<u>50,112</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(8,294)
Interest received	<u>430</u>	<u>202</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>430</u>	<u>(8,092)</u>
	_____	_____
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	160,190	42,020
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	<u>166,212</u>	<u>124,192</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u>326,402</u>	<u>166,212</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31/3/24 £	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	105,923	76,483
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,361	3,740
Interest received	(430)	(202)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	50,534	(40,729)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(628)</u>	<u>10,820</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>159,760</u>	<u>50,112</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/23 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>166,212</u>	<u>160,190</u>	<u>326,402</u>
	<u>166,212</u>	<u>160,190</u>	<u>326,402</u>
Total	<u>166,212</u>	<u>160,190</u>	<u>326,402</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with 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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- i) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in accounts when receivable.
- ii) Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant which will normally be when the grant is actually received. Grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Deferred income represents grant monies received for future periods and released to incoming resources in the period to which it relates.
- iii) Trading income is included when receivable.
- iv) Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and are material.
- v) Investment income and all other income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Furniture	- 25% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
	£	£
Donations	<u>9,264</u>	<u>10,285</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
	£	£
Fundraising events	<u>2,541</u>	<u>2,211</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
	£	£
Bank interest	<u>430</u>	<u>202</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
Activity	£	£
Grants Charitable activities	<u>635,375</u>	<u>518,197</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
	£	£
Community Justice Fund - Wave 2 & 3 (CJF Consortium)	-	12,196
AB Charitable Trust	25,000	20,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,500	27,250
Moondance Foundation	-	35,000
Tudor Trust	48,333	91,634
Tudor Trust - Staff Wellbeing	-	2,000
Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government)	-	7,974
Welsh Government - Legal advice & Sanctuary Seekers	-	12,500
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared Ground	110,000	50,000
Justice Collaborations	215,336	66,666
British Red Cross Society - Repair programme	-	52,500
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	35,000	35,000
The Access to Justice Foundation	17,500	35,000
Welsh Government - Sanctuary Services	49,231	48,452
WSS Ukraine project	-	22,025
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	-
Awards for All	9,975	-
Ben & Jerry's Foundation	5,000	-
Albert Hunt Trust	3,000	-
Justice First Fellowship	2,500	-
Welsh Government	39,000	-
Other	<u>30,000</u>	-
	<u>635,375</u>	<u>518,197</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	Year Ended 31/3/24 £	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23 £
Sundry	<u>371</u>	<u>310</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 8) £	Support costs (see note 9) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	<u>458,205</u>	<u>26,446</u>	<u>56,665</u>	<u>541,316</u>

8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Year Ended 31/3/24 £	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23 £
Charitable activities	<u>26,446</u>	<u>-</u>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other £
Charitable activities	<u>56,665</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>4,361</u>	<u>3,740</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the period ended 31 March 2023.

12. STAFF COSTS

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	273,518	218,520
Social security costs	18,850	14,590
Other pension costs	<u>5,806</u>	<u>4,185</u>
	<u>298,174</u>	<u>237,295</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	Year Ended 31/3/24	Period 1/2/22 to 31/3/23
Advocacy and Advice	11	7
Funding Co-ordinator	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,677	6,608	10,285
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	142,780	375,417	518,197
Other trading activities	2,211	-	2,211
Investment income	202	-	202
Other income	-	2,916	2,916
Total	<u>148,870</u>	<u>384,941</u>	<u>533,811</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	310	-	310
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	<u>102,416</u>	<u>354,602</u>	<u>457,018</u>
Total	<u>102,726</u>	<u>354,602</u>	<u>457,328</u>
NET INCOME			
Transfers between funds	<u>46,144</u> <u>(1,024)</u>	<u>30,339</u> <u>1,024</u>	<u>76,483</u> <u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	45,120	31,363	76,483
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>78,771</u>	<u>61,179</u>	<u>139,950</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>123,891</u>	<u>92,542</u>	<u>216,433</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Furniture £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>596</u>	<u>16,844</u>	<u>17,440</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	223	5,604	5,827
Charge for year	<u>149</u>	<u>4,212</u>	<u>4,361</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>372</u>	<u>9,816</u>	<u>10,188</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u>224</u>	<u>7,028</u>	<u>7,252</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>373</u>	<u>11,240</u>	<u>11,613</u>

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	11,885	62,365
Other debtors	4,925	5,575
Prepayments	<u>2,489</u>	<u>1,893</u>
	<u>19,299</u>	<u>69,833</u>

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	6,397	27,127
Accruals and deferred income	<u>24,200</u>	<u>4,098</u>
	<u>30,597</u>	<u>31,225</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	2,954	4,298	7,252	11,613
Current assets	107,840	237,861	345,701	236,045
Current liabilities	<u>(6,937)</u>	<u>(23,660)</u>	<u>(30,597)</u>	<u>(31,225)</u>
	<u>103,857</u>	<u>218,499</u>	<u>322,356</u>	<u>216,433</u>

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,891	(5,512)	(14,522)	103,857
Restricted funds				
Tudor Trust	126	(76)	-	50
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	1,988	(570)	-	1,418
Ministry of Justice	3,346	(1,799)	-	1,547
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,443	66,189	-	86,632
Postcode Community Trust	-	435	-	435
Justice Collaborations	26,378	61,833	-	88,211
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	41,564	(29,205)	-	12,359
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	2,331	(2,390)	59	-
The Access to Justice Foundation	(6,506)	5,270	1,236	-
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	(54)	(3,436)	3,490	-
WSS Ukraine Project	2,926	(7,236)	5,793	1,483
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	-	3,061	-	3,061
Gwent LAs	-	(3,944)	3,944	-
Justice First Fellowship	-	2,500	-	2,500
Awards For All	-	2,331	-	2,331
Welsh Government	-	18,472	-	18,472
	<u>92,542</u>	<u>111,435</u>	<u>14,522</u>	<u>218,499</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>216,433</u>	<u>105,923</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>322,356</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	136,066	(141,578)	(5,512)
Restricted funds			
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	5,000	(5,000)	-
Tudor Trust	-	(76)	(76)
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	-	(570)	(570)
Ministry of Justice	-	(1,799)	(1,799)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	110,000	(43,811)	66,189
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	(19,565)	435
Justice Collaborations	215,337	(153,504)	61,833
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	-	(29,205)	(29,205)
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	35,001	(37,391)	(2,390)
The Access to Justice Foundation	17,499	(12,229)	5,270
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	49,231	(52,667)	(3,436)
WSS Ukraine Project	(1)	(7,235)	(7,236)
Albert Hunt Trust	3,000	(3,000)	-
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	5,000	(1,939)	3,061
Gwent LAs	-	(3,944)	(3,944)
Justice First Fellowship	2,500	-	2,500
Awards For All	9,975	(7,644)	2,331
Welsh Government	39,002	(20,530)	18,472
	<u>511,544</u>	<u>(400,109)</u>	<u>111,435</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>647,610</u>	<u>(541,687)</u>	<u>105,923</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/2/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	78,771	46,144	(1,024)	123,891
Restricted funds				
Tudor Trust	(3,656)	3,782	-	126
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	1,344	644	-	1,988
Asylum rights programme	(6,408)	5,654	754	-
City United Reform Church	758	(858)	100	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	13,186	(13,186)	-	-
Welsh Gov - Legal advice & sanctuary	(8,443)	8,443	-	-
Ministry of Justice	19,771	(16,595)	170	3,346
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	24,627	(4,184)	-	20,443
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Justice Collaborations	-	26,378	-	26,378
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	-	41,564	-	41,564
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	-	2,331	-	2,331
The Access to Justice Foundation	-	(6,506)	-	(6,506)
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	-	(54)	-	(54)
WSS Ukraine Project	-	2,926	-	2,926
	<u>61,179</u>	<u>30,339</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>92,542</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>139,950</u>	<u>76,483</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,433</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	148,870	(102,726)	46,144
Restricted funds			
Daughters of charity	2,608	(2,608)	-
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	4,000	(4,000)	-
The Sam & Bella SCF cost of living	2,916	(2,916)	-
Tudor Trust	43,300	(39,518)	3,782
Tudor trust - staff wellbeing	2,000	(1,356)	644
Asylum rights programme	7,974	(2,320)	5,654
City United Reform Church	-	(858)	(858)
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	(13,186)	(13,186)
Welsh Gov - Legal advice & sanctuary	12,500	(4,057)	8,443
Ministry of Justice	-	(16,595)	(16,595)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	(54,184)	(4,184)
Postcode Community Trust	-	(20,000)	(20,000)
Justice Collaborations	66,666	(40,288)	26,378
British Red Cross Society - Repair Programme	52,500	(10,936)	41,564
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	35,000	(32,669)	2,331
The Access to Justice Foundation	35,000	(41,506)	(6,506)
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services	48,452	(48,506)	(54)
WSS Ukraine Project	22,025	(19,099)	2,926
	<u>384,941</u>	<u>(354,602)</u>	<u>30,339</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>533,811</u>	<u>(457,328)</u>	<u>76,483</u>

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Asylum Justice

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Year Ended 31/3/24 £	Period 2022 to 31/3/23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	9,264	10,285
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	2,541	2,211
Investment income		
Bank interest	430	202
Charitable activities		
Grants	635,375	518,197
Other income		
Other income	-	2,916
Total incoming resources	647,610	533,811
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Sundry	371	310
Charitable activities		
Wages	273,518	218,520
Social security	18,850	14,590
Pensions	5,806	4,185
Staff training	1,886	6,534
Staff travel expenses	2,183	800
Legal and Professional	155,962	159,964
British Red Cross grant	26,446	-
	484,651	404,593
Support costs		
Other		
Rates and water	169	535
Carried forward	169	535

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Asylum Justice

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Year Ended 31/3/24 £	Period 2022 to 31/3/23 £
Other		
Brought forward	169	535
Insurance	2,550	1,741
Telephone	1,606	1,061
Postage and stationery	3,849	3,998
Rent & room hire	19,200	14,790
Legal & Professional	1,705	1,074
Repairs & renewals	-	1,358
Subscriptions	3,127	971
Sundry expenses	199	5,168
Software, IT & website	14,877	12,551
Staff wellbeing	570	1,586
Bank charges	36	88
Independent examiners fees	4,416	3,764
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,361	3,740
	<u>56,665</u>	<u>52,425</u>
Total resources expended	<u>541,687</u>	<u>457,328</u>
Net income	<u>105,923</u>	<u>76,483</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASYLUM JUSTICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1112026

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05447875 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1112026

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Period
1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023**

for

Asylum Justice

**BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA**



Asylum Justice

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

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Asylum Justice

Trustees Report

For the Period Ended 31st March 2023

Charity Number 1112026

Company registration number 05447875

Trustees Report

Covering the period 1st February 2022 – 31st March 2023

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the period ending 31st March 2023 and confirm that they comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) incorporating section 1a for smaller entities.

The charity remains a going concern. The reasons are set out in the report below.

During this reporting period, Asylum Justice changed its financial year, so this report covers 14 months (1st February 2022 – 31st March 2023).

Objectives and Activities

Asylum Justice is the only charitable organisation in Wales – considered as a legal aid desert with an ever-shrinking immigration sector – which offers free, specialist (OISC Level 3) immigration advice and representation to asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants up to and including court level. In broad terms we work with those who have made a request for protection in the UK which may be considered under the UN Refugee Convention 1951 or under the European Convention on Human Rights 1950.

We provide legal advice and representation when someone cannot access legal aid because it has been withdrawn or their immigration matter is 'out of scope' of legal aid. No other organisation provides this service in Wales and consequently Asylum Justice is the last place that people can turn to for help in their asylum or immigration case. Where we succeed in securing status or reuniting a family, it is a

1b

vital step in ensuring meaningful socio-economic inclusion for some of the most vulnerable individuals in Wales. Wider outcomes include reducing pressure on statutory and third sector agencies, particularly when destitute individuals gain access to social and legal protections. The value of our unique service cannot be stressed enough.

Our specific casework objectives can be broadly summarised as:

1. To assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants in securing and maintaining legal recognition, thereby alleviating destitution and exclusion amongst this client group
2. To keep families living in the UK together through making initial and further leave applications
3. To reunite refugee families in Wales by representing them in family reunion applications

Since 2013, we have primarily focused our limited resources on delivering high-quality legal advice and representation services. Our wider charity objectives expanded slightly in the last three years to include taking steps to participate further in Welsh and UK-wide advocacy trying to address the systemic problems in the asylum and immigration systems which give rise to the need for the services which Asylum Justice provides; as well as beginning to train up new immigration advisers to assure a future supply to the organisation.

Asylum Justice Memorandum and Articles of Association – Objectives (extract)

"The relief of poverty, in particular but not exclusively, for persons including but not limited to asylum seekers and refugees who have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or in any other legal proceedings; and

To provide legal advice, assistance and representation in relation to persons including but not limited to asylum seekers who by reason of their inadequate means are unable to obtain such advice and representation from their own resources and who, in particular but not exclusively, have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or any other legal proceedings."

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance in planning and managing the activities and work of the organisation for public benefit.

Achievements and performance

Please note statistics for 2022 cover the reporting period (1st February 2022 – 31st March 2023) for this annual report. As mentioned in the introduction, Asylum Justice extended the financial year, so the statistics below cover this extended 14-month period.

1. Appeals

61% success rate for appeals (2022)

With a shortage of legal aid solicitors in Wales, a shrinking sector, and stringent merits tests, there continue to be ever-increasing numbers of clients denied access to justice at appeal. The extent of this

is highlighted in Jo Wilding's 2022 report, "No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants & Our Communities" (2022)¹.

We take on the appeals of asylum seekers denied legal aid on the grounds that solicitors considered their case too 'weak' to win on appeal. As such, we act only in appeal cases deemed complex and unlikely to succeed. Despite this, in 2022 we won 61% of these appeals, above the national average of 53%². This demonstrates both the importance of representation at appeal stage, and the high-quality legal support delivered by Asylum Justice.

This area of work usually requires very quick action. This is because clients who have had legal representation withdrawn by their previous legal aid solicitor will have a very short timescale in which to lodge an appeal and, once the appeal is lodged, an initial court hearing can be listed for less than a month later. Clients at this stage of the asylum process are also on the verge of becoming destitute, as Home Office support and accommodation are withdrawn if no appeal is lodged or, indeed, if an appeal is dismissed after a hearing in which the client was unrepresented.

"I felt very lucky to have my lawyer at Asylum Justice. I felt like I was in good hands and in the right place. She was the first person I opened up to properly about what had happened to me, because I felt very safe talking to her. I told her things which I hadn't felt safe to talk about to anyone. She was so caring and committed to doing her job well. I felt protected and reassured that I was in a safe place."

Maria*

One client successful before the First-tier Tribunal

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

First-tier Tribunal Appeals

We submitted 1 application for Permission to Appeal to the First-tier Tribunal and have represented 36 applicants at First-tier Tribunal Appeals.

Upper Tribunal Appeals

Asylum Justice made 13 'permission to appeal' applications to the Upper Tribunal during this reporting period. Due to ongoing issues caused by the pandemic, the decision response on permission to appeal applications has often been severely delayed. In this reporting period, we represented 4 clients at an Upper Tribunal appeal hearing.

¹ Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities. <https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

² UK Government. (May 2023) National statistics: How many people do we grant protection to?. Accessed 30.08.23 at: [How many people do we grant protection to? - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

2. Fresh Claims

29% success rate (2022) for fresh claims submitted; 82% refused submissions granted right of appeal.

In 2022, we submitted fresh claims for 18 refused asylum seekers who had exhausted all appeal rights. Asylum seekers who have exhausted all appeal rights sometimes have fresh grounds or compelling new evidence with which they can make further submissions to the Home Office in support of their previous asylum claim. Some simply never had their claim fully considered the first time around due to poor quality legal representation or an appeal not being lodged in time.

Most notably, 82% of the further submissions (i.e., fresh claims) made by Asylum Justice were granted a right of appeal in 2022. This demonstrates the high quality of submissions made, as the overwhelming majority of fresh asylum claims are not granted a right of appeal when refused by the Home Office. The right to have your case heard by an immigration judge dramatically improves an applicant's overall chances of succeeding with a fresh claim.

Many of these clients will be completely destitute, having spent years in enforced poverty and homelessness in the UK due to their lack of legal status. For most, returning home is not an option due to continued fears for their safety. When a fresh claim is successful, it transforms a client's situation immediately, by granting them legal status and associated rights such as the opportunity to work and/or claim benefits. It will also create the right to apply for refugee family reunion, thereby allowing them to recover from recent traumatic experiences and fully integrate into Welsh society

"Before we went to Asylum Justice, we'd tried to go to some legal aid solicitors again, but we weren't eligible for legal aid. We went to Asylum Justice, and they were really positive about our case and its chances of success."

