

SOMALI WELFARE TRUST

Building Bridges in Redbridge

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

CHARITY NO. 1112146

SOMALI WELFARE TRUST
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity:	Somali Welfare Trust
Registered Address:	Cardinal Heenan Centre 326 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1QP
Tel:	0208 553 7969
Charity Registration No.	1112146
Trustees (Management Committee):	A Hassan A Rashid Yusuf A Karim Yusuf F Farah U. M. Hussein A Gureye A Abdi (From 1 st October 2023) S Mohamud (From 1 st October 2023)
Independent Examiner:	Ajaz & Co Accountants and Tax Consultants Essex House 339 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1TE

SOMALI WELFARE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Introduction

The Management Committee (who are also the Trustees of the Somali Welfare Trust) submit their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023. The Somali Welfare Trust (SWT) was established in October 2003 and was incorporated as a charity and its name was entered in the Charity Commission's Central Register on the 18th of November 2005.

Background

SWT is an innovative charity based in East London of Redbridge that is passionate about making a difference to the Somali & other BAME and Refugee Communities. Led by a diverse group of skilled and trained staff and volunteers it is helping the communities to access opportunities, strengthen relationship with mainstream service providers to create social change.

Being the only Somali community led voluntary organisation in the London Borough of Redbridge it forms the first point of contact for the borough's growing and expanding community. The Trust also provides services to communities residing in neighbouring East London boroughs of Newham, Barking and Dagenham and Tower Hamlets.

Objectives of the Somali Welfare Trust

The objects of the Somali Welfare Trust is:

"To relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to preserve and protect the health of Somalis living in the London Borough of Redbridge and the surrounding areas in particular but not exclusively, through the provision of advice, assistance, representation, counselling and translation and interpretation services in matters including health, housing and welfare benefits".

The services that SWT provides aims to meet the following strategic aims: what we will achieve

1. To create a stronger voluntary and community organisation for now and for the future.
2. To have a stronger and more diverse base for participation, engagement, volunteering and voluntary activity.
3. To forge partnerships which improve opportunities for local people.
4. To build a stronger and more sustainable organisation.

Our values: principles we will work within

- We challenge oppression and prejudice and promote diversity.
- We are friendly and make everyone feel welcomed and supported.
- We are creative and find new ways of making voluntary and community action effective.
- We are an independent voice for Redbridge's Somali and other BAME Communities.
- We are dynamic and work with purpose to get things done and to achieve lasting impact.

Structure, Governance and Management

SWT is constituted by a constitution. It is governed by the regulations set out in the constitution and run by a diverse Management Committee (who are also Trustees) with lived experiences from professional backgrounds in the field of Health, Community Development Work, the Arts and Media and Accounting.

SWT's Management Committee are elected by the membership every two years. The Management Committee members are normally briefed by the Chairperson and the General Secretary in order to familiarise themselves with the rules, regulations and responsibilities of the charity.

The Management Committee met 6 times during the year to review the activities of the charity including the approval of the annual report and accounts as well as budgets, capital expenditure and to set out the fund - raising date for the charity. The day-to-day work of the charity is overseen by the Treasurer who is responsible to and reports to the Management Committee.

The Management Committee are aware of the potential risks to the charity, both financial and otherwise. Therefore, strategies are in place to control these risks. Annual assessments are undertaken relating to fire and health and safety. The Management Committee are looking into other risk areas such as operational matters, governance and compliance with law and regulations.

Work of the Trust – SWT's Services, Activities and its Impact

Operating from the Cardinal Heenan Centre in Ilford, in the Northeast of London, SWT continues to deliver holistic services which supports people in the grassroot communities to assert and enjoy their rights and entitlements and to strive to achieve their life goals and aspirations.

SWT swiftly responds to keep the Somali and other BAME and Refugee Communities safe, in good health and connected. Many of whom face complex life challenges and issues and often fall through the cracks of mainstream services. SWT works collaboratively with the community and in close partnership with local, regional and national agencies, Redbridge Borough Council and several other local authorities across London and other statutory and mainstream agencies so as to ensure the community can services that meet their needs.

Over the last 12 months we organised and delivered the following activities:

Welfare Rights Information, Advice & Guidance Service

SWT's welfare rights information and advice services continues to be one of SWT's core services. SWT provides free, confidential, high quality, accessible guidance, information, advice and advocacy on rights and entitlements in areas of welfare benefits, benefit checks, income maximisation, assisting clients affected by homelessness, clients needing housing advice to keep their home. With the cost-of-living crisis upon us all, this year we have seen huge influx of clients seeking debt advice, clients seeking urgent help who have been struggling to pay their utility bills. Other areas of advice given are clients seeking advice who have been victims of hate crime and harassment. Advice on care and personalisation, education, employment and health continue to be important issues for our client groups. The current level of take-up for welfare benefits and tax credits, combined with the introduction of the universal credit and the complexity of the tax and benefit system and diversity of potential claimant population shows a high need for this service. This is because of the user groups' specific and multiple barriers arising from the complexity of their situation and its interaction with the benefits system.

