



**REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Trustees</b>             | P Harrison<br>S Goodwin<br>P Lynott<br>P Uwamaliya  |
| <b>Charity number</b>       | 1113574   |
| <b>Registered office</b>    | Cotton Exchange<br>Suite 111H<br>Bixteth Street<br>Liverpool<br>L3 9LQ                                  |
| <b>Independent examiner</b> | Mr Tony Stanley ACA<br>Mitchell Charlesworth<br>Suite 5.1<br>12 Tithebarn Street<br>Liverpool<br>L2 2DT |
| <b>Bankers</b>              | HSBC<br>99-102 Lord Street<br>Liverpool<br>L2 6PG   |

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# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

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# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024*

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Constitution adopted on 9 September 2004 as amended on 24 July 2018, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019).

#### **Objectives and activities**

Refugee Women Connect (RWC) works to build a safe life in the UK for women in the asylum seeker and the refugee community. We aim to:

- Reduce social isolation and improve mental and physical well-being;
- Improve access to other services;
- Improve knowledge of the legal processes;
- Promote education, life skills, learning to support integration
- To empower women to have a voice and influence change

#### **Public Benefit**

Refugee Women Connect services are open to all women and their children who are in the asylum process, in the trafficking national referral mechanism or are refugees in the Merseyside area. We invite other professionals, partners, and service providers to our drop-in sessions to enable them to better understand the issues faced as well as ensuring the women have access to all support services. We are also involved in community and national networking events to raise the profile of the issues faced by women we support.

#### **Our Services:**

We supported 529 women with 249 new to RWC this year.

Approximately 60% of these women live in the city of Liverpool, 16% in St Helens, 5% in each of Knowsley, Chester & Wirral, Sefton, and Halton, with smaller numbers from Warrington, Greater Manchester and Lancashire and a few from areas outside the North West.

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024*

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#### **Early Action project**

We ran 35 drop-ins in central Liverpool. This was accessible for those residing in Liverpool as well as outside, for example Chester and Preston, as we were able to cover the costs of the travel.

We ran a regular group in Liverpool for Afghan evacuees (delivered on site in the bridging hotel).

We offered 1:1 support to promote inclusion and wellbeing. This includes information and support to engage with education, work or volunteering, to access services in their local area ranging from health to leisure facilities.

Developed an employability programme.

We delivered 75 workshops on a range of topics to support social and community integration. The key areas covered were: Health & Health Services; Self Care; ESOL & learning; Local Community; Children's Activities and Future Plans. 221.

We ran weekly ( in term time) ESOL classes which 303 women attended.

#### **Mental Health support**

We ensured there was a space for perinatal women to have specific support at drop in and a safe space for mothers to relax and meet other mothers and build peer support

We taught about coping strategies to help reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety as well as built self-esteem and notice negative thinking patterns.

The women learned about rights and entitlements around perinatal, health and mental health services.

We provided 1:1 person-centred support, focusing on improving mental health by teaching women to know and understand symptoms of anxiety and depression

We provided advocacy support for women who were struggling to access the mental health, housing, health or perinatal support they were entitled.

We offered relax sessions at drop-in or wellbeing outings, including park visits, bike rides, picnics and trips to museums. We also continued to run relax sessions for women accessing EA drop-ins at our main drop-in hub, offering yoga, Zumba, meditation and self-esteem activities.

We continued to develop our mental health table at drop-in so we were on hand to support women.

#### **Power Building**

Over the last year we supported 201 women to better understand their rights and entitlements on a range of topics. This was achieved via workshops and small group information sessions on a range of relevant topics including asylum support, rights during the asylum legal process including at interview and entitlements to health care and education.

36 women have engaged with the ( EBE – experts by experience) Advocacy group. These women go through a training programme to build knowledge and confidence. The women worked on a campaign about the impact on the cost-of-living crisis on women asylum seekers and refugees.

Our EBE group were also invited to Birmingham University to be part of a discussion panel looking at the Nationality and Borders bill at the time and the impact especially around safe route.

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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One of our EBE's represented RWC at the Local Authority in ensuring that the voices of women seeking sanctuary in Liverpool are heard. We were invited to speak at the Setting a Collaborative Migration Research Agenda for Northwest UK.