Jim & Helena*

A family granted leave following a Fresh Claim

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

3. Family Reunion

100% successful Family Reunion applications (2022)

"Now I'm thinking about the future – about having a small family and a happy life. I'm also always thinking about my country and trying to help the people in my country as much as I can.

I am very happy that Asylum Justice exists. The work their lawyers do is very serious, helping people hugely. It's a good choice to fund this organisation, as it's changing people's lives."

Abdullah*

A client reunited with his wife after nearly 8 years apart

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

We submitted 11 family reunion applications. Despite being a fundamental human right, this is an area of law without access to legal aid provision. Without representation, many refugee families remain separated, which impacts significantly on the sponsor's ability to recover and integrate into the host community, whilst relatives remain in often dangerous environments, such as war zones or refugee camps.

There have been significant delays for applications being considered by the Home Office in 2022 due to the Ukraine Crisis, which has seen the Home Office divert resources away from non-Ukrainian applications. This has left some clients waiting many months, or even over a year, for a decision on their family reunion case.

4. Leave and Nationality Applications

93% successful leave, further leave, settlement, and naturalisation applications (2022)

We assist vulnerable migrants, many of whom are failed asylum seekers, to make applications for leave to remain in the UK based on their private and family life. Many of these clients may be part of established Welsh families, with a child or partner who is either a British citizen or legally settled here.

Many of those with leave to remain in the UK on grounds of their family and private life are required to make four separate paid applications over a ten-year period before being able to apply for legal settlement. To find thousands of pounds every few years for application and solicitor's fees is beyond the reach of most. If no extension application is made before an applicant's current leave to remain expires, they will become 'overstayers' overnight, thereby losing the right to work or access to public funds. They also face the risk of detention and forced removal, separating them from their loved ones.

This year we submitted 27 leave applications and 9 settlement applications (4 of which were Domestic Violence Settlement applications), with accompanying fee waivers applications where relevant (21 in total). We also submitted 5 naturalisation applications.

5. Lifting the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Condition

In 2022 we made 1 application to lift the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition attached to clients' existing leave to remain. This enables vulnerable clients on the verge of destitution to claim benefits where they are eligible.

6. Strategic Litigation

Pre-Action Protocols for further accommodation and support issues

We submitted 2 pre-action protocol letters to initiate judicial review proceedings. In both these cases, the Home Office ultimately conceded and granted the legal remedy sought.

7. Referrals to Legal Aid Providers

As we do not use legal aid to fund our casework, we always refer out clients who are eligible for legal aid to local immigration and asylum solicitors. This ensures our casework resources are focused on clients with no access to legal aid. In this reporting period, we referred at least 45 clients to legal aid advisers, demonstrating the vital role Asylum Justice plays in securing representation for clients whom we do not directly represent.

However, in 2022 a number of providers in Wales closed their legal aid departments. Already classed as a legal aid desert³, this has left the legal aid system in Wales on the brink of collapse. The remaining few providers have been left working at full capacity, unable to offer appointments until six months later, and in some cases unable to take on any new cases at all. This includes initial asylum claimants and even unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases) being unable to access a legal aid solicitor. Asylum Justice's mission is to support those who cannot access legal aid, so we are seeing a corresponding increase in demand and are considering how best to deal with this in the coming year, as demand looks set to increase.

8. Advice-Only Clients

Our caseworkers provided one-off legal advice to 29 clients. 'Advice-only' statistics do not include clients who subsequently progress onto our waiting list for substantive casework to be undertaken on their behalf. Most clients progress on to our waiting list, as there is no other appropriately accredited organisation to which we can refer them to access the legal representation they need.

Where an enquiry falls outside the scope of our work or the individual lives outside of Wales, our Client Liaison team plays a crucial role in responding and signposting to more appropriate services where possible. In total, we received 380 enquiries during this reporting period. This covers those who were taken on for substantive representation (or added to the waiting list where necessary), given one-off

³ Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities. <https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

advice, referred to a legal aid provider, signposted to other organisations and those whose matters fell out of our scope.

9. Ukraine Project Cymru

Extra funding was provided in September 2022 by the Welsh Government via the Wales Sanctuary Service to support Ukrainian refugees in Wales. The funding provided to Asylum Justice has been used in collaboration with Cardiff School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University to provide free Legal Advice to Ukrainian Refugees through the Ukraine Project Cymru. The Project is led by Jennifer Morgan, a lecturer in law and a qualified immigration advisor, along with administrative support and a number of students (23 took part in the first year of the project). The Project is based in the Pro Bono Unit in Cardiff School of Law and Politics and was nominated for an award at the LawWorks Pro Bono Awards 2023. Across the first year, 34 individuals were seen in initial advice appointments, plus general immigration advice to a further seven. 20 more were referred or signposted to other schemes which could help them with non-immigration related enquiries.

Service Delivery

Our service can be accessed via an online referral form, a support line or via numerous third sector and statutory services' referral partnerships. Most significantly, in 2022 we were part of the Wales Sanctuary Services – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and Displaced People in Action (DPIA)) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

During the year we expanded Client Liaison Officer capacity by introducing a new full-time post. The two Client Liaison Officers coordinated between clients, lawyers, interpreters and partners. The Client Liaison Officer plays a particularly important role in ensuring the accessibility of our service by reassuring clients when they first contact Asylum Justice, gathering necessary paperwork for the lawyer to review prior to meeting with a client, and managing expectations around waiting times and how our service works.

Once allocated an adviser, clients receive initial advice and then might be referred on to a legal aid provider, where legal aid is available, or represented directly through Asylum Justice. For some clients, due to the circumstances of their case, it is not possible to assist them further. These clients nonetheless still receive comprehensive advice from us regarding their situation and options. Following advice sessions, we refer clients to other services for assistance for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health, or social isolation. Occasionally, clients need emergency referrals to out-of-hours Social Services departments or Accident and Emergency NHS units.

During 2022, we have been successfully providing our advice and substantive casework services in a hybrid format. It should be noted that as of the end of March 2023, we had 176 substantive cases in

progress (up from approximately 150 at the end of last year). This demonstrates our continued ability to work with a large number of clients despite working through a mixed modality and with only a small team.

Whether or not the service is offered face-to-face or remotely is dependent on the client's vulnerabilities/needs and adviser's capacity (some work solely remotely). Where clients need to have remote expert appointments or court hearings, we have also been able to offer limited space and equipment to clients.

The demand for our advice and representation has increased significantly during this year and continues to outweigh our ability to supply these services immediately to everyone who approaches us. At the time of writing this report we have a large waiting list of more than 100 clients at present, with monthly enquiries growing each month (average 33 per month compared with 20 per month during the same period last year). In January and February 2023, we received four times the number of enquiries/referrals than during the same period in 2022.

Staffing and Volunteers

Ruth Brown, the Legal Director, is responsible for the charity's casework and office management. Ruth was nominated in 2020 as an 'Inspiring Woman Lawyer' in the UK as part of a study carried out by the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. Ruth is frequently invited to speak on national radio and at panels regarding our work and the wider context of UK immigration policy.

Legal staff included a small number of sessional caseworkers who provide vital specialist advice and representation to clients. We are very fortunate to work with these experienced sessional caseworkers, who frequently secure positive outcomes for our clients. Working alongside the legal staff, we increased capacity by employing a new full-time Client Liaison Officer (bringing this to 2 FTE) who ensured effective coordination between clients, staff, and external partners, in addition to offering administration support and being the main point of contact for our offices.

In early 2022, one of the sessional caseworkers joined our team as a Supervising Caseworker to carry their own caseload and assist the Legal Director in supervising trainees. Due to a generalised shortage of immigration advisers in Wales, and subsequently a shortage of supply to our own organisation, we continue to train up new caseworkers. We began piloting this in 2020 and subsequently expanded it in 2021 and 2022 after securing additional funding. With the increased demand on our service and the additional objective to train new caseworkers, we now see it as a priority to bring more qualified caseworker roles in-house as we secure sufficient funding. We now work with four trainees, currently at OISC Level 1 and 2.

The Funding Officer's hours were increased to a full-time post. The Funding Officer worked to identify and apply for new funding, maximise the impact of grants, and build up our reserves through careful financial management. Her responsibilities were also expanded to work on monitoring, learning and

evaluation for Asylum Justice, including reviewing and improving systems for effectively and efficiently collecting statistics.

During 2022 we also expanded capacity by hiring a Business Support Officer (0.6FTE) to support with financial processes, improving systems and procurement.

Partnerships and Memberships

While others in the Welsh migration-focused third sector are working on multiple, interrelated issues which affect the rights and integration of asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants – such as destitution, communication issues, mental health and social isolation – no other agency offers free OISC Level 3 immigration advice and representation to those without access to legal aid, nor maintains a central expert role in Wales on issues regarding the legal aid and immigration systems.

We receive regular referrals from, and we refer regularly to (for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health or social isolation), a wide variety of local public, private and third sector partners. Partners such as local authorities, the faith sector, the Wales Sanctuary Services partners (including the Welsh Refugee Council, EYST, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and DPIA), a range of third sector organisations (such as British Red Cross, Welsh Women’s Aid, Homestart, Oasis Cardiff) and the Law Centres Network.

Asylum Justice also has strong working partnerships with a range of other organisations including the Welsh Refugee Coalition, Law Works Cymru, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the Electronic Immigration Network, Refugee Action, the Refugee Legal Group, and Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

Raising funds

This year’s achievements have been underpinned by generous financial support from a range of existing and new funding bodies, which are listed below, in addition to individual donations from supporters or local groups/businesses.

(i) Grant income

Tudor Trust: Tudor Trust provides an unrestricted grant which has been renewed from January 2023 – December 2025. This provides the salary for our Legal Director and some core costs.

Wales Sanctuary Services (Welsh Government): Asylum Justice is part of a consortium of third sector organisations (with the Welsh Refugee Council as lead agency) that secured funding from the Welsh Government for a three-year programme to improve services for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales. This funding is used to pay for caseworker costs. It has also covered some interpreting, translation, and expert report costs. As part of this grant, extra funding was provided by the Welsh Government in September 2022 to support Ukrainian refugees in Wales. The funding provided to

Asylum Justice has been used in collaboration with Cardiff School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University to fund the Ukraine Project Cymru.

Lloyds Bank Foundation: Lloyds Bank Foundation provides a two-year unrestricted grant. During this reporting period the grant covered a full-time Client Liaison Officer post and contributed to organisation overheads.

Ministry of Justice (via. Community Justice Fund): Asylum Justice received emergency funding from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) through wave 3 of the Community Justice Fund. This emergency funding part-funded a range of staff posts in addition to some organisation overheads.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation: Asylum Justice continued a multi-year core grant from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to support its casework operations, strengthen its use of casework data, and increase its contribution to sector advocacy and campaigning work.

Postcode Community Trust: A one-year grant ended in November 2022, which supported casework operations, contributing to sessional caseworkers and interpretation/translation costs.

Justice Together Initiative: Continuing fund granted for a multi-year project in partnership with British Red Cross to support gathering documents, primarily for clients wishing to apply for or renew their leave to remain / settlement and family reunion applicants.

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) Repair project: Continuing fund for a multi-year project in partnership with British Red Cross supporting family reunion applications.

Ministry of Justice (via Access to Justice; Help Accessing Legal Support Scheme): Asylum Justice secured a 6-month one-off grant to support delivery of its legal casework services. A further three months were later granted, ending June 2023.

AB Charitable Trust: Asylum Justice secured a new unrestricted single-year grant of £20,000 from the AB Charitable Trust to continue to further Asylum Justice's charitable objectives.

Moondance Foundation: Asylum Justice secured a single-year grant of £35,000 to support its casework operations and core costs.

Sam and Bella Sebba Charitable Trust: A two-year grant towards core costs, with specific aims of diversifying delivery of legal advice, strengthening use of monitoring, learning and evaluation, and training immigration advisors.

(ii) Donations and Activity Fundraising

The focus in 2022 has primarily been on funding applications to funding bodies, but we have also received ongoing regular donations from a number of supporters.

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In the next financial year, we intend to run some fundraising events and individual giving campaigns in order to increase our unrestricted reserves. It is a focus of the Funding Officer to diversify income during the next year.

Financial Review

The Accounts for the period ended 31st March 2023 show a surplus of £76,483 (2022 year £5,163). The total income in 2023 was £533,811 (2022 year £318,177) and the total expenditure for the 2023 period was £457,328 (2022 £313,014). Income in the 2023 period included restricted/core grant funds of £375,417 (2022 £265,392) and unrestricted grant funds of £142,780 (2022 £40,580). Donations, fundraising, investment income and other income was also received totalling £15,614 (2022 £12,205). The expenditure for the period has largely been on core management costs, including salaries, payment for consultancy casework (including interpretation and expert reports) and running the offices at Portland House. There were also payments for data storage and IT. The total fund balance brought forward at 1st February 2022 was £139,950 and £216,433 was carried forward at 31st March 2023. The balance on the unrestricted fund increased during the year by £45,120 from £78,771 brought forward to £123,891 at 31st March 2023.

Reserves Policy

The unrestricted reserves on 31st March 2023 are £123,891 which is equal to approximately 3.8 months of expected overall expenditure. The current reserves policy aims to hold at least 3 months average running costs. The trustees are happy the unrestricted reserves are satisfactory. They intend to increase reserves during the March 2024 year to ensure sustainability.

The workload of the Funding Officer during the 2022 year did not allow for an individual "giving strategy" to be drawn up and implemented. While the reserves are lower than desirable, existing grant agreements were sufficient at the end of March 2023 to cover operating costs for the 3-month minimum, Asylum Justice continues to receive generous ongoing support from a number of funders.

Risk policy

The trustees are aware of all the major risks regarding the charity including financial and personal risks, which are reviewed on an on-going basis. Financial risk is recognised and controlled by a system of authorisation of expenses and segregation of duties in recording and processing wages and income. Trustees are appointed to check and review personnel matters and Health and Safety and appropriate insurance are in place.

Plans for the future

Asylum Justice will continue to play a unique and essential role within the Welsh refugee and migrant rights sector in terms of outcomes for individuals, reducing pressure on statutory (as demonstrated by

recent research⁴) and other third sector agencies. We have also increasingly become a source of specialist information for wider sector organisations involved in advocacy on refugees'/migrants' rights.

Most significantly we will continue to be part of the Wales Sanctuary Services (WSS) programme – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, TGP, BAWSO, and DPIA) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

The events of the last year have demonstrated our resilience as an organisation to adapt and continue to provide our service. It has also led us to reflect on gaps in our resources and consider new solutions, such as regarding the supply of future qualified immigration advisors in Wales. Asylum Justice has started to focus some of its resources on training up new advisors to ensure sustainability of available advisors for Asylum Justice in the coming years. In 2023, our three OISC Level 2 trainees will participate in an intensive pilot programme of training, supervision, and peer support for immigration advisers delivered by Asylum Aid. This is a fantastic opportunity for our trainees and the programme will demonstrate that investment in training a sustainable pipeline of expert immigration advisers is a key element in creating a strengthened, better coordinated and well-networked immigration advice system.

The Funding Officer, with support from the Legal Director and trustees, is also focusing further efforts on our income generation. This includes improving the organisation's monitoring and evaluation work, such as aiming to produce casework statistics more regularly in addition to increasing the number of testimonials gathered from previous clients. This is work which will assist us to identify improvements we can make to our service, demonstrating the need for, and high quality of, our service in future funding applications. It also means that we are in a unique position to evidence issues and problems occurring within both the asylum and immigration system and the legal aid system. The Legal Director is regularly contacted by academics undertaking research in these areas, and our greater involvement in general advocacy work is an area of work that certain of our funders are very keen for us to develop.

Securing further medium to long-term funding is a priority for Asylum Justice, so that we can ensure the sustainability of its current services but also develop our ability to better resource the organisation's infrastructure. A better resourced infrastructure will relieve pressure from key members of staff, ensure we can provide our service in a timely manner to all those who need to access it, and free up experienced members of staff to concentrate on casework.

During 2022, we have seen a significant and rapid increase in demand for our services. In 2023, we will prioritise maximising efficiency and expanding capacity where necessary and where we are able.

⁴ Leckie C. , Munro R. , and Pragnell M. (September 2021) *Defending the public purse: The economic value of the free legal advice sector* [<https://atjf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Defending-the-public-purse-The-economic-value-of-the-free-legal-advice-sector-September-2021.pdf>]

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Due to the collapse of the legal aid system, it is also likely that Asylum Justice will experience further increase in demand and may need to take on new types of cases that were previously referred out to legal aid providers, such as initial asylum claims and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC cases). For 2023 Asylum Justice will need to assess how to meet the rapidly growing need, whilst ensuring sustainability of our services.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Asylum Justice is also registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. The charity is also registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for data protection purposes.