Tackling Food Poverty

First with the COVID-19 pandemic and now with the cost-of-living crisis have continued to put many families at risk for food insecurity. The cost-of-living crisis has had serious implications for poverty, educational attainment and energy access. The ongoing cost-of-living crisis has multiplied the effects of food insecurity, especially for people on low incomes, people without adequate social protections and people already experiencing food insecurity. SWT continued to provide families, individuals with pre-packed food parcels on their doorstep. With demands being high, by 31st March 2023, food parcels to a further value of £3,000 was delivered to almost 50 families and individuals.

Cost-of-Living Support Service

SWT supported vulnerable Somali families, individuals and advised low-income families who are struggling and barely managing to survive, giving very important advice, information and also undertaking contacts and negotiating on behalf of clients with utility companies on their utilities charges particularly heating and lighting costs, helping clients sought out their rents and rent arrears with the Council, Housing association and private landlords to prevent clients from losing their home through eviction, or loss of utility services by preventing disconnection of services. We also helped the clients build financial resilience by enabling our clients with basic budgeting and financial literacy training.

Volunteering

Our volunteers play a pivotal role in providing mentoring, community engagement and peer support. Engaging in detached street work and outreach work including home visits this provides active network for the sharing of

community information and support services. SWT's 10 regular volunteers delivered more than 3000 hours of volunteering time.

Support to Families in Crisis

SWT has been running counselling and practical support service to parents and families who have been struggling to maintain a normal life through the cost-of-living crisis. We have been supporting families experiencing multiple social problems particularly in families with history of mental health illness, coupled with poverty, the impact on family's emotional wellbeing while living in temporary accommodation. More recently we have seen a growing number of Somali, BAME and Refugee children being victims of trafficking, modern slavery, children forced into illicit activities, victims of sexual and other exploitation. We provide specialist support including advice and advocacy, liaising directly with Social Services, Local authorities and the Metropolitan Police and have been closely involved with these agencies in helping to rescue children from the traffickers and other criminal gangs and reunite them with their families.

Mental Health Counselling Support Programme

SWT's Mental Health Counselling Support Programme run in partnership with Mindworks UK provides intervention support to the Somali Women and young people, with talking therapy support through the provision of a safe space delivered through zoom which gives them the opportunity freely talk/share experiences of grief, trauma, bereavement experiences in confidence.

BAME Youth Hub

This year SWT set up BAME youth hub project, the first of its kind in Redbridge following street outreach work carried out SWT as a result of growing knife crime and gang culture amongst Somali youngsters. The purpose of the hub project is to provide a safe space for young people who are at risk to further violence, crime and being excluded from society. The space provides a safe environment to help young people with mental or physical health needs, support for young people with substance misuse, advice with employment, education and training needs.

The Redbridge Women's Advocacy Group

The Redbridge Women's Advocacy Group (RWAG) is an example of a project created by SWT that is helping to build power in our community. The RWAG was set up and undertaken by SWT working hand in hand with the local women employed in the Care Sector in Redbridge. The Group's mission was to highlight the inequalities they face as a result of employment exploitation in the Care Sector as a result of discrepancies within their payment because of a 'grey-area' within the law which allows the care agencies. The group is proud that they were able to come together and collectively share their personal experiences of the exploitation they face. The group are proud that they have a space at the local community centre where they meet regularly to discuss how they can raise awareness of their predicament to policy makers. The group have produced detailed case studies of their personal lived experience. to avoid paying tax by levying this tax onto the care workers.

Financial Review

The financial position of the Charity is portrayed in the accompanying Annual Accounts.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statement for each financial year, which gives a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply consistently.
- (b) Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- (c) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (d) Disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

- (e) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Management Committee are responsible for keeping accounting records, which discloses with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reporting) regulations and the provisions laid out in the Charity's governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific use, should be maintained at a level equivalent to at least three months expenditure. The Management Committee consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The Somali Welfare Trust will actively work to achieve this level of reserves.

Risk Management

The Management Committee have assessed the risks the charity faces and have compiled a risk list which identified the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks, the likelihood of risks happening and the measures taken to manage them. The Management Committee review this list regularly at their meetings and at its meetings with employed staff running the services. The Management Committee are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The finances of the Charity are kept under review. Appropriate DBS (Disclosure Barring services) Checks, supported by regular policy reviews are made for all those who work with children and other vulnerable groups with the Charity's activities.

Independent Examiner

According to the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the Management Committee agree that an audit is not required for this financial year; however due to the provisions of the same act an Independent Examiner is required.

Ajaz & Co Accountants & Tax Consultants will be appointed as Independent Examiner for the ensuring year.

The Management Committee approved the accounts on the 23/01/2024

Signed on Behalf of the Management Committee:

Sign..... 

Name: A Rashid Yusuf

Position: Vice-Chairperson

Date: 23/01/2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

We report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st March 2023 set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

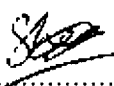
We report in respect of our examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination. We have followed all the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

We have completed my examination. We have confirmed that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

We 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.



Prepared by:
Ajaz & Co Accountants & Tax Consultants
Essex House
339 High Road
Ilford
Essex IG1 1TE

Date: 23/01/2024

Ajaz & Co
Accountants & Tax Consultants
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Ilford, Essex, IG1 1TE
Tel: 020 8514 8855

SOMALI WELFARE TRUST NOTES TO HE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. Accounting Policies:

The Financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevance note(s) to these accounts and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities and with preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standard applicable in the United Kingdom (FRS 102) issued on the 16th July 2016 and updated on the 16th September 2016 and with the Charities Act 2011. The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by the Charity Commission.

(a) Incoming Resources:

The Incoming resources represents grants, donations and any bank interest receivable. The total incoming resources of the Trust for the year have been derived from its principal activity undertaken in the United Kingdom and came from the following sources:

			<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Redbridge Council: Redbridge Community Fund	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Redbridge Council: London Youth	4,080	-	4,080	-
Redbridge Council: Covid Support Grant	-	-	-	2,000
Redbridge Council: Redbridge Foodbank	-	-	-	8,100
LRCF (Wave 5): Behalf of the City Bridge Foundation	-	-	-	29,744
National Lottery Communities Fund: Awards for All	9,932	-	9,932	-
National Lottery Communities Fund: Reaching Communities	48,488	-	48,488	-
The Clothworkers Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-
The Postcode Society Trust	16,347	-	16,347	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	25,000	25,000	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation (Uplift Grant)	-	2,250	2,250	-
Tudor Trust	50,000	-	50,000	32,000
Tudor Trust (Development Grant)	-	-	-	10,000
Tudor Trust (3 rd Grant)	-	-	-	4,275
HMRC JRS Grant	-	-	-	22,123
Trust for London	32,535	-	32,535	10,150
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	15,000
London Community Foundation (GVC Holding)	-	-	-	9,950
London Community Foundation – Together for London	10,000	-	10,000	-
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	17,984	-	17,984	26,976
Joseph Rowntree Foundation – Cost of Living Grant	1,798	-	1,798	-
Council of Somali Organisations	-	100	100	-
<u>Total:</u>	<u>£216,164</u>	<u>£27,350</u>	<u>£243,514</u>	<u>£185,318</u>

(b) Restricted Funds:

Restricted Funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the funding authority. Direct and support expenditure, which meets these criteria, is identified to the fund together with a fair allocation of other costs.

(c) ©Unrestricted Funds:

Unrestricted funds are received which have no restrictions placed in their use and are available as general funds.

2. Fixed Assets:

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset cost over its estimated useful life as follows:

Computer Equipment: 33% on Cost

3. Staffing Costs:

Salaries paid to employees who provided direct charitable services.

	<u>31/03/2023</u>	<u>31/03/2022</u>
	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>
Staffing & On Costs	£93,986	£96,634

4. Management Committee:

None of the Management Committee members received any remuneration during the year.

5. Accrual:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>
Creditors		
Office Rent & Utilities	651	-
Cost of Living Support Activities	2,400	-
Meetings, Events Costs	1,190	-
Salaries & On Cost	-	2,988
Volunteers Expenses	1,327	827
Activity Costs	-	2,738
Administration & Finance	-	1,400
Printing, Photocopy & Stationery	644	49
Tel, Mobile, Broadband	-	591
Equipment	-	2,971
Staff Travel & Expenses	625	-
Payroll	-	490
Bank Charge	-	10
Misc	-	79
Total:	<u>£6,837</u>	<u>£12,143</u>

6. Total Funds:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>
Restricted Funds	204,685	136,352
Unrestricted Funds	34,428	7,078
Total:	<u>£239,113</u>	<u>£143,430</u>

Somali Welfare Trust**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ending 31 March 2023**