The charity is managed directly by its board of trustees. Each Trustee is ex officio a member of the company. There are no other members. The board consists of eight Trustees. A Trustee who has served a continuous term of six years must resign for at least one year but then may stand for re-election to the board.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at a general meeting; the members of the charity may, by ordinary resolution, appoint a trustee or the trustees may appoint a trustee themselves.

A trustee is appointed and holds office until the next Annual General Meeting. If not re-appointed at the AGM they should then vacate office.

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel are considered to be the trustees and the Directors. Trustees receive no remuneration.

Two trustees, Sian Summers-Rees and Stuart Penny, stepped down during the year due to personal circumstances. The Trustees expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work they had done for the charity.

Reference And Administrative Details

Company Name: Asylum Justice Limited

Company Registration Number: 05447875 Incorporated 10th May 2005.

Charity Registration Number: 1112026

Office of the OISC Registration Number: N200800025

Registered Office

Bankers: CAF Bank

In

Accountants: Mr Huw Palin FCA - BPU Limited , Radnor House, Greenwood Close, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8AA.

Trustees:

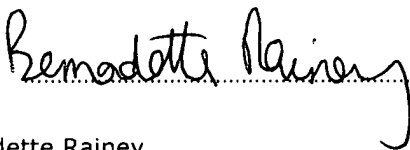
Bernadette Rainey (Chair)
Mark Baker (Treasurer)
Thomas Godwin (Secretary)
Victoria Goodban
Fermmigje (aka Emmy) Chater
Holly Taylor
Joseff Morgan
Kate Toner-Bass (appointed 22nd August 2022)

Resignations

Sian Summers-Rees (Resigned 15th November 2022)
Stuart Penny (Resigned 24th March 2023)

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiner

In so far as the trustees/directors are aware at the time of approving our trustee's annual report there is no relevant information, being information needed by the examiner in connection with preparing their report, of which the examiner is unaware, and the trustees have taken all steps that they are obliged to take as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the examiner is aware. The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (incorporating directors' report) above.

Signed by Trustee: 

Date: 23/10/23

Print name: Bernadette Rainey

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act)

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). The Charity's gross income is over £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



John Huw Palin
FCA
BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants

25th October 2023

Asylum Justice
Statement of Financial Activities (Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

		<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>fund</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Period</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Year</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	£	£	£	£
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	3,677	6,608	10,285	2,947
Charitable activities	4	142,780	375,417	518,197	305,972
Other trading activities	5	2,211	-	2,211	9,258
Investment income	6	202	-	202	-
Other income	7	-	2,916	2,916	-
Total Income		148,870	384,941	533,811	318,177
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	8	310	-	310	113
Charitable activities	9	102,416	354,602	457,018	312,901
Total Expenditure		102,726	354,602	457,328	313,014
Net income/(expenditure)		46,144	30,339	76,483	5,163
Transfer between funds	15	(1,024)	1,024	-	-
Net movement in funds		45,120	31,363	76,483	5,163
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward	15	<u>78,771</u>	<u>61,179</u>	<u>139,950</u>	<u>134,787</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>123,891</u>	<u>92,542</u>	<u>216,433</u>	<u>139,950</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

Balance Sheet
31st March 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
FIXED ASSETS			
	12	<u>11,614</u>	<u>7,060</u>
		<u>11,614</u>	<u>7,060</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	69,833	29,104
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>166,212</u>	<u>124,192</u>
		<u>236,045</u>	<u>153,296</u>
CREDITORS : Amounts Falling			
Due within One Year	14	<u>(31,226)</u>	<u>(20,406)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>204,819</u>	<u>132,890</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITES		<u>216,433</u>	<u>139,950</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	15	123,891	78,771
Restricted funds	15	<u>92,542</u>	<u>61,179</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>216,433</u>	<u>139,950</u>

The directors/trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477 (2) relating to small companies, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 (1) of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charitable company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 & 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the Trustees and authorised for issue on 23/10/23 and were signed on its behalf by:

Bernadette Rainey **BERNADETTE RAINÉY**
 Signature Print name

Company registration number: 05447875
Charity certificate number: 1112026

The notes form part of these financial statements.

Asylum Justice

Cash Flow Statement For the Period Ended 31st March 2023

		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Notes		
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>50,314</u>	<u>5,163</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>50,314</u>	<u>5,163</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of Intangible assets		-	-
Purchase of tangible assets		<u>(8,294)</u>	<u>(3,285)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(8,294)</u>	<u>(3,285)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	2	42,020	(15,637)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>124,192</u>	<u>139,829</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>166,212</u>	<u>124,192</u>

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement For the Period Ended 31st March 2023

1 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net income for the reporting period (as per the SOFA)	76,483	5,163
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,740	1,872
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(40,729)	(27,253)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>10,820</u>	<u>7,866</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>50,314</u>	<u>(12,352)</u>

2 Analysis of changes in net debt

	<u>At 01/02/22</u>	<u>Cash flow</u>	<u>At 31/03/23</u>
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>124,192</u>	<u>42,020</u>	<u>166,212</u>
Debt	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>124,192</u>	<u>42,020</u>	<u>166,212</u>

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial Statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006, incorporating section 1A for smaller entities. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest £ and have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- i) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in accounts when receivable.
- ii) Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant which will normally be when the grant is actually received. Grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Deferred income represents grant monies received for future periods and released to incoming resources in the period to which it relates.
- iii) Trading income is included when receivable.
- iv) Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and are material.
- v) Investment income and all other income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds are those funds received or generated for the objects of the Charity without further specified purpose and are available to use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity.

Restricted Funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the Donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the Fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Assets are originally included at cost and depreciated as:

- Computer equipment - charged on a straight line basis over four years.
- Furniture - charged on a straight line basis over four years.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Cash Flow Statement

The company has prepared a Cash Flow Statement as per Page 5 with accompanying notes on page 6.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution scheme for employees. Contributions to the scheme are charged fully to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period that they relate.

2 NET Income/(Expenditure) for the period

This is stated after charging:-

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Depreciation on owned assets	3,740	1,872
Independent Examiners Fees	3,764	1,890
	<u>7,504</u>	<u>3,762</u>

3 Income: Donations and legacies

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Unrestricted donations received	3,677	2,947
Restricted donation received:		
Daughters of Charity	2,608	
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	<u>4,000</u>	-
	<u>10,285</u>	<u>2,947</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2022</u> £
4 Income from charitable activities	<u>518,197</u>	<u>305,972</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:		
<u>Unrestricted</u>		
Community Justice Fund - Wave 2 & 3 (CJF Consortium)	12,196	20,580
AB Charitable Trust	20,000	20,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250	-
Moondance Foundation	35,000	-
Tudor Trust	48,334	-
	<u>142,780</u>	<u>40,580</u>
<u>Restricted</u>		
Tudor Trust	43,300	43,300
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	2,000	2,000
Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government)	7,974	23,924
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	24,248
Welsh Government - Legal advice & Sanctuary Seekers	12,500	62,500
Ministry of Justice (Community Justice Fund) - Wave 2	-	39,420
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared Ground	50,000	50,000
Postcode Community Trust	-	20,000
Justice Collaborations	66,666	-
British Red Cross Society - Repair programme	52,500	-
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation	35,000	-
The Access to Justice Foundation	35,000	-
Welsh Government - Sanctuary Services	48,452	-
WSS Ukraine project	22,025	-
	<u>375,417</u>	<u>265,392</u>
The funds are restricted to providing the services as set out in the grant funding agreements.		
5 Income: Other Trading activities	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Fundraising events	2,211	9,258
All Trading income is unrestricted in 2023 and 2022.		
6 Investment income	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Investment income is Bank interest receivable and is unrestricted.	202	-
7 Other income	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Cost of living for employees from the Sam & Bella Foundation	2,916	-
Other income is restricted.		
8 Expenditure on: Raising funds	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Unrestricted.	310	113

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

9 Expenditure on : Charitable activities

Note	WELSH GOV.																	TOTAL								
	Daughters of Charity & Talgarth				Sam & Bella		Tudor Trust		Asylum Rights pros. (Welsh Gov)		United Reform Church		Lloyds Bank		Welsh Gov. Legal advice		Ministry of Justice (C.I.F)		Paul Hamlyn F.		Postcode Community Justice		The Sam & Bella		WSS	
	General	Hay, Brecon	Cost of living	Tudor Trust	Welsh Gov	Church	Foundation	Seekers	Wave 1-2	Shared Ground	Trust	Collaboration	Repair prog.	Foundation	HALS	Services	Project	2023	2022							
**	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	TOTAL	TOTAL							
Direct costs																										
Salaries, NI and Pension	11	66,875		39,430				6,877		8,791	41,832			30,166	7,736	32,602	1,489	1,497	237,295	141,544						
Legal & professional fees	*	24,110	2,608	4,000			2,320			4,057	4,619	874	20,000	9,190	3,182	67	19,685	47,009	18,243	159,964	130,997					
Insurance excess	10										75			24			344				1,000					
Staff Travel Expenses		357																			800	288				
Staff training		420						858	1,916								2,913		427	6,534	5,745					
Support costs																										
Rent & room hire		1,200							3,766		224	3,600					6,000				14,790	8,705				
Rates & water		43									54	255					183				535	524				
Insurances		258										1,227		256							1,741	952				
Repairs and Renewals		747									80	531									1,358	555				
Telephone		226							228		54	151									1,061	1,472				
Printing, Stationery and Post		613									103	1,344			423		1,515				3,998	2,911				
Legal & Professional fees		1,056															18				1,074	638				
Subscriptions		552				60						96					263				971	629				
Sundry Expenses		411		2,916		30						1,421					30				5,168	912				
Software, IT & Website		4,106							399		571	2,610				18	4,865		342		12,551	11,515				
Depreciation		1,298			88						2,099	139			29					87	3,740	1,872				
Staff wellbeing		120				1,266								200							1,586	656				
Governance costs		24										29					3,799				3,852	1,986				
		102,416	2,608	4,000	2,916	39,518	1,356	2,320	858	13,186	4,057	16,595	54,184	20,000	40,288	10,936	32,669	41,506	48,506	19,099	457,018	312,901				
Governance costs were as follows:																										
Bank charges		24										29					35				88	96				
Independent Examiners Fees																	3,764				3,764	1,890				
		24										29					3,799				3,852	1,986				

*Direct Legal & professional fees includes caseworkers, expert reports, Interpreters & translation.

** U is Unrestricted and R is Restricted funding.

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

10 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

In the 2022 & 2023 year claims arose due to errors involving professional service/advice affecting a small number of cases. In the 2022 year Asylum Justice paid £1,000 being the insurance excess relating to the above claims by clients. It is expected that claims to date will be covered by the charity's insurers. There may be additional future claims but they are not quantifiable and thought to be not material.

11 STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Salaries and Wages	218,520	131,413
Social Security Costs	<u>14,590</u>	<u>7,397</u>
	233,110	138,810
Pension contributions to defined Contributions Scheme	<u>4,185</u>	<u>2,734</u>
	<u>237,295</u>	<u>141,544</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000

The number of employees (part-time and full-time) during period:	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Advocacy and Advice	7	6
Funding co-ordinator	1	1

12 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Computer</u>	<u>Furniture</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
COST			
At 31st January 2022	8,551	596	9,147
Additions in Year	<u>8,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,294</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>16,845</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>17,441</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 31st January 2022	2,037	50	2,087
Charge for the Year	<u>3,567</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>3,740</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>5,604</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>5,827</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2023	<u>11,241</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>11,614</u>
At 31st January 2022	<u>6,514</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>7,060</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

13 DEBTORS	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Amounts due within one year:		
Grant income receivable	62,365	-
Other debtors	93	-
Prepayments	1,893	1,227
Insurance claim receivable	<u>5,482</u>	<u>27,877</u>
	<u>69,833</u>	<u>29,104</u>

14 CREDITORS	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Accrued expenses	4,098	2,214
Trade creditors	27,128	17,479
Pension creditor	-	713
	<u>31,226</u>	<u>20,406</u>

15 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2022 Year</u>
	£	£	£
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	2,947	-	2,947
Charitable activities	40,580	265,392	305,972
Other trading activities	9,258	-	9,258
Total Income	<u>52,785</u>	<u>265,392</u>	<u>318,177</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Raising funds	113	-	113
Charitable activities	50,821	262,080	312,901
Total Expenditure	<u>50,934</u>	<u>262,080</u>	<u>313,014</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	1,851	3,312	5,163
Transfer between funds	(217)	217	-
Net movement in funds	<u>1,634</u>	<u>3,529</u>	<u>5,163</u>
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>77,137</u>	<u>57,650</u>	<u>134,787</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>78,771</u>	<u>61,179</u>	<u>139,950</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

15 CONTINUED**MOVEMENT IN FUNDS PERIOD TO 31ST MARCH 2023**

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2022</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Transfer</u> <u>between</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/03/2023</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	78,771	148,870	(1,024)	102,726	123,891
Restricted funds					
Daughters of Charity		2,608		2,608	-
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	-	4,000		4,000	-
The Sam & Bella SCF cost of living	-	2,916		2,916	-
Tudor Trust	(3,656)	43,300	-	39,518	126
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	1,344	2,000	-	1,356	1,988
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	(6,408)	7,974	754	2,320	-
City United Reform Church	758	-	100	858	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	13,186	-		13,186	-
Welsh Gov-Legal advice & Sanctuary	(8,443)	12,500		4,057	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) Wave 1 - 3	19,771	-	170	16,595	3,346
Paul Hamlyn F. - Shared Ground	24,627	50,000		54,184	20,443
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	-		20,000	-
Justice Collaborations		66,666		40,288	26,378
British Red Cross Society - Repair programme		52,500		10,936	41,564
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation		35,000		32,669	2,331
The Access to Justice Foundation		35,000		41,506	(6,506)
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services		48,452		48,506	(54)
WSS Ukraine project		22,025		19,099	2,926
	61,179	384,941	1,024	354,602	92,542
TOTAL FUNDS	139,950	533,811	-	457,328	216,433

Negative balances are a result of timing differences where expenditure has been spent in lieu of funding that was received after date.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

15 CONTINUED

COMPARATIVES FOR MOVEMENT IN FUNDS YEAR TO 31ST JANUARY 2022

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2021</u>	<u>Add</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Transfers</u> <u>between</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/01/2022</u>
Unrestricted funds	77,137	52,785	(217)	50,934	78,771
Restricted funds					
Tudor Trust	(5,580)	43,300	-	41,376	(3,656)
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	-	2,000	-	656	1,344
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	6,467	23,924	-	36,799	(6,408)
City United Reform Church	1,000	-	-	242	758
Lloyds Bank Foundation	4,037	24,248	-	15,099	13,186
Network for Social Change	2,720	-	-	2,720	-
Help Refugees	1,310	-	-	1,310	-
Access to Justice Foundation	2,516	-	-	2,516	-
Welsh Gov-Legal advice & Sanctuary	(2,089)	62,500	-	68,854	(8,443)
Community Foundation Wales	14,407	-	-	14,407	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) Wave 1 & 2	32,862	39,420	217	52,728	19,771
Paul Hamlyn F. - Shared Ground	-	50,000	-	25,373	24,627
Postcode Community Trust	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
	57,650	265,392	217	262,080	61,179
TOTAL FUNDS	134,787	318,177	-	313,014	139,950

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

15 CONTINUED

**A CURRENT PERIOD 14 MONTHS AND PRIOR YEAR 12 MONTHS COMBINED
POSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:**

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2021</u>	<u>Add</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Transfers</u> <u>between</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/03/2023</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	77,137	201,655	(1,241)	153,660	123,891
Restricted funds					
Daughters of Charity	-	2,608		2,608	
Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary	-	4,000		4,000	-
The Sam & Bella SCF cost of living	-	2,916		2,916	-
Tudor Trust	5,580	86,600	-	80,894	126
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	-	4,000	-	2,012	1,988
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	6,467	31,898	754	39,119	-
City United Reform Church	1,000	-	100	1,100	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	4,037	24,248	-	28,285	-
Network for Social Change	2,720	-	-	2,720	-
Help Refugees	1,310	-	-	1,310	-
Access to Justice Foundation	2,516	-	-	2,516	-
Welsh Gov-Legal advice & Sanctuary	2,089	75,000	-	72,911	-
Community Foundation Wales	14,407	-	-	14,407	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 1-3	32,862	39,420	387	69,323	3,346
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared Groi	-	100,000	-	79,557	20,443
Postcode Community Trust	-	20,000	-	20,000	-
Justice Collaborations		66,666		40,288	26,378
British Red Cross Society - Repair programme		52,500		10,936	41,564
The Sam & Bella Sebba Charitable Foundation		35,000		32,669	2,331
The Access to Justice Foundation		35,000		41,506	(6,506)
Welsh Gov - Wales Sanctuary Services		48,452		48,506	(54)
WSS Ukraine project		22,025		19,099	2,926
	<u>57,650</u>	<u>647,725</u>	<u>1,241</u>	<u>614,074</u>	<u>92,542</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>134,787</u>	<u>849,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>767,734</u>	<u>216,433</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1st February 2022 to 31st March 2023

16 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>fund</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2023 Total</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	4,455	7,159	11,614	7,060
Current assets	125,977	110,068	236,045	153,296
Current liabilities	(6,541)	(24,685)	(31,226)	(20,406)
	<u>123,891</u>	<u>92,542</u>	<u>216,433</u>	<u>139,950</u>

17 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The Trustees received no remuneration and did not receive any other benefits during the period ended 31st March 2023 or the 2022 year. No Trustee expenses were reimbursed in the 2023 period (2022 year £113).

18 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period (2022 as disclosed in note 17).

19 GOING CONCERN

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

20 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Charity has only basic financial instruments (Bank and cash) and these are included in the accounts as and when they are received.

21 LIABILITIES OF TRUSTEES

The entity is a private company limited by guarantee with no share capital.

ASYLUM JUSTICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1112026

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05447875 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1112026

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st January 2022**

for

Asylum Justice

**BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA**



Asylum Justice

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Asylum Justice

Trustees Report

For the Year Ended 31st January 2022

Charity Number 1112026

Company registration number 05447875

Trustees Report

Covering the period 1st February 2021 – 31st January 2022

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ending 31st January 2022 and confirm that they comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) incorporating section 1a for smaller entities.

Asylum Justice has continued to operate during the whole of the COVID-19 pandemic period and has increased its income by 43% compared to the previous reporting period. The charity remains a going concern. The reasons are set out in the report below.

Objectives and Activities

Asylum Justice is the only charitable organisation in Wales – considered as a legal aid desert with an ever-shrinking immigration sector – which offers free, specialist (OISC Level 3) immigration advice and representation to asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants up to and including court level. In broad terms we work with those who have made a request for protection in the UK which may be considered under the UN Refugee Convention 1951 or under the European Convention on Human Rights 1950.

We provide legal advice and representation when someone cannot access legal aid because it has been withdrawn or their immigration matter is 'out of scope' of legal aid. No other organisation provides this service in Wales and consequently Asylum Justice is the last place that people can turn to for help in their asylum or immigration case. Where we succeed in securing status or reuniting a family, it is a vital step in ensuring meaningful socio-economic inclusion for some of the most vulnerable Individuals

in Wales. Wider outcomes include reducing pressure on statutory and third sector agencies, particularly when destitute individuals gain access to social and legal protections. The value of our unique service cannot be stressed enough.

Our specific casework objectives can be broadly summarised as:

1. To assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants in securing and maintaining legal recognition, thereby alleviating destitution and exclusion amongst this client group
2. To keep families living in the UK together through making initial and further leave applications
3. To reunite refugee families in Wales by representing them in family reunion applications

Since 2013, we have primarily focused our limited resources on delivering high-quality legal advice and representation services. Our wider charity objectives expanded slightly in the last two years to include taking steps to participate further in Welsh and UK-wide advocacy trying to address the systemic problems in the asylum and immigration systems which give rise to the need for the services which Asylum Justice provides; as well as beginning to train up new immigration advisers to assure a future supply to the organisation.

Asylum Justice Memorandum and Articles of Association – Objectives (extract)

"The relief of poverty, in particular but not exclusively, for persons including but not limited to asylum seekers and refugees who have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or in any other legal proceedings; and

To provide legal advice, assistance and representation in relation to persons including but not limited to asylum seekers who by reason of their inadequate means are unable to obtain such advice and representation from their own resources and who, in particular but not exclusively, have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or any other legal proceedings."

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance in planning and managing the activities and work of the organisation for public benefit.

Achievements and performance

Please note statistics for 2021 cover the reporting period (1st February 2021 – 31st January 2022) for this annual report.

1. Appeals

37% success rate for appeals (2021)

With a shortage of legal aid solicitors in Wales, a shrinking sector, and stringent merits tests, there continue to be ever-increasing numbers of clients denied access to justice at appeal. The extent of this can be demonstrated by recent statistics, gathered by Jo Wilding in early 2022 for the report, "No

Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants & Our Communities” (2022)¹, which show that over a 40-day sample period, Asylum Justice represented nearly a quarter (24%) of all asylum appeals in the Newport hearing centre.

We take on the appeals of asylum seekers denied legal aid on the grounds that solicitors considered their case too ‘weak’ to win on appeal. As such, we act only in appeal cases deemed complex and unlikely to succeed, yet in 2021 we won over a third of these cases (37%).

This area of work usually requires very quick action. This is because clients who have had legal representation withdrawn by their previous legal aid solicitor will have a very short timescale in which to lodge an appeal and, once the appeal is lodged, an initial court hearing can be listed for less than a month later. Clients at this stage of the asylum process are also on the verge of becoming destitute, as Home Office support and accommodation are withdrawn if no appeal is lodged or, indeed, if an appeal is dismissed after a hearing in which the client was unrepresented.

Our annual success has been even higher in previous years (64% (2020), 77% (2019)). It should be noted that this year, as in 2020, our success rates dropped as we took on a concentration of cases with a lower prospect of success than normal. The pandemic changed quite significantly the landscape of asylum casework, with some areas of Home Office casework effectively suspended. Most notable was the processing of initial asylum claims, which virtually ground to a halt early on during the pandemic. Less asylum decisions inevitably means less appeals and, where appeals were referred to us, they were generally those which were hardest of all to win. The likely explanation for this was that local legal aid firms were applying the merits criteria less stringently than would normally be the case, due to their having greater capacity than usual. In normal times, local legal aid firms rely heavily on pre-decision work, but this decreased dramatically during the pandemic, causing them to maintain representation in appeal cases where they would previously have been likely to refuse or withdraw legal aid. This left Asylum Justice with the most challenging claims of all, with legal aid providers more willing than usual to maintain representation in cases that would normally have formed a significant part of our caseload.

¹ Wilding J. (May 2022) No Access to Justice: How Legal Advice Deserts Fail Refugees, Migrants, and Our Communities:
<https://www.ragp.org.uk/blog/no-access-to-justice>

"I felt very lucky to have my lawyer at Asylum Justice. I felt like I was in good hands and in the right place. She was the first person I opened up to properly about what had happened to me, because I felt very safe talking to her. I told her things which I hadn't felt safe to talk about to anyone. She was so caring and committed to doing her job well. I felt protected and reassured that I was in a safe place."

Maria*

One client successful before the First-tier Tribunal

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

Due to new procedures introduced at the start of lockdown by the Newport Immigration and Asylum Tribunal, the time and resources spent on each individual appeal has effectively doubled. Since lockdown began, it became mandatory to have an additional initial (albeit remote) hearing in every appeal case in which skeleton arguments must be presented and arguments about the need for an in-person hearing made. Due to the vulnerabilities of our clients, oral hearings will be frequently granted. The time counsel is now required to spend on the early stages of an appeal case has thus doubled, which in turn has significantly increased our expenditure on services provided by counsel.

First-tier Tribunal Appeals

We submitted 3 applications for Permission to Appeal to the First-tier Tribunal and have represented 25 applicants at First-tier Tribunal Appeals. One appeal was withdrawn, and leave granted before Asylum Justice represented the client in court, due to additional evidence which our adviser gathered and submitted in advance of the hearing.

This year, due to the pandemic and exceptional measures, we have had fewer clients approach us for assistance at the appeal stage. There have also still been delays, due to the pandemic, in holding court hearings and subsequent decision-making processes.

Upper Tribunal Appeals

Having made 'permission to appeal' applications to the First-tier Tribunal, Asylum Justice made 15 'permission to appeal' applications to the Upper Tribunal during this reporting period. Due to the pandemic, the decision response on permission to appeal applications has often been severely delayed. In this reporting period, we represented 1 client at an Upper Tribunal appeal hearing.

2. Fresh Claims

56% success rate (2021) for fresh claims submitted; All refused submissions granted right of appeal

In 2020, we submitted fresh claims for 22 refused asylum seekers who had exhausted all appeal rights. Asylum seekers who have exhausted all appeal rights sometimes have fresh grounds or compelling new evidence with which they can make further submissions to the Home Office in support of their

le

previous asylum claim. Some simply never had their claim fully considered the first time around due to poor quality legal representation or an appeal not being lodged in time.

Most notably, all the further submissions (i.e., fresh claims) made by Asylum Justice were granted a right of appeal. This demonstrates the high quality of submissions made as the overwhelming majority of fresh asylum claims (85% according to Right to Remain Toolkit) are not granted a right of appeal when refused by the Home Office. The right to have your case heard by an immigration judge dramatically improves an applicant's overall chances of succeeding with a fresh claim.

Many of these clients will be completely destitute, having spent years in enforced poverty and homelessness in the UK due to their lack of legal status. For most, returning home is not an option due to continued fears for their safety. When a fresh claim is successful, it transforms a client's situation immediately, by granting them legal status and associated rights such as the opportunity to work and/or claim benefits. It will also create the right to apply for refugee family reunion, thereby allowing them to recover from recent traumatic experiences and fully integrate into Welsh society.

"Before we went to Asylum Justice, we'd tried to go to some legal aid solicitors again, but we weren't eligible for legal aid. We went to Asylum Justice, and they were really positive about our case and its chances of success."

Jim & Helena*

A family granted leave following a Fresh Claim

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

3. Family Reunion

83% successful Family Reunion applications (2021) to reunite refugees with their partners and/or children

"Now I'm thinking about the future – about having a small family and a happy life. I'm also always thinking about my country and trying to help the people in my country as much as I can.

I am very happy that Asylum Justice exists. The work their lawyers do is very serious, helping people hugely. It's a good choice to fund this organisation, as it's changing people's lives."

Abdullah*

A client reunited with his wife after nearly 8 years apart

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

We submitted 19 family reunion applications. Despite being a fundamental human right, this is an area of law without access to legal aid provision. Without representation, many refugee families remain separated, which impacts significantly on the sponsor's ability to recover and integrate into the host

community, whilst relatives remain in often dangerous environments, such as war zones or refugee camps.

We have been unable to submit some applications in 2021 due to the closure of UK embassies abroad and travel restrictions. However, we were still able to advise clients and prepare their applications for submission once measures relaxed. We anticipate there being further delays for applications being considered by the Home Office in 2022 due to the Ukraine Crisis, which has seen the Home Office divert resources away from non-Ukrainian applications and double their service standard time in those cases.

Asylum Justice is usually the only organisation in Wales that represents recognised refugees free of charge in these applications, due to the fact that legal aid for this area of work is classed as 'out of scope'. Due to the fact that Home Office processing of initial asylum claims was effectively suspended for many months, however, we found that at least one local firm was willing to move into other areas of work, at least temporarily, so were willing to make applications for Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) to the Legal Aid Agency to allow them to undertake work in these cases. We therefore referred a significant number of these cases out in this year, rather than undertaking the work ourselves. Although virtually all these ECF applications were granted, it remains to be seen whether or not this trend will continue, as once initial asylum processing reaches pre-pandemic levels it seems likely that all firms will return to working predominantly with initial asylum-seeking clients. Some firms have also reported that ECF funding grants are becoming harder to obtain from the Legal Aid Agency once more.

4. Leave and Nationality Applications

100% successful leave, further leave, settlement, and naturalisation applications (2021)

We assist vulnerable migrants, many of whom are failed asylum seekers, to make applications for leave to remain in the UK based on their private and family life. Many of these clients may be part of established Welsh families, with a child or partner who is either a British citizen or legally settled here.

Many of those with leave to remain in the UK on grounds of their family and private life are now required to make four separate paid applications over a ten-year period before being able to apply for legal settlement. To find thousands of pounds every few years for application and solicitor's fees is beyond the reach of most. If no extension application is made before an applicant's current leave to remain expires, they will become 'overstayers' overnight, thereby losing the right to work or access to public funds. They also face the risk of detention and forced removal, separating them from their loved ones.

This year we submitted 56 leave applications and 6 settlement applications (two of which were Domestic Violence Settlement applications), with accompanying fee waivers applications where relevant. We also submitted 4 naturalisation applications.

5. Lifting the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Condition

This year, during the pandemic, we didn't make any individual applications to lift the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition attached to clients' existing leave to remain. We did, however, request that the NRPF condition not be applied in the course of making initial / further leave applications for clients facing destitution due to unemployment, reduced hours, or exhausted savings. We expected the number of clients approaching us for help with these types of applications to be higher, but the Home Office's policy of penalising some clients who request that the restriction on public funds is lifted (so that clients on the '5-year route' to settlement would have to transfer to the '10-year route' to settlement²) seems to have dissuaded some from making the request.

6. Strategic Litigation

Pre-Action Protocols for further accommodation and support issues

We submitted six pre-action protocol letters to initiate judicial review proceedings in relation to issues experienced by clients in relation to asylum seeker accommodation and support payments. In all these cases, the Home Office ultimately conceded and granted the legal remedy sought.

7. Referrals to Legal Aid Providers

As we do not use legal aid to fund our casework, we always refer out clients who are eligible for legal aid to local immigration and asylum solicitors. This ensures our casework resources are focused on clients with no access to legal aid. In this reporting period, we referred at least 65 clients to legal aid advisers, demonstrating the role Asylum Justice increasingly plays in securing representation for clients whom we do not directly represent.

8. Advice-Only Clients

We provided 'advice-only' services to 125 clients involving 29 different types of query. 'Advice-only' statistics do not include clients who subsequently progress onto our waiting list for substantive casework to be undertaken on their behalf. Most clients progress on to our waiting list, as there is no other appropriately accredited organisation to which we can refer them to access the legal representation they need.

Service Delivery

Our service can be accessed via an online referral form, a support line or via numerous third sector and statutory services' referral partnerships. Most significantly, in 2021 we were part of the current Asylum Rights Programme – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and Displaced People in Action (DPIA)) to deliver

² Deighton Pierce Glynn, 'Major Home Office Concession on NRPF Policy', 26 March 2022, at: <https://dpglaw.co.uk/major-home-office-concession-on-nrpf-policy/>

a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>).

During the year a Client Liaison Officer coordinated between clients, sessional lawyers, interpreters and partners. The Client Liaison Officer plays a particularly important role in ensuring the accessibility of our service by reassuring clients when they first contact Asylum Justice, gathering necessary paperwork for the lawyer to review prior to meeting with a client, and managing expectations around waiting times and how our service works.

Once allocated an adviser, clients receive initial advice and then might be referred on to a legal aid provider, where legal aid is unavailable, or represented directly through Asylum Justice. For some clients, due to the circumstances of their case, it is not possible to assist them further. These clients nonetheless still receive comprehensive advice from us regarding their situation and options. Following advice sessions, we refer clients to other services for assistance for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health, or social isolation. Occasionally, clients need emergency referrals to out-of-hours Social Services departments or Accident and Emergency NHS units.

During 2021, we have been successfully providing our advice and substantive casework services in a hybrid format. It should be noted that as of the end of January 2022, we had approximately 150 substantive cases in progress. This demonstrates our continued ability to work with a large number of clients despite working through a mixed modality. Whether or not the service is offered face-to-face or remotely is dependent on the client's vulnerabilities and adviser's capacity (some work solely remotely). Where clients need to have remote expert appointments or court hearings, we have also been able to offer limited space and equipment to clients.

The demand for our advice and representation continues to outweigh our ability to supply these services immediately to everyone who approaches us. At the time of writing this report, we have a growing waiting list, with 55 clients at present, and we anticipate heightened pressure on our caseload, particularly as the Home Office / Courts continues to resume normal operations and we experience an increase in refused asylum seekers seeking legal assistance.

Despite our pride for the work carried out during the year and the outcomes achieved, in the latter half of 2021 a former employee's malpractice was uncovered impacting a small number of cases. In the immediate aftermath and during the autumn of 2021, Asylum Justice undertook urgent remedial work to ensure any impacted clients were supported. The Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC), our regulator, was notified in addition to the Solicitors Regulatory Authority, regulator of the former employee. These actions were part of a documented action plan, agreed with the Board of Trustees.

For service delivery this meant that Asylum Justice had to shut its door for new referrals for a period of 4 months while working internally to audit and resolve affected casework, which reduced greatly the capacity of all staff – in particular the Legal Director, sessional workers, and the Funding Officer.

Our Board of Trustees has assessed that the charity continues to be a going concern and that the impact on our finances and outcomes will be short term. To mitigate against any further harm to Asylum Justice's clients and reputation in future, a Governance Sub-Group has been established to take forward effective risk management procedures and review current policies. At the time of writing a report has been written by a Lloyds Bank Foundation consultant summarising interviews taken with all staff and creating a list of recommendations to help the organisation move to a more stable and sustainable position.