	<u>Restricted Funds (£)</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds (£)</u>	<u>2023 Total Funds</u>	<u>2022 Total Funds</u>
<u>Incoming Resources</u>				
Grants	216,164	27,350	243,514	185,318
<u>Total Incoming Resources at 31/03/2023</u>	<u>£216,164</u>	<u>£27,350</u>	<u>£243,514</u>	<u>£185,318</u>
<u>Outgoing Resources</u>				
Staffing Costs	93,986	-	93,986	96,634
Direct Charitable Expenditure	35,208	-	35,208	36,174
Admin, Management & Finance	18,637	-	18,637	38,950
<u>Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfer</u>	<u>£147,831</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£147,831</u>	<u>£171,758</u>
Gross Transfer Between Funds	-	-	-	-
<u>Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources After Transfer</u>	<u>£68,333</u>	<u>£27,350</u>	<u>£95,683</u>	<u>13,560</u>
<u>Balance Brought Forward at 01/04/2022:</u>	<u>136,352</u>	<u>7,078</u>	<u>143,430</u>	<u>129,870</u>
<u>Balance Carried Forward at 31/03/2023:</u>	<u>£204,685</u>	<u>£34,428</u>	<u>£239,113</u>	<u>£143,430</u>

Somali Welfare Trust
Income & Expenditure Account – Year Ending 31st March 2023

			<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
			<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>
	<u>Note</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	
		<u>Funds (£)</u>	<u>Funds (£)</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Incoming Resources</u>	2			
Grants		216,164	27,350	243,514
<u>Total Income Received</u>		<u>£216,164</u>	<u>£27,350</u>	<u>£243,514</u>
<u>Resources Expended</u>				
<u>Staffing Costs</u>				
Staffing, Employers NI & Pensions		93,986	-	93,986
<u>Direct Charitable Expenses</u>				
Office Rent & Utilities		7,673	-	7,673
Meeting Room Costs		-	-	-
Volunteers Expenses		5,385	-	5,385
Prof Fees – Trainers, Facilitator Fees		6,540	-	6,540
Meetings, Events, Workshop Costs		3,939	-	3,939
Cost of Living Support Activities		6,400	-	6,400
Users Activities Costs		-	-	-
Light Refreshments		1,800	-	1,800
Staff Meeting & Travel Expenses		625	-	625
Covid-19 Emergency Food Parcels		3,000	-	3,000
Equipment (ICT & Digital Devices)		1,325	-	1,325
Personal Hygiene Kits		-	-	-
Subscription		1,500	-	1,500
Monitoring and Evaluation		2,000	-	2,000
<u>Management & Administration</u>				
Admin, Management & Finance		15,250	-	15,250
Telephone, Mobile & Broadband		1,325	-	1,325
Printing, Postage & Stationery		683	-	683
Insurance		-	-	-
Accounting & Book-Keeping Fees		800	-	800
Payroll Services		-	-	-
Bank Charges		79	-	79
Misc Expenses		500	-	500
<u>Total Expenses:</u>		<u>£147,831</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£147,831</u>
Surplus / (Deficit):		68,333	27,350	95,683
Balance Brought Forward @ 01/04/2022:		136,352	7,078	143,430
Balance Carried Forward @ 01/04/2023:		<u>£204,685</u>	<u>£34,428</u>	<u>£239,113</u>

Somali Welfare Trust
Balance Sheet as of 31st March 2023

	<u>Restricted Funds (£)</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds (£)</u>	<u>2023 Total Funds</u>	<u>2022 Total Funds</u>
<u>Current Assets</u>				
Cash at Bank at 31/03/2023	211,522	34,428	245,950	151,298
Debtor: Tudor Trust Grant 3	-	-	-	4,275
<u>Total Current Assets</u>	<u>£211,522</u>	<u>£34,428</u>	<u>£245,950</u>	<u>£155,573</u>

	<u>Restricted Funds (£)</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds (£)</u>	<u>2023 Total Funds</u>	<u>2022 Total Funds</u>
<u>Current Liabilities</u>				
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year				
Sundry Creditors	(6,837)	-	(6,837)	(12,143)
<u>Net Current Asset</u>	<u>204,685</u>	<u>34,428</u>	<u>239,113</u>	<u>129,870</u>
<u>Total Net Assets</u>	<u>£204,685</u>	<u>£34,428</u>	<u>£239,113</u>	<u>£143,430</u>

	<u>2023 Total Funds</u>	<u>2022 Total Funds</u>
<u>Funds Represented By:</u>		
Restricted Funds	204,685	136,352
Unrestricted Funds	34,428	7,078
<u>Total:</u>	<u>£239,113</u>	<u>£143,430</u>

We confirm that we have made available all relevant records, bills, vouchers, information and explanation for the preparation of the above balance sheet and the annexed Income and expenditure of the income and is also the correct state of the affairs of the Trust as of 31st March 2023.

Approved by the Management Committee on the 23/01/2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Sign..... A. Rashid Yusuf

Name: A Rashid Yusuf

Position: Vice-Chairperson

Date: 23/01/2024