We have really valued the moral and practical support offered by donors, partners, and supporters, who have made a point of telling us that our organisation is "too important to fail". We remain committed to providing an outstanding and critical service to those who need it and want to thank you once again for standing by us during this challenging period.

Staffing and Volunteers

Ruth Brown, the Legal Director, is responsible for the charity's casework and office management. Ruth was nominated in 2020 as an 'Inspiring Woman Lawyer' in the UK as part of a study carried out by the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. There is one part-time legal advisor (two days a week) and a pool of pro bono advisors working on a case-by-case basis with Asylum Justice. Ruth is frequently invited to speak on national radio and at panels regarding our work and the wider context of UK immigration policy.

Legal staff included a small number of sessional caseworkers who provide vital specialist advice and representation to clients. We are very fortunate to work with these experienced sessional caseworkers, who frequently secure positive outcomes for our clients. Working alongside the legal staff was one part-time Client Liaison Officer who ensured effective coordination between clients, staff, and external partners, in addition to offering administration support and being the main point of contact for our offices.

In early 2022, one of the sessional caseworkers joined our team as a Supervising Caseworker to carry their own caseload and assist the Legal Director in supervising trainees. Due to a generalised shortage of immigration advisers in Wales, and subsequently a shortage of supply to our own organisation, we began focusing some of our resources on training up new caseworkers. We began piloting this in 2020 and subsequently expanded it in 2021 after securing additional funding. With the increased demand on our service and the additional objective to train new caseworkers, we now see it as a priority to bring more qualified caseworker roles in-house as we secure sufficient funding. We began working with two further trainees in 2021.

This year the Funding Officer's hours were increased to a full-time post. The Funding Officer sought to identify and apply for new funding, maximise the impact of grants, and build up our reserves through careful financial management. The Funding Officer also assisted in the development of the organisation's systems and infrastructure and played an exceptional role in supporting the Legal Director and staff across a number of organisational areas outwith her role.

We continued to work with some existing volunteer interpreters on a case-by-case basis. However, for general administration of the organisation and its services, it was decided that paid employees were necessary (i.e., Client Liaison Officer) to ensure continuity and to avoid placing untenable management responsibilities on our Legal Director during a period of significant insecurity for all. The contribution of our volunteers in previous years, particularly during our drop-ins, has been invaluable and we intend to engage the assistance of new volunteers in the future once capacity allows.

Partnerships and Memberships

While others in the Welsh migration-focused third sector are working on multiple, interrelated issues which affect the rights and integration of asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants – such as destitution, communication issues, mental health and social isolation – no other agency offers free OISC Level 3 immigration advice and representation to those without access to legal aid, nor maintains a central expert role in Wales on issues regarding the legal aid and immigration systems.

We receive regular referrals from, and we refer regularly to (for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health or social isolation), a wide variety of local public, private and third sector partners. Partners such as local authorities, the faith sector, the Asylum Rights Programme partners (including the Welsh Refugee Council, EYST, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and DPIA), a range of third sector organisations (such as British Red Cross, Welsh Women's Aid, Homestart, Oasis Cardiff) and the Law Centres Network.

During 2021, referrals and requests for support did not cease from within our existing partnerships or those formed in response to the pandemic. We saw increased interest in our service from frontline homelessness teams supporting destitute clients with no access to public funds being housed under coronavirus measures. There was interest in supporting these clients insofar as possible to receive immigration advice and subsequent representation, where applicable, to try to remedy their immigration status, gain access to mainstream benefits, and relieve pressure on the agencies supporting them.

Asylum Justice also has strong working partnerships with a range of other organisations including the Welsh Refugee Coalition, Law Works Cymru, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the Electronic Immigration Network, Refugee Action, the Refugee Legal Group, and Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

At the end of 2021, we were also nominated as one of the sponsored charities of the Cardiff Law Society. This partnership afforded us a larger pool of supporters for our end of year fundraising campaign and subsequently offered us further support into 2022 for our fundraising activities.

Raising funds

This year's achievements have been underpinned by generous financial support from a range of existing and new funding bodies, which are listed below, in addition to individual donations from supporters or local groups/businesses. Despite the pandemic our overall annual funding increased by 43% in the reporting period.

(i) Grant income

Tudor Trust: Tudor Trust provides a grant for core services which has been renewed from November 2019 – November 2022. This provides the salary for our Legal Director and some core costs.

Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government): Asylum Justice is part of a consortium of third sector organisations (with the Welsh Refugee Council as lead agency) that secured funding from the Welsh Government for an initial three-year programme, now extended until the end of March 2022, to improve services for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales. This funding is used to pay for sessional caseworkers. It has also covered some interpreting, translation, and expert report costs.

Welsh Government: For the period April 2020 – March 2022 we received further grants for the sustainability of legal advice and representation services for sanctuary seekers in Wales. The grant covered sessional worker costs, interpretation, and expert report costs.

Lloyds Bank Foundation: Lloyds Bank Foundation kindly agreed to allow us to defer our year three funding to 2021. During this reporting period the year 3 grant covered the Client Liaison Officer's part-time post, training costs, and in addition some organisation overheads.

Ministry of Justice (via. Community Justice Fund): Asylum Justice received emergency funding from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) through wave 2 of the Community Justice Fund. This emergency funding part-funded a range of staff posts in addition to a significant part of the organisation's overheads, including equipment costs to allow staff to work remotely. A second grant was also received, from a consortium of funders, through the Community Justice Fund but which could only be spent after the MOJ grant. Spending for this began in April 2022.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation: Asylum Justice secured a multi-year core grant of £200,000 from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to support its casework operations, strengthen its use casework data, and increase its contribution to sector advocacy and campaigning work.

AB Charitable Trust: Asylum Justice secured an unrestricted single-year grant of £20,000 from the AB Charitable Trust to continue to further Asylum Justice's charitable objectives.

Postcode Community Trust: Asylum Justice received a one-off grant of £20,000 to support its casework operations including sessional worker time, interpretation, and expert reports.

City United Reformed Church: Asylum Justice received a grant for staff training, which will be carried into the next financial year.

(ii) Donations and Activity Fundraising

The focus in 2021 has also primarily been on funding applications to funding bodies, but we have also received ongoing regular donations from a number of supporters.

At the end of 2021 we ran a Christmas Card campaign online which raised £2,000 for our unrestricted reserves.

In the next financial year, we intend to run some fundraising events and individual giving campaigns in order to increase our unrestricted reserves.

Financial Review

The total income for the year ended 31st January 2022 was £318,177 (31 January 2021, £223,193) and the total expenditure for the year was £313,014 (31 January 2021, £171,123). The income received included restricted/core grant funds of £265,392 (31 January 2021, £166,976) and unrestricted grant funds of £40,580 (31 January 2021, £50,000). Continuing donations, including from Standing Order supporters and one-off donations and fundraising income was also received, totalling £12,205 (31 January 2021, £6,814) and contributed to unrestricted funds. The expenditure for the year has largely been on core management costs, including running the offices at Portland House, office rent, the Legal Director's salary, salaries for staff, payment for consultancy casework including interpretation and expert reports. We also had payments for data storage and IT, as well as ongoing costs of the legal casework database. The restricted fund balance brought forward at 1st February 2021 was £134,787 and £139,950 was carried forward at 31st January 2022. The balance on the unrestricted fund increased during the year from £77,137 brought forward to £78,771 at 31st January 2022.

Reserves Policy

The unrestricted reserves on 31st January 2022 are £78,771 which is equal to approximately 3 months of expected overall expenditure. The current reserves policy aims for 3 months running costs. Our reserves figure was lower than normal at the end of the financial year, pending the agreed reimbursement from an insurance policy (received in April 2022). However, the trustees are aware that the reserves are low.

The workload of the Funding Officer during the 2021 year did not allow for an individual giving strategy to be drawn up and implemented. While the reserves are lower than desirable, existing grant

agreements were sufficient at the end of January 2022 to cover operating costs for the 3-month minimum, as Asylum Justice receives generous ongoing support from a number of funders.

Risk policy

The trustees are aware of all the major risks regarding the charity including financial and personal risks, which are reviewed on an on-going basis. Financial risk is recognised and controlled by a system of authorisation of expenses and segregation of duties in recording and processing wages and income. Trustees are appointed to check and review personnel matters and Health and Safety and appropriate insurance are in place.

As mentioned under the service delivery section, a Governance Sub-Group was set up to take forward effective risk management procedures and review current policies. The Trustee Board, in consultation with staff, has identified a number of key areas to assist with our transition from our very small infrastructure to a larger, more secure one.

Plans for the future

Asylum Justice will continue to play a unique and essential role within the Welsh refugee and migrant rights sector in terms of outcomes for individuals, reducing pressure on statutory (as demonstrated by recent research³) and other third sector agencies. We have also increasingly become a source of specialist information for wider sector organisations involved in advocacy on refugees'/migrants' rights.

Most significantly we will be part of the new Wales Sanctuary Services (WSS) programme – a contract for a consortium (this includes Asylum Justice, Welsh Refugee Council, EYST Swansea, TGP, BAWSO, and DPIA) to deliver a holistic, pan-Wales service to people seeking sanctuary. Our role within this consortium is to provide specialist immigration advice and representation services to meet the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary vision (<https://gov.wales/written-statement-wales-nation-sanctuary>). Additionally in 2022, we will be funded to work as a local partner with the British Red Cross across 3 years to increase the availability of advice and representation services for family reunion in Wales. A second partnership with the British Red Cross has also been confirmed under the Justice Together Initiative. This partnership will look at coordinating British Red Cross volunteers to gather documents, under the instruction and close supervision of Asylum Justice caseworkers, primarily for clients wishing to apply for or renew their leave to remain / settlement in addition to family reunion applicants, including those wishing to apply outside of the rules.

These partnerships include an increase in funding to our organisation to allow us to improve our infrastructure – such as increasing the scope of the Client Liaison role. The role has been limited in this financial year due to lack of sufficient funding, however we are now able to increase the existing post's hours and add a second officer to the team. This will mean lawyers will receive much needed

³ Leckie C. , Munro R. , and Pragnell M. (September 2021) *Defending the public purse: The economic value of the free legal advice sector* [<https://atjf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Defending-the-public-purse-The-economic-value-of-the-free-legal-advice-sector-September-2021.pdf>]

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administration and liaison support to ensure they can focus more on advising clients or preparing legal representations.

The events of the last year have demonstrated our resilience as an organisation to adapt and continue to provide our service. It has also led us to reflect on gaps in our resources and consider new solutions, such as regarding the supply of future qualified immigration advisors in Wales. Asylum Justice has now, in 2022, secured further funding and begun focussing some of its resources on training up new advisors to ensure sustainability of available advisors for Asylum Justice in the coming years.

The Funding Officer, with support from the Legal Director and trustees, is also focusing further efforts on our income generation. This includes improving the organisation's monitoring and evaluation work, such as aiming to produce casework statistics more regularly in addition to increasing the number of testimonials gathered from previous clients. This is work which will assist us to identify improvements we can make to our service, demonstrating the need for, and high quality of, our service in future funding applications. It also means that we are in a unique position to evidence issues and problems occurring within both the asylum and immigration system and the legal aid system. The Legal Director is regularly contacted by academics undertaking research in these areas, and our greater involvement in general advocacy work is an area of work that certain of our funders are very keen for us to develop.

Securing further medium to long-term funding is a priority for Asylum Justice, so that we can ensure the sustainability of its current services but also develop our ability to better resource the organisation's infrastructure. A better resourced infrastructure will relieve pressure from key members of staff, ensure we can provide our service in a timely manner to all those who need to access it, and free up experienced members of staff to concentrate on casework.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Asylum Justice is also registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. The charity is also registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for data protection purposes.

The charity is managed directly by its board of trustees. Each Trustee is ex officio a member of the company. There are no other members. The board consists of eight Trustees. A Trustee who has served a continuous term of six years should resign for at least one year but then may stand for re-election to the board.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at a general meeting; the members of the charity may, by ordinary resolution, appoint a trustee or the trustees may appoint a trustee themselves.

A trustee is appointed and holds office until the next Annual General Meeting. If not re-appointed at the AGM they should then vacate office.

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel are considered to be the trustees and the Directors. Trustees receive no remuneration.

Two trustees, Louise Morgan and Alison McQueen, stepped down during the year due to personal circumstances. The Trustees expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work they had done for the charity.

Reference And Administrative Details

Company Name: Asylum Justice Limited

Company Registration Number: 05447875 Incorporated 10th May 2005.

Charity Registration Number: 1112026

Office of the OISC Registration Number: N200800025



Bankers: CAF

Accountants: Mr Huw Palin FCA - BPU Limited , Radnor House, Greenwood Close, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8AA.

Trustees:

Bernadette Rainey (Chair)

Mark Baker (Treasurer)

Sian Summers-Rees

Victoria Goodban

Fermmigje (aka Emmy) Chater

Stuart Penny (Appointed 1st September 2020)

Holly Taylor (Appointed 28th May 2021)

Thomas Godwin (Appointed 29th November 2021, Secretary)

Joseff Morgan (Appointed 1st December 2021)

Resignations

Louise Morgan (Resigned 11th October 2021)

Alison McQueen (Resigned 1st January 2022)

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiner

In so far as the trustees/directors are aware at the time of approving our trustee's annual report there is no relevant information, being information needed by the examiner in connection with preparing their report, of which the examiner is unaware, and the trustees have taken all steps that they are obliged to take as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the examiner is aware. The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (incorporating directors' report) above.

Signed by Trustee:

Bernadette Rainey

Date:

18/10/22

Print name: Bernadette Rainey

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act')

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). The Charity's gross income is over £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



John Huw Palin
FCA
BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants

21 October 2022

Asylum Justice
Statement of Financial Activities (Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>fund</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u> £	<u>2022</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u> £	<u>2021</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u> £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	2,947	-	2,947	3,105
Charitable activities	4	40,580	265,392	305,972	216,976
Other trading activities	5	9,258	-	9,258	3,112
Total Income		52,785	265,392	318,177	223,193
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	6	113	-	113	-
Charitable activities	7	50,821	262,080	312,901	171,123
Total Expenditure		50,934	262,080	313,014	171,123
Net income/(expenditure)		1,851	3,312	5,163	52,070
Transfer between funds		(217)	217	-	-
Net movement in funds		1,634	3,529	5,163	52,070
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward	13	<u>77,137</u>	<u>57,650</u>	<u>134,787</u>	<u>82,717</u>
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>78,771</u>	<u>61,179</u>	<u>139,950</u>	<u>134,787</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

Balance Sheet 31st January 2022

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2022</u> £	<u>2021</u> £
FIXED ASSETS			
	10	<u>7,060</u>	<u>5,647</u>
		7,060	5,647
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	29,104	1,851
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>124,192</u>	<u>139,829</u>
		153,296	141,680
CREDITORS : Amounts Falling			
Due within One Year	12	<u>(20,406)</u>	<u>(12,540)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>132,890</u>	<u>129,140</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITES		<u>139,950</u>	<u>134,787</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	13	78,771	77,137
Restricted funds	13	<u>61,179</u>	<u>57,650</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>139,950</u>	<u>134,787</u>

The directors/trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477 (2) relating to small companies, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 (1) of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charitable company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 & 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the Trustees and authorised for issue on 18/10/22 and were signed on its behalf by:

Remadette Murray
Signature

BERNARD J B RAINY
Print name

Company registration number: 05447875
Charity certificate number: 1112026

The notes form part of these financial statements.

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial Statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006, incorporating section 1A for smaller entities. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest £ and have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- i) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in accounts when receivable.
- ii) Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant which will normally be when the grant is actually received. Grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Deferred income represents grant monies received for future periods and released to incoming resources in the period to which it relates.
- iii) Trading income is included when receivable.
- iv) Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and are material.
- v) Investment income and all other income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds are those funds received or generated for the objects of the Charity without further specified purpose and are available to use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity.

Restricted Funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the Donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the Fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Assets are originally included at cost and depreciated as:

- Computer equipment - charged on a straight line basis over four years.
- Furniture - charged on a straight line basis over four years.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Cash Flow Statement

The company has not prepared a Cash Flow Statement on the grounds that the company is small.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution scheme for employees. Contributions to the scheme are charged fully to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period that they relate.

2 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:-

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Depreciation on owned assets	1,872	215
Independent Examiners Fees	<u>1,890</u>	<u>1,548</u>
	<u>3,762</u>	<u>1,763</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
3 Income: Donations and legacies		
Donations received	<u>2,947</u>	<u>3,105</u>

† All donation & legacy income is unrestricted in 2022 and prior year.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
4 Income from charitable activities	<u>305,972</u>	<u>216,976</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Unrestricted</u>		
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Covid	-	20,000
Respond & Adapt Programme	-	30,000
Community Justice Fund - Wave 2 (CJF Consortium)	20,580	-
AB Charitable Trust	20,000	-
	<u>40,580</u>	<u>50,000</u>

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Restricted</u>		
Tudor Trust	43,300	-
Tudot Trust - Staff wellbeing	2,000	-
Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government)	23,924	38,976
Lloyds Bank Foundation	24,248	-
Welsh Government 2019 - 2020	-	15,000
Community Justice fund - Wave 1	-	73,000
Welsh Government 2020 - 2021	25,000	25,000
Community Foundation Wales	-	15,000
Ministry of Justice (Community Justice Fund) - Wave 2	39,420	-
Welsh Government 2021 - 2022	37,500	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared Ground	50,000	-
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	-
	<u>265,392</u>	<u>166,976</u>

The funds are restricted to providing the services as set out in the grant funding agreements.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
5 Income: Other Trading activities		
Fundraising events	<u>9,258</u>	<u>3,112</u>

All Trading income is unrestricted in 2022 and the prior year.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
6 Expenditure on: Raising funds		
Unrestricted Printing & postage for a Christmas card fundraiser	<u>113</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

7 Expenditure on : Charitable activities

Note	Fund	Paul	Covid-19	AB	Tudor	Asylum	United	Lloyds	Access to Ministry of Ministry of										Community	Paul	2022	2021						
		General	Respond &	Charitable	Tudor	Trust	Rights prog.	Reform	Bank	Network for	Welsh	Help	Justice	Justice (CJF)	Justice (CJF)	Welsh	Welsh	Foundation	Hamlyn F.									
		Hamlyn F.	Adopt prog.	Trust	Trust	Wellbeing	(Welsh Gov)	Church	Foundation	Social change	Gov. 2020	Refugees	Foundation	Wave 1	Wave 2	Gov. 2021	Gov. 2022	Wales	Shared Ground									
U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R										
Direct costs																												
	Salaries, NI and Pension	9	1,966	-	12,174	5,204	40,606			4,840		11,734								14,461	12,927	5,542		9,801	22,289	141,544	73,608	
	Legal & professional fees	*		12,651	13,015					31,246				2,720	9	1,310	2516			486	252	17,360	45,943	2,902	587	130,997	72,670	
	Insurance excess	8	1,000																							1,000	-	
	Staff Travel Expenses			266	22																						288	6
	Staff training				1,345						242	1,875									239	2,044					5,745	797
Support costs																												
	Rent & room hire									713		1,490								4,552	1,426				524	8,705	8,642	
	Rates & water						170													96	258						524	438
	Insurances																								952	952	885	
	Repairs and Renewals																			81	240			234			555	-
	Telephone			58			116													810	292			196			1,472	1,665
	Printing, Stationery and Postage			461	788		180													413	1,069						2,911	2,474
	Legal & Professional fees																					170			468		638	354
	Subscriptions			50	35		98													446							629	735
	Sundry Expenses		113	149	555		58													37							912	675
	Computer Software, IT & Website			548	174															4,632	4,334			1,274	553	11,515	6,348	
	Depreciation			247			76													1,549							1,872	215
	Staff wellbeing						656																				656	-
	Governance costs						72													232	1,682						1,986	1,611
			3,079	14,430	28,108	5,204	41,376	656	36,799	242	15,099	2,720	9	1,310	2,516	28,034	24,694	22,902	45,943	14,407					25,373	312,901	171,123	
Governance costs were as follows:																												
	Bank charges						72													16	8						96	63
	Independent Examiners Fees																			216	1,674						1,890	1,548
							72													232	1,682						1,986	1,611

*Direct Legal & professional fees includes caseworkers/expert reports/Interpreters & funding co-ordinator

** U is Unrestricted and R is restricted funding.

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

8 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

Claims arose due to errors involving professional service/advice affecting a small number of cases. In the 2022 year Asylum Justice paid £1,000 being the insurance excess relating to the above claims by clients. It is expected that claims to date will be covered by the charity's insurers (subject to any appropriate excess). There may be future claims but they are not quantifiable at this time.

9 STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	131,413	71,026
Social Security Costs	<u>7,397</u>	<u>1,228</u>
	138,810	72,254
Pension contributions to defined Contributions Scheme	<u>2,734</u>	<u>1,354</u>
	<u>141,544</u>	<u>73,608</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000

The number of employees (part-time and full-time) during year:	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Advocacy and Advice	6	4
Funding co-ordinator	1	1

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Computer</u>	<u>Furniture</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£
COST			
At 31st January 2021	5,266	596	5,862
Additions in Year	<u>3,285</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,285</u>
At 31st January 2022	<u>8,551</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>9,147</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 31st January 2021	190	25	215
Charge for the Year	<u>1,847</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>1,872</u>
At 31st January 2022	<u>2,037</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>2,087</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st January 2022	<u>6,514</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>7,060</u>
At 31st January 2021	<u>5,076</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>5,647</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

11 DEBTORS	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Amounts due within one year:		
Other debtors	-	1,851
Prepayments	1,227	-
Insurance claim receivable	27,877	-
	<u>29,104</u>	<u>1,851</u>
12 CREDITORS		
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Accrued Expenses	19,693	10,501
Social security and other taxes	-	2,039
Pension creditor	713	-
	<u>20,406</u>	<u>12,540</u>

13 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>funds</u>	<u>funds</u>	£
	£	£	
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	3,105	-	3,105
Charitable activities	50,000	166,976	216,976
Other trading activities	3,112	-	3,112
Total Income	<u>56,217</u>	<u>166,976</u>	<u>223,193</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Charitable activities	5,045	166,078	171,123
Total Expenditure	<u>5,045</u>	<u>166,078</u>	<u>171,123</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	51,172	898	52,070
Transfer between funds	403	(403)	-
Net movement in funds	<u>51,575</u>	<u>495</u>	<u>52,070</u>
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>25,562</u>	<u>57,155</u>	<u>82,717</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>77,137</u>	<u>57,650</u>	<u>134,787</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022**

13 CONTINUED

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS YEAR TO 31ST JANUARY 2022

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2021</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Transfer</u> <u>between</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/01/2022</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	32,182	12,205	(217)	3,192	40,978
Paul Hamlyn Foundation- Covid	16,847	-	-	14,430	2,417
Covid-19 Respond & Adapt Prog.	28,108	-	-	28,108	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 2	-	20,580	-	-	20,580
AB Charitable Trust	-	20,000	-	5,204	14,796
	<u>77,137</u>	<u>52,785</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>50,934</u>
				<u>50,934</u>	<u>78,771</u>
Restricted funds					
Tudor Trust	(5,580)	43,300	-	41,376	(3,656)
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	-	2,000	-	656	1,344
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	6,467	23,924	-	36,799	(6,408)
City United Reform Church	1,000	-	-	242	758
Lloyds Bank Foundation	4,037	24,248	-	15,099	13,186
Network for Social Change	2,720	-	-	2,720	-
Welsh Government 2020	9	-	-	9	-
Help Refugees	1,310	-	-	1,310	-
Access to Justice Foundation	2,516	-	-	2,516	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 1	32,862	-	217	28,034	5,045
Welsh Government 2021	(2,098)	25,000	-	22,902	-
Community Foundation Wales	14,407	-	-	14,407	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 2	-	39,420	-	24,694	14,726
Welsh Government 2022	-	37,500	-	45,943	(8,443)
Paul Hamlyn F. - Shared Ground	-	50,000	-	25,373	24,627
Postcode Community Trust	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
	<u>57,650</u>	<u>265,392</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>262,080</u>	<u>61,179</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>134,787</u>	<u>318,177</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>313,014</u>	<u>139,950</u>

Negative balances are a result of timing differences where expenditure has been spent in lieu of funding that was received after date.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022**

13 CONTINUED

COMPARATIVES FOR MOVEMENT IN FUNDS YEAR TO 31ST JANUARY 2021

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2020</u>	<u>Add</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Transfers</u> <u>between</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/01/2021</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	25,562	6,217	403	--	32,182
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	20,000		3,153	16,847
Covid-19 Respond & Adapt Prog.	-	30,000		1,892	28,108
	<u>25,562</u>	<u>56,217</u>	<u>403</u>	<u>5,045</u>	<u>77,137</u>
Restricted funds					
Tudor Trust	28,115	-		33,695	(5,580)
City United Reform Church	389		(389)		-
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	(4,249)	38,976		28,260	6,467
City United Reform Church	1,000				1,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	12,510	-		8,473	4,037
Network for Social Change	5,540			2,820	2,720
Welsh Government 2020	1,755	15,000		16,746	9
Home4U (NACCOM)	2,000		(14)	1,986	-
Help Refugees	6,790	-		5,480	1,310
Access to Justice Foundation	3,305			789	2,516
Ministry of Justice (Com. Justice Fund)	-	73,000		40,138	32,862
Welsh Government 2021	-	25,000		27,098	(2,098)
Community Foundation Wales	-	15,000		593	14,407
	<u>57,155</u>	<u>166,976</u>	<u>(403)</u>	<u>166,078</u>	<u>57,650</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>82,717</u></u>	<u><u>223,193</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>171,123</u></u>	<u><u>134,787</u></u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022**

13 CONTINUED

**A CURRENT YEAR 12 MONTHS AND PRIOR YEAR 12 MONTHS COMBINED
POSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:**

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2020</u>	<u>Add</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Transfers</u> <u>between</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/01/2022</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	25,562	18,422	186	3,192	40,978
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	20,000		17,583	2,417
Covid-19 Respond & Adapt Prog.	-	30,000		30,000	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 2	-	20,580		-	20,580
AB Charitable Trust	-	20,000		5,204	14,796
	<u>25,562</u>	<u>109,002</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>55,979</u>	<u>78,771</u>
Restricted funds					
Tudor Trust	28,115	43,300	-	75,071	(3,656)
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	-	2,000	-	656	1,344
City United Reform Church	389	-	(389)	-	-
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	(4,249)	62,900	-	65,059	(6,408)
City United Reform Church	1,000	-	-	242	758
Lloyds Bank Foundation	12,510	24,248	-	23,572	13,186
Network for Social Change	5,540	-	-	5,540	-
Welsh Government 2020	1,755	15,000	-	16,755	-
Home 4U (NACCOM)	2,000	-	(14)	1,986	-
Help Refugees	6,790	-	-	6,790	-
Access to Justice Foundation	3,305	-	-	3,305	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 1	-	73,000	217	68,172	5,045
Welsh Government 2021	-	50,000	-	50,000	-
Community Foundation Wales	-	15,000	-	15,000	-
Ministry of Justice (CJF) - Wave 2	-	39,420	-	24,694	14,726
Welsh Government 2022	-	37,500	-	45,943	(8,443)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared C	-	50,000	-	25,373	24,627
Postcode Community Trust	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
	<u>57,155</u>	<u>432,368</u>	<u>(186)</u>	<u>428,158</u>	<u>61,179</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>82,717</u></u>	<u><u>541,370</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>484,137</u></u>	<u><u>139,950</u></u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

14 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>fund</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2022 Total</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2021 Total</u> <u>funds</u>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,800	5,260	7,060	5,647
Current assets	89,286	64,010	153,296	141,680
Current liabilities	(12,315)	(8,091)	(20,406)	(12,540)
	<u>78,771</u>	<u>61,179</u>	<u>139,950</u>	<u>134,787</u>

15 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The Trustees received no remuneration and did not receive any other benefits during the year ended 31st January 2022 or the 2021 year. One Trustee was reimbursed for Printing & Postage totalling £113 during the year (none in previous year).

16 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No were no related party transactions in the year other than disclosed in note 15.

17 GOING CONCERN

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

18 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Charity has only basic financial instruments (Bank and cash) and these are included in the accounts as and when they are received.

19 LIABILITIES OF TRUSTEES

The entity is a private company limited by guarantee with no share capital.

Asylum Justice

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st January 2022**

Income and endowments	2022	2021
Donations	2,947	3,105
Tudor Trust	43,300	-
Tudor Trust - Staff wellbeing	2,000	-
Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government)	23,924	38,976
Lloyds Bank Foundation	24,248	-
Welsh Government 2019 - 2020	-	15,000
Covid-19 Respond and Adapt Programme	-	30,000
Ministry of Justice (Community Justice Fund) - Wave 1	-	73,000
Ministry of Justice (Community Justice Fund) - Wave 2	39,420	-
Community Justice Fund - Wave 2 (CJF Consortium)	20,580	-
Welsh Government 2020 - 2021	25,000	25,000
Welsh Government 2021 - 2022	37,500	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Covid	-	20,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation - Shared Ground	50,000	-
Community Foundation Wales	-	15,000
AB Charitable Trust	20,000	-
Postcode Community Trust	20,000	-
Fundraising events	9,258	3,112
Total incoming resources	318,177	223,193
 Expenditure		
Salaries, NI and Pensions	141,544	73,608
Legal & professional fees <i>including caseworkers/expert reports/Interpreters</i>	130,997	72,670
Insurance excess	1,000	-
Staff Travel Expenses	288	6
Staff training	5,745	797
Rent & room hire	8,705	8,642
Rates & water	524	438
Insurances	952	885
Repairs and Renewals	555	-
Telephone	1,472	1,665
Printing, Stationery and Postages	3,024	2,474
Legal & Professional fees	638	354
Subscriptions	629	735
Sundry Expenses	912	675
Computer Software, IT & Website Expenses	11,515	6,348
Bank charges	96	63
Independent Examiners Fees	1,890	1,548
Staff wellbeing	656	-
Depreciation	1,872	215
Total resources expended	313,014	171,123
Net income	5,163	52,070

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

ASYLUM JUSTICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1112026

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05447875 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1112026

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st January 2021**

for

Asylum Justice

**BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants
Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff
CF23 8AA**

Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff CF23 8AA

Registered to carry out audit work
in the UK and regulated for a range
of investment business activities by
the Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales.

bpu Chartered Accountants is
a trading name of BPU Ltd
Company Number 3723948
Registered in Wales

A list of directors is available from the
registered office above.

Asylum Justice

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	14



Asylum Justice

Trustees Report

For the Year Ended 31st January 2021

Charity Number 1112026

Company registration number 05447875

Trustees Report

Covering the period 1st February 2020 – 31st January 2021

The trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report and accounts for the year ending 31st January 2021 and confirm that they comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) incorporating section 1a for smaller entities.

Asylum Justice has continued to operate during the whole of the COVID-19 pandemic period and has increased its income by 66% compared to the previous reporting period. The charity remains a going concern. The reasons are set out in the report below.

Objectives and Activities

Asylum Justice is the only charitable organisation in Wales – considered as a legal aid desert with an ever-shrinking immigration sector – which offers free, specialist (OISC Level 3) immigration advice and representation to asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants up to and including court level. In broad terms we work with those who have made a request for protection in the UK which may be considered under the UN Refugee Convention 1951 or under the European Convention on Human Rights 1950.

We provide legal advice and representation when someone cannot access legal aid because it has been withdrawn or their immigration matter is 'out of scope' of legal aid. No other organisation provides this service in Wales and consequently Asylum Justice is the last place that people can turn to for help in

1b

their asylum or immigration case. Where we succeed in securing status or reuniting a family, it is a vital step in ensuring meaningful socio-economic inclusion for some of the most vulnerable individuals in Wales. Wider outcomes include reducing pressure on statutory and third sector agencies, particularly when destitute individuals gain access to social and legal protections. The value of our unique service cannot be stressed enough.

Our specific casework objectives can be broadly summarised as:

1. To assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants in securing and maintaining legal recognition, thereby alleviating destitution and exclusion amongst this client group
2. To keep families living in the UK together through making initial and further leave applications
3. To reunite refugee families in Wales by representing them in family reunion applications

Since 2013, we have primarily focused our limited resources on delivering high-quality legal advice and representation services. Our wider charity objectives expanded slightly this year to include taking steps to participate further in Welsh and UK-wide advocacy trying to address the systemic problems in the asylum and immigration systems which give rise to the need for the services which Asylum Justice provides.

Asylum Justice Memorandum and Articles of Association – Objectives (extract)

"The relief of poverty, in particular but not exclusively, for persons including but not limited to asylum seekers and refugees who have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or in any other legal proceedings; and

To provide legal advice, assistance and representation in relation to persons including but not limited to asylum seekers who by reason of their inadequate means are unable to obtain such advice and representation from their own resources and who, in particular but not exclusively, have at any stage raised arguments under the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention or the European Convention of Human Rights or The Human Rights Act 1998 to the Secretary of State for the Home Department or the First-Tier and Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber or any other legal proceedings."

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance in planning and managing the activities and work of the organisation for public benefit.

Achievements and performance

Please note statistics for 2020 cover the reporting period (1st February 2020 – 31st January 2021) for this annual report.

1. Appeals

70% success rate (2014 – 2020) for appeals

The stringent 'merits' tests imposed by the Legal Aid Agency have seen growing numbers of asylum seekers refused legal aid to appeal a refusal of asylum. We take on the appeals of asylum seekers denied legal aid on the grounds that solicitors considered their case too 'weak' to win on appeal. As such, we act in cases deemed complex and with an unlikely prospect of success, yet currently win 70% of them. Our annual success has been consistently above national averages e.g., this year we won

64% of asylum appeals, while on a national level 44% of asylum appeals were won (Refugee Council, 2020). Few claimants will succeed unrepresented in the UK's complex and bureaucratic asylum system.

This area of work usually requires very quick action. This is because clients who have had legal representation withdrawn by their previous legal aid solicitor will have a very short timescale in which to lodge an appeal and, once the appeal is lodged, an initial court hearing can be listed for less than a month later. Clients at this stage of the asylum process are also on the verge of becoming destitute, as Home Office support and accommodation are withdrawn if no appeal is lodged or, indeed, if an appeal is dismissed after a hearing in which the client was unrepresented.

It should be noted that this year we took on a concentration of cases with a lower prospect of success than normal. The pandemic changed quite significantly the landscape of asylum casework, with some areas of Home Office casework effectively suspended. Most notable was the processing of initial asylum claims, which virtually ground to a halt early on during the pandemic. Less asylum decisions inevitably means less appeals and, where appeals did arise, they were generally those which were hardest of all to win. The likely explanation for this was that local legal aid firms were applying the merits criteria less stringently than would normally be the case, due to their having greater capacity than usual. In normal times, local legal aid firms rely heavily on pre-decision work, but this decreased dramatically during the pandemic, causing them to maintain representation in appeal cases where they would previously have been likely to refuse or withdraw legal aid.

For Asylum Justice, this has left us with the most challenging claims of all, with legal aid providers more willing to maintain representation in cases that would normally have formed a significant part of our caseload.

"From the moment our lawyer first spoke with us about our case – showing such care, professionalism, and patience – we felt like we had finally found someone who was going to be able to really help us. Someone with a caring spirit, with the expertise which we desperately needed."

Carlos & Magdalena*

Two clients successful at a First-tier Tribunal appeal

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

First-tier Tribunal Appeals

We submitted 10 applications for Permission to Appeal to the First-tier Tribunal and have represented 21 applicants at First-tier Tribunal Appeals. One appeal was withdrawn and leave granted before Asylum Justice represented the client in court, due to additional evidence which our adviser gathered and submitted in advance of the hearing.

This year, due to the pandemic and exceptional measures, we have had fewer clients approach us for assistance at the appeal stage. There have also been delays, due to the pandemic, in holding court hearings and subsequent decision-making processes.

Upper Tribunal Appeals

Having made 'permission to appeal' applications to the First-tier Tribunal, Asylum Justice made 20 'permission to appeal' applications to the Upper Tribunal during this reporting period. Due to the pandemic, the decision response on permissions to appeal has often been delayed. In this reporting period, we represented 2 clients at Upper Tribunal appeal hearings.

2. Fresh Claims

75% success rate (2020) for fresh claims submitted

In 2020, we submitted fresh claims for 13 refused asylum seekers who had exhausted all appeal rights. Asylum seekers who have exhausted all appeal rights sometimes have fresh grounds or compelling new evidence with which they can make further submissions to the Home Office in support of their

previous asylum claim. Some simply never had their claim fully considered the first time around due to poor quality legal representation or an appeal not being lodged in time.

Many of these clients will be completely destitute, having spent years in enforced poverty and homelessness in the UK due to their lack of legal status. For most, returning home is not an option due to continued fears for their safety. When a fresh claim is successful, it transforms a client's situation immediately, by granting them legal status and associated rights such as the opportunity to work and/or claim benefits. It will also create the right to apply for refugee family reunion, thereby allowing them to recover from recent traumatic experiences and fully integrate into Welsh society.

"The dedication and work ethic my lawyer demonstrated while helping me with my case was truly astonishing. She communicated clearly, kindly, and gently at all times which both reassured me and made me feel comfortable. Even though I did not know her, she transmitted a great sense of protection to me during our phone calls, something very meaningful for anyone but especially for an asylum seeker. Her service has been outstanding."

Mirela*

Granted leave following a Fresh Claim

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

3. Family Reunion

69% successful Family Reunion applications (2020) to reunite refugees with their partners and/or children

We submitted 22 family reunion applications and represented 4 family reunion applications at appeal in the First-Tier Tribunal. Despite being a fundamental human right, this is an area of law without access to legal aid provision. Without representation, many refugee families remain separated, which impacts significantly on the sponsor's ability to recover and integrate into the host community, whilst relatives remain in often dangerous environments, such as war zones or refugee camps.

We have been unable to submit some applications in 2020 due to the closure of UK embassies abroad and travel restrictions. However, we nonetheless advised clients and assisted them to prepare applications for submission once measures relaxed.

Asylum Justice is usually the only organisation in Wales that represents recognised refugees free of charge in these applications, due to the fact that legal aid for this area of work is classed as 'out of scope'. Due to the fact that Home Office processing of initial asylum claims was effectively suspended for many months, however, we found that at least one local firm was willing to move into other areas of work, at least temporarily, so were willing to make applications for Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) to the Legal Aid Agency to allow them to undertake work in these cases. We therefore referred a significant number of these cases out in this year, rather than undertaking the work ourselves. Although virtually all these ECF applications were granted, it remains to be seen whether or not this trend will continue, as once initial asylum processing reaches pre-pandemic levels it seems likely that all firms will return to working predominantly with initial asylum-seeking clients.

4. Leave and Nationality Applications

100% successful leave, further leave, settlement, and nationality applications (2020)

We assist vulnerable migrants to make initial applications for leave to remain in the UK based on their private and family life. Many of these clients may be part of established Welsh families, with a child or partner who is either a British citizen or legally settled here.

Many of those with leave to remain in the UK on grounds of their family and private life are now required to make four separate paid applications over a ten-year period before being able to apply for

le

legal settlement. To find thousands of pounds every few years for application and solicitor's fees is beyond the reach of most. If no extension application is made before an applicant's current leave to remain expires, they will become 'overstayers' overnight, thereby losing the right to work or access to public funds. They also face the risk of detention and forced removal, separating them from their loved ones.

This year we submitted 35 leave applications and 3 settlement applications, with accompanying fee waivers applications where relevant. We also submitted 2 naturalisation applications on behalf of children.

"Without Asylum Justice, my hope was over. It was so challenging to try to stay in this country. You just feel like you don't know what to do next. Before Asylum Justice took on the case, I was feeling so anxious and stressed. I would have not been able to do my leave application without the help of Asylum Justice."

Shirley*

Successful initial application for leave

**Please note we have not used the clients' real names.*

5. Lifting the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Condition

This year during the pandemic we made 2 successful applications to lift the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition for clients who found themselves destitute during the pandemic due to job losses, reduced hours, or exhausted savings. We expected the number of clients approaching for help with these types of applications to be a lot higher, but the Home Office's policy of penalising clients who request that the restriction on public funds is lifted (so that clients on the '5-year route' to settlement would have to transfer to the '10-year route' to settlement) seems to have dissuaded many from making the request.

6. Strategic Litigation

Intervening at Penally Barracks, Tenby

At the end of 2020, Asylum Justice began undertaking work to act as an intervener in a judicial review challenge being brought by a number of solicitors' firms, all of whom were represented by the Public Law Project (PLP), a leading public law firm that has recently created a permanent presence in Wales. The challenge related to the legality of the use of Penally Barracks by the Home Office as initial accommodation for asylum seekers. As explored in our blog post, "I Hate It Here" – Our Experience at Penally Barracks¹, the conditions in which asylum seekers were living at the former barracks were described as 'shambolic, inhumane, and dire'.

Pre-Action Protocols for further accommodation and support issues

We also began work to prepare pre-action protocols in relation to further issues with asylum seeker accommodation and support payments.

7. Referrals to Legal Aid Providers

Due to not working with legal aid, we will refer clients who are eligible for legal aid out to immigration and asylum solicitors. This ensures our casework resources are focused on clients with no access to legal aid. In this reporting period, we referred at least 15 clients to legal aid advisors.

8. Advice-Only Clients

¹ Blog post (23 December 2020) *I Hate it Here – Our Experience at Penally Barracks*, [<https://www.asylumjustice.org.uk/penally-refugees/>]

If

We provided advice-only services to 80 clients on 22 different types of queries. Most of the clients who we advise then progress on to our waiting list for substantive casework to be undertaken on their behalf, as there is no other organisation which we can refer them to in order to access the legal representation they need.

Service Delivery

Prior to the outbreak of the pandemic, we continued to run a weekly drop-in on a Monday at the City United Reformed Church in Cardiff and a monthly drop-in in Swansea at St James' Church Hall. At the drop-in people would receive initial advice and then might be referred on to a legal aid provider or, where legal aid is unavailable, represented directly through Asylum Justice. For some clients, due to the circumstances of their case, it is not possible to assist them further. These clients nonetheless still receive comprehensive advice from us regarding their situation and options. Following advice sessions, we refer clients to other services for assistance for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health, or social isolation. Occasionally, clients need emergency referrals to out-of-hours Social Services departments or Accident and Emergency NHS units.

From November 2019 – March 2020 we saw much higher numbers of people approaching our drop-in for advice and further representation due to the closure of one of the largest providers of immigration legal aid representation in Cardiff. Due to the closure of this firm, the legal aid capacity within Wales shrunk – entrenching it further as a legal aid desert. As a result of this we saw higher numbers of clients approaching the drop-in as they could not find representation.

However, from March 2020, the drop-in had to close to comply with the pandemic's social distancing measures. To continue to provide the service remotely, significant changes were made to our human resource and digital infrastructure. This included the addition of a small Client Liaison team, to coordinate between clients, freelance / pro bono lawyers, and partners, as well as the launching of a telephone service and a digital referral and allocation system.

During the pandemic, we have been successfully providing our advice and substantive casework services remotely. It should be noted that as of the end of January 2021, we had approximately 90 substantive cases in progress. This demonstrates our continued ability to work with a large number of clients despite working through a primarily remote modality.

Due to a slow-down in Home Office and court operations, Asylum Justice saw reduced numbers seeking assistance at the appeals stage. However, due to new procedures introduced at the start of lockdown by the Newport Immigration and Asylum Tribunal, the time and resources spent on each individual appeal has effectively doubled. Since lockdown began, it became mandatory to have an additional initial (albeit remote) hearing in every single appeal case in which skeleton arguments must be presented and arguments about the need for an in-person hearing made. Due to the vulnerabilities of our clients, oral hearings will be frequently granted. The time counsel is now required to spend on the early stages of an appeal case has virtually doubled, which in turn has significantly increased our expenditure on services provided by counsel.

The demand for our advice and representation continues to outweigh our ability to supply these services immediately to everyone who approaches us. At the time of writing this report, we have a growing waiting list, and we anticipate heightened pressure on our caseload, particularly once the Home Office resumes normal operations and we experience an influx of refused asylum seekers seeking legal assistance.

Staffing and Volunteers

Ruth Brown, the Legal Director, is responsible for the charity's casework and office management. Ruth was nominated in 2020 as an 'Inspiring Woman Lawyer' in the UK as part of a study carried out by the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. There is one part-time legal advisor (two days a week) and a pool of pro bono advisors working on a case-by-case basis with Asylum Justice.

This year the organisation hired a part-time Funding Officer to identify and apply for new funding, maximise the impact of grants, and build up our reserves through careful financial management. Also

appointed were part-time Client Liaison Officers who assist in the coordination between advisors, clients, and partners in addition to providing administrative support to the Legal Director.

We continued to work with some existing volunteer interpreters on a case-by-case basis. However, for general administration of the organisation and its services, it was decided that paid employees were necessary (the Client Liaison Officers) to ensure continuity and to not to avoid placing untenable management responsibilities on our Legal Director during a period of significant insecurity for all. The contribution of our volunteers in previous years, particularly during our drop-ins, has been invaluable and we intend to engage the assistance of new volunteers in the future once our capacity allows us to.

Partnerships and Memberships

While others in the Welsh migration-focused third sector are working on multiple, interrelated issues which affect the rights and integration of asylum seekers, recognised refugees, and vulnerable migrants – such as destitution, communication issues, mental health and social isolation – no other agency offers free OISC Level 3 immigration advice and representation to those without access to legal aid, nor maintains a central expert role in Wales on issues regarding the legal aid and immigration systems.

We receive regular referrals from, and we refer regularly to (for issues related to destitution, communication, mental health or social isolation), a wide variety of local public, private and third sector partners. Partners such as local authorities, the faith sector, the Asylum Rights Programme partners (including the Welsh Refugee Council, EYST, Tros Gynnal Plant, BAWSO, and Displaced People in Action), a range of third sector organisations (such as British Red Cross, Women's Aid, Homestart, Oasis Cardiff,) and the Law Centres Network.

During 2020, referrals and requests for support did not cease from within our existing partnerships or those formed in response to the pandemic. We saw increased interest in our service from frontline homelessness teams supporting destitute clients with no access to public funds being housed under coronavirus measures. There was interest in supporting these clients insofar as possible to receive immigration advice and subsequent representation, where applicable, to try to remedy their immigration status, gain access to mainstream benefits, and relieve pressure on the agencies supporting them.

Asylum Justice also has strong working partnerships with a range of other organisations including the Welsh Refugee Coalition, Law Works Cymru, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association (ILPA), the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI), the Electronic Immigration Network (EIN), Refugee Action, the Refugee Legal Group, and Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

Raising funds

This year's achievements have been underpinned by generous financial support from a range of existing and new funding bodies, which are listed below, in addition to individual donations from supporters or local groups/businesses. Despite the pandemic our overall annual funding increased by 66% in the reporting period.

- (i) Grant income

Tudor Trust: Tudor Trust provides a grant for core services which has been renewed from November 2019 – November 2022. This provides the salary for our Legal Director and some core costs. Tudor Trust kindly allowed us to put on hold some of our spending under this grant while we spent short-term emergency grants.

Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government): Asylum Justice is part of a consortium of third sector organisations (with the Welsh Refugee Council as lead agency) that secured funding from the Welsh Government for an initial three-year programme, now extended until the end of March 2022, to improve services for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales. This funding is used to pay for a two-day Legal Advisor post, in addition to paying regulated consultants to work on a case-by-case basis. It has also covered some interpreting, translation, and expert report costs.

Welsh Government: Asylum Justice received a grant of £15,000 from the Welsh Government for work carried out in the period April 2019 – March 2020. The grant covered caseworker, interpretation, and expert reports costs. For the period April 2020 – March 2021 we received a further grant for our organisation which covered sessional worker costs, interpretation, and expert report costs.

Lloyds Bank Foundation: Lloyds Bank Foundation kindly agreed to allow us to defer our year three funding to 2021. During this reporting period the remaining year 2 grant covered the Office and Volunteer Coordinator's part-time post, training costs, and in addition some IT and rent overheads.

Ministry of Justice (via. Community Justice Fund): Asylum Justice received emergency funding from the Ministry of Justice through wave 1 of the Community Justice Fund. This emergency funding part-funded a range of staff posts in addition to a significant part of the organisation's overheads, including equipment costs to allow staff to work remotely.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation: Asylum Justice received funding through the Paul Hamlyn Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Fund. In this reporting period, funding covered staff overtime.

Community Foundation Wales: Asylum Justice received emergency funding through the Community Foundation Wales, under the Wales Coronavirus Resilience Fund, to part-fund the Funding Officer's post in the subsequent reporting period. Also funded under this grant (primarily in the subsequent reporting period) were administrative support, interpreting/translation, and specific overhead and capital costs.

COVID-19 Respond and Adapt Programme: Asylum Justice received emergency funding through Migration Exchange to fund policy, strategic litigation and monitoring and evaluation work in addition to part-funding administrative staff salaries during the period. The programme was a joint initiative of Migration Exchange, Refugee Action and NACCOM. It is funded with support from a number of independent funders.

(ii) Donations and Activity Fundraising

The focus in 2020 has been on funding applications to funding bodies, but we have also received ongoing regular donations from a number of supporters.

In the next financial year, we intend to run some individual giving campaigns in order to increase our unrestricted reserves.

Financial Review

The total income for the year ended 31st January 2021 was £223,193 (2020, £134,832) and the total expenditure for the year was £171,123 (2020, £112,474) resulting in a surplus for the year of £52,070 (2020 surplus £22,358). The income received included restricted grant funds of £166,976 (2020, £128,018) and unrestricted grant funds of £50,000 (2020 nil). Continuing donations, including from Standing Order supporters and one-off donations and fundraising income was also received totalling £6,217 (2020, £6,814) and contributed to unrestricted funds. The expenditure for the year has largely been on core management costs, including running the offices at Portland House, office rent, the Legal Director's salary, salaries for part-time staff, payment for consultancy casework including interpretation and expert reports. We also had payments for data storage and IT, as well as ongoing costs of the legal casework database. The restricted fund balance brought forward at 1st February 2020 was £57,155 and £57,650 was carried forward at 31st January 2021. The balance on the unrestricted fund increased during the year from £25,562 brought forward to £77,137 at 31st January 2021.

Reserves Policy

The unrestricted reserves on 31st January 2021 are £77,137 which is equal to approximately 5.4 months of expected expenditure. The current reserves policy aims for 3 months running costs therefore the trustees are satisfied with the level of unrestricted reserves and will continue in the 2022 year working with the Funding Officer to increase these reserves further. Existing grant agreements are

sufficient to cover operating costs for the next year and Asylum Justice receives generous ongoing support from a number of funders.

Risk policy

The trustees are aware of all the major risks regarding the charity including financial and personal risks, which are reviewed on an on-going basis. Financial risk is recognised and controlled by a system of authorisation of expenses and segregation of duties in recording and processing wages and income. Trustees are appointed to check and review personnel matters and Health and Safety and appropriate insurance are in place.

Plans for the future

Asylum Justice will continue to play a unique and essential role within the Welsh refugee and migrant rights sector in terms of outcomes for individuals, reducing pressure on statutory (as demonstrated by recent research²) and other third sector agencies. We have also increasingly become a source of specialist information for wider sector organisations involved in advocacy on refugees'/migrants' rights.

The pandemic has demonstrated our resilience as an organisation to adapt and continue to provide our service through new modalities. It has also led us to reflect on gaps in our resources and consider new solutions, such as regarding the supply of future qualified immigration advisors in Wales. Asylum Justice has now, in 2021, secured further funding and begun focussing some of its resources on training up new advisors to ensure sustainability of available advisors for Asylum Justice in the coming years.

Now with a Funding Officer in post, the organisation is also focusing further efforts to increase our fundraising. This includes improving the organisation's monitoring and evaluation work, such as aiming to produce casework statistics more regularly in addition to increasing the number of testimonials gathered from previous clients. This is work which will assist us to identify improvements we can make to our service, demonstrating the need for, and high quality of, our service in future funding applications. It also means that we are in a unique position to evidence issues and problems occurring within both the asylum and immigration system and the legal aid system. The Legal Director is regularly contacted by academics undertaking research in these areas, and our greater involvement in general advocacy work is an area of work that certain of our funders are very keen for us to develop.

Securing further medium to long-term funding is a priority for Asylum Justice, so that we can ensure the sustainability of its current services but also develop our ability to better resource the organisation's infrastructure. A better resourced infrastructure will relieve pressure from key members of staff, ensure we can provide our service in a timely manner to all those who need to access it, and free up experienced members of staff to concentrate on casework.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Asylum Justice is also registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. The charity is also registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for data protection purposes.

The charity is managed directly by its board of trustees. Each Trustee is ex officio a member of the company. There are no other members. The board consists of eight Trustees. A Trustee who has served a continuous term of six years must resign for at least one year but then may stand for re-election to the board.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

² Leckie C. , Munro R. , and Pragnell M. (September 2021) *Defending the public purse: The economic value of the free legal advice sector* [<https://atjf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Defending-the-public-purse-The-economic-value-of-the-free-legal-advice-sector-September-2021.pdf>]

Trustees are appointed at a general meeting; the members of the charity may, by ordinary resolution, appoint a trustee or the trustees may appoint a trustee themselves.

A trustee is appointed and holds office until the next Annual General Meeting. If not re-appointed at the AGM they should then vacate office.

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel are considered to be the trustees and the Directors. Trustees receive no remuneration.

One trustee, Amie Jordan, stepped down during the year due to personal circumstances. The Trustees expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work she had done for the charity.

Reference And Administrative Details

Company Name: Asylum Justice Limited
Company Registration Number: 05447875 Incorporated 10th May 2005.
Charity Registration Number: 1112026
Office of the OISC Registration Number: N200800025
Registered Office: [REDACTED]

Bankers: CAF

Accountants: Mr Huw Palin FCA - BPU Limited , Radnor House, Greenwood Close, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8AA.

Trustees:

- Bernadette Rainey (Chair)
- Alison McQueen (Secretary)
- Mark Baker (Treasurer)
- Sian Summers-Rees
- Victoria Goodban
- Fermigje (aka Emmy) Chater
- Stuart Penny (Appointed 1st September 2020)
- Holly Taylor (Appointed 28th May 2021)

Resignations

- Amie Jordan (Resigned 28th May 2020)
- Rhian Donnelly (Resigned 22nd June 2020)
- Louise Morgan (Resigned 11th October 2021)

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiner

In so far as the trustees/directors are aware at the time of approving our trustee's annual report there is no relevant information, being information needed by the examiner in connection with preparing their report, of which the examiner is unaware, and The trustees have taken all steps that they are obliged to take as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the examiner is aware. The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (incorporating directors' report) above.

Signed by Trustee: Bernadette Rainey

Date: 19/10/21

Print name: Bernadette Rainey

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Asylum Justice

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



John Huw Palin
FCA
BPU Limited
Chartered Accountants

22 October 2021

Radnor House
Greenwood Close
Cardiff Gate Business Park
Cardiff CF23 8AA

Registered to carry out audit work in the UK and regulated for a range of investment business activities by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

bpu Chartered Accountants is a trading name of BPU Ltd
Company Number 3723948
Registered in Wales.

A list of directors is available from the registered office above.

Asylum Justice
Statement of Financial Activities (Income and Expenditure Account)

for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>fund</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u> £	<u>2021</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u> £	<u>2020</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u> £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	3,105	-	3,105	4,976
Charitable activities	4	50,000	166,976	216,976	128,018
Other trading activities	5	3,112	-	3,112	1,838
Total Income		56,217	166,976	223,193	134,832
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	6	5,045	166,078	171,123	112,474
Total Expenditure		5,045	166,078	171,123	112,474
Net income/(expenditure)		51,172	898	52,070	22,358
Transfer between funds		403	(403)	-	-
Net movement in funds		51,575	495	52,070	22,358
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward	11	<u>25,562</u>	<u>57,155</u>	<u>82,717</u>	<u>60,359</u>
Total funds carried forward	11	<u>77,137</u>	<u>57,650</u>	<u>134,787</u>	<u>82,717</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Asylum Justice

Balance Sheet
31st January 2021

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2021</u> £	<u>2020</u> £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	8	<u>5,647</u>	=
		5,647	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	9	1,851	1,851
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>139,829</u>	85,135
		<u>141,680</u>	86,986
CREDITORS : Amounts Falling			
Due within One Year	10	<u>(12,540)</u>	<u>(4,269)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>129,140</u>	<u>82,717</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITES		<u>134,787</u>	<u>82,717</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	11	77,137	25,562
Restricted funds	11	<u>57,650</u>	<u>57,155</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>134,787</u>	<u>82,717</u>

The directors/trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477 (2) relating to small companies, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 (1) of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charitable company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 & 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the Trustees and authorised for issue on 19/10/21 and were signed on its behalf by:

Bernadette Rawney
Signature

BERNADETTE RAWNEY
Print name

Company registration number: 05447875
Charity certificate number: 1112026

The notes form part of these financial statements.

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial Statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006, incorporating section 1A for smaller entities. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest £ and have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- i) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in accounts when receivable.
- ii) Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant which will normally be when the grant is actually received. Grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Deferred income represents grant monies received for future periods and released to incoming resources in the period to which it relates.
- iii) Trading income is included when receivable.
- iv) Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and are material.
- v) Investment income and all other income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds are those funds received or generated for the objects of the Charity without further specified purpose and are available to use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity.

Restricted Funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the Donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the Fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. Assets are originally included at cost and depreciated as:

- Computer equipment - charged on a straight line basis over four years.
- Furniture - charged on a straight line basis over four years.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Cash Flow Statement

The company has not prepared a Cash Flow Statement on the grounds that the company is small.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution scheme for employees. Contributions to the scheme are charged fully to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period that they relate.

2 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:-	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Depreciation on owned assets	215	-
Independent Examiners Fees	<u>1,548</u>	<u>1,548</u>
	<u>1,763</u>	<u>1,548</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
3 Income: Donations and legacies		
Donations received	<u>3,105</u>	<u>4,976</u>

All donation & legacy income is unrestricted in 2021 and prior year.

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
4 Income from charitable activities	<u>216,976</u>	<u>128,018</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Unrestricted</u>		
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,000	-
Respond & Adapt Programme	30,000	-
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Restricted</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Tudor Trust	-	43,400
Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government)	38,976	41,410
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	23,645
Welsh Government	15,000	5,000
Home4U (NACCOM)	-	2,000
Help Refugees	-	7,500
Cardiff City Council	-	1,063
Access to Justice Foundation	-	4,000
Community Justice fund	73,000	-
Welsh Government	25,000	-
Community Foundation Wales	15,000	-
	<u>166,976</u>	<u>128,018</u>

The funds are restricted to providing the services as set out in the grant funding agreements.

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
5 Income: Other Trading activities		
Fundraising events	<u>3,112</u>	<u>1,838</u>

All Trading income is unrestricted in 2021 and the prior year.

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

7 STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Salaries and Wages	71,026	53,674
Social Security Costs	<u>1,228</u>	<u>457</u>
	72,254	54,131
Pension contributions to defined Contributions Scheme	<u>1,354</u>	<u>907</u>
	<u>73,608</u>	<u>55,038</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000

The number of employees (part-time and full-time) during the year was as follows:-	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Advocacy and Advice	4	4
Funding co-ordinator	1	0

8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Computer</u>	<u>Furniture</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
COST			
Additions in the Year	<u>5,266</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>5,862</u>
At 31st January 2021	<u>5,266</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>5,862</u>
DEPRECIATION			
Charge for the Year	<u>190</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>215</u>
At 31st January 2021	<u>190</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>215</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st January 2021	<u>5,076</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>5,647</u>
At 31st January 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

9 DEBTORS	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Amounts due within one year:		
Other debtors	<u>1,851</u>	<u>1,851</u>

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

10 CREDITORS	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Accrued Expenses	10,501	3,402
Social security and other taxes	<u>2,039</u>	<u>867</u>
	<u>12,540</u>	<u>4,269</u>

11 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	<u>Unrestricte</u> <u>d funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2020</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u>
	£	£	£
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	4,976	-	4,976
Charitable activities	-	128,018	128,018
Other trading activities	1,838	-	1,838
Total Income	<u>6,814</u>	<u>128,018</u>	<u>134,832</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Charitable activities	5,109	107,365	112,474
Total Expenditure	<u>5,109</u>	<u>107,365</u>	<u>112,474</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	1,705	20,653	22,358
Transfer between funds	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	<u>1,705</u>	<u>20,653</u>	<u>22,358</u>
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>23,857</u>	<u>36,502</u>	<u>60,359</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2021**

11 CONTINUED

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS YEAR TO 31ST JANUARY 2021

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2020</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Transfer</u> <u>between</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/01/2021</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	25,562	6,217	403	-	32,182
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	20,000		3,153	16,847
Covid-19 Respond & Adapt Prog.	-	30,000		1,892	28,108
	25,562	56,217	403	5,045	77,137
Restricted funds					
Tudor Trust	28,115	-		33,695	- 5,580
City United Reform Church	389		(389)		-
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	(4,249)	38,976		28,260	6,467
City United Reform Church	1,000				1,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	12,510	-		8,473	4,037
Network for Social Change	5,540			2,820	2,720
Welsh Government 1	1,755	15,000		16,746	9
Home4U (NACCOM)	2,000	-	(14)	1,986	-
Help Refugees	6,790	-		5,480	1,310
Access to Justice Foundation	3,305	-		789	2,516
Ministry of Justice (Com. Justice Fund)	-	73,000		40,138	32,862
Welsh Government 2	-	25,000		27,098	- 2,098
Community Foundation Wales	-	15,000		593	14,407
	57,155	166,976	(403)	166,078	57,650
TOTAL FUNDS	82,717	223,193	-	171,123	134,787

COMPARATIVES FOR MOVEMENT IN FUNDS YEAR TO 31ST JANUARY 2020

	<u>Balance</u> <u>01/02/2019</u>	<u>Add</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>31/01/2020</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	23,857	6,814	5,109	25,562

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st January 2021**

**11 COMPARATIVES FOR MOVEMENT IN FUNDS YEAR TO 31ST JANUARY 2020
CONTINUED**

Restricted funds

Tudor Trust	25,389	43,400	40,674	28,115
City United Reform Church	389			389
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	(8,574)	41,410	37,085	(4,249)
City United Reform Church	1,000			1,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	11,378	23,645	22,513	12,510
Network for Social Change	6,920		1,380	5,540
Welsh Government 1		5,000	3,245	1,755
Home4U (NACCOM)		2,000		2,000
Help Refugees		7,500	710	6,790
Cardiff City Council		1,063	1,063	-
Access to Justice Foundation		4,000	695	3,305
	36,502	128,018	107,365	57,155

TOTAL FUNDS

60,359 134,832 112,474 82,717

**A CURRENT YEAR 12 MONTHS AND PRIOR YEAR 12 MONTHS COMBINED
POSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:**

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Balance</u>
	<u>01/02/2019</u>	<u>Movement</u>	<u>31/01/2021</u>
		<u>in funds</u>	
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	23,857	8,325	32,182
Paul Hamlyn Foundation		16,847	16,847
Covid-19 Respond & Adapt Prog.		28,108	28,108
	23,857	53,280	77,137
Restricted funds			
Tudor Trust	25,389	(30,969)	(5,580)
City United Reform Church	389	(389)	-
Asylum Rights Prog. (Welsh Gov)	(8,574)	15,041	6,467
City United Reform Church	1,000		1,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	11,378	(7,341)	4,037
Network for Social Change	6,920	(4,200)	2,720
Welsh Government 1	-	9	9
Help Refugees	-	1,310	1,310
Access to Justice Foundation	-	2,516	2,516
Ministry of Justice (Com. Justice Fund)	-	32,862	32,862
Welsh Government 2	-	(2,098)	(2,098)
Community Foundation Wales		14,407	14,407
	36,502	21,148	57,650
TOTAL FUNDS	60,359	74,428	134,787

Asylum Justice

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>Unrestric</u> <u>ted fund</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2021</u> <u>Total</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2020 Total</u> <u>funds</u>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	5,647	5,647	-
Current assets	77,230	64,450	141,680	86,986
Current liabilities	(93)	(12,447)	(12,540)	(4,269)
	77,137	57,650	134,787	82,717

13 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The Trustees received no remuneration and did not receive any other benefits during the year ended 31st January 2021 or the 2020 year. The Trustees were not reimbursed for any expenses during the year or the previous year.

14 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No were no related party transactions in the year.

15 GOING CONCERN

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

16 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Charity has only basic financial instruments (Bank and cash) and these are included in the accounts as and when they are received.

17 LIABILITIES OF TRUSTEES

The entity is a private company limited by guarantee with no share capital.

Asylum Justice

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

<u>Income and endowments</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Donations	3,105	4,976
Tudor Trust	-	43,400
Asylum Rights Programme (Welsh Government)	38,976	41,410
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	23,645
Welsh Government	15,000	5,000
Home4U (NACCOM)	-	2,000
Help Refugees	-	7,500
Cardiff City Council	-	1,063
Access to Justice Foundation	-	4,000
Ministry of Justice (Community Justice Fund)	73,000	-
Welsh Government	25,000	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,000	-
Community Foundation Wales	15,000	-
Covid-19 Respond and Adapt Programme	30,000	-
Fundraising events	3,112	1,838
Total incoming resources	<u>223,193</u>	<u>134,832</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Salaries, NI and Pensions	73,608	55,038
Legal & professional fees <i>including caseworkers/expert reports/Interpreters</i>	72,670	34,184
Staff Travel Expenses	6	399
Staff training	797	-
Rent & room hire	8,642	9,130
Rates & water	438	511
Insurances	885	799
Repairs and Renewals	-	146
Telephone and Postages	1,665	2,742
Printing, Stationery and Photocopying	2,474	2,948
Legal & Professional fees	354	1,915
Subscriptions	735	669
Sundry Expenses	675	269
Computer Software, IT & Website Expenses	6,348	2,116
Bank charges	63	60
Independent Examiners Fees	1,548	1,548
Depreciation	215	-
Total resources expended	<u>171,123</u>	<u>112,474</u>
Net income	<u>52,070</u>	<u>22,358</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.