Our EBE spoke really well about the barriers women face whilst in the asylum system. Our EBE's were invited to speak to decision makers at Parliament. It was an experience for the women to share issues and gaps in the asylum system especially with women in hotels, education for asylum seekers and right to work.

Our Director, who is a woman of lived experience herself, has been invited to speak at various events to raise the issues of the social injustice that women asylum seekers and refugees face.

#### The Difference we made

Through our annual survey we were told:

- 100% of those completing it said that coming to drop-in had helped them to feel less isolated.
- The women commented how they felt listened to, had made friends, how they felt more confident to speak to others both at drop-in but also in public.
- 76% of women said they were now better able to manage their own symptoms/mental health.
- 70% of women felt an improvement in their mental health
- 94% of respondents to our survey stated they had learned new skills by joining Refugee Women Connect.

#### Financial review

Total income for the year was £344,280 (2023: £537,099 ) of which £270,798 (2023: £408,302 ) related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure in the year was £436,290 (2023: £433,646 ), leaving a deficit in the year of £92,010 (2023: surplus £103,453)

At 31 March 2024 the charity's reserves stood at £238,694 (2023: £330,704 ) of which £86,351 (2023: £193,089) represented restricted funds.

#### Risk management

The main risks, to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been considered and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

#### Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves at a level to cover redundancy provision, lease commitments and four months' running costs should no further funding be received.

As at the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £152,343 (2023: £137,615 ). The charity requires £27,664 (2023: £27,664 ) for redundancy provision, £5,390 (2023: £6,120 ) for lease commitments and £19,584 (2023: £15,344) for four months' running costs, totalling £52,638 (2023: £50,460). At present the free reserves, which amount to £149,677, exceed the target level.

#### Structure, governance and management

Refugee Women Connect (RWC) is a registered charity (number 1113574) formed on 5 April 2006. The Governing Document is a constitution adopted on 9 September 2004 and amended on 24 July 2018.

Responsibility for the operation and strategic development of RWC in accordance with its mission statements rest with the Director, in consultation and with approval when necessary with the Board of Trustees. The board meets four times per year for a full board meeting and holds separate subcommittee meetings which take place as and when required. New board members are recruited by the Board and Director, and appointed by the Board.

## REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Harrison

S Goodwin

P Lynott

C Berry-Moorcroft

(Resigned 1 October 2023)

P Uwamaliya

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



P Lynott

Trustee

Dated: 4-12-24

# **REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024***

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The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose 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 Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.



# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Refugee Women Connect (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I 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.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do 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.

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 financial statements to be reached.

**Mr Tony Stanley ACA**



Mitchell Charlesworth

Suite 5.1

12 Tithebarn Street

Liverpool

L2 2DT

Dated: 4 December 2024

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

### Current financial year

|                                       |       | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                       | Notes |                                    |                                  |                    |                    |
| <b><u>Income from:</u></b>            |       |                                    |                                  |                    |                    |
| Donations and legacies                | 3     | 56,736                             | 270,798                          | 327,534            | 512,097            |
| Charitable activities                 | 4     | 4,914                              | -                                | 4,914              | 15,124             |
| Other trading activities              | 5     | 6,595                              | -                                | 6,595              | 8,961              |
| Investments                           | 6     | 5,237                              | -                                | 5,237              | 917                |
| <b>Total income</b>                   |       | <b>73,482</b>                      | <b>270,798</b>                   | <b>344,280</b>     | <b>537,099</b>     |
| <b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>         |       |                                    |                                  |                    |                    |
| Charitable activities                 | 7     | 58,754                             | 377,536                          | 436,290            | 433,646            |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>          |       | <b>14,728</b>                      | <b>(106,738)</b>                 | <b>(92,010)</b>    | <b>103,453</b>     |
| Fund balances at 1 April 2023         |       | 137,615                            | 193,089                          | 330,704            | 227,251            |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 March 2024</b> |       | <b>152,343</b>                     | <b>86,351</b>                    | <b>238,694</b>     | <b>330,704</b>     |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Prior financial year

|   |       | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ |
|---|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
|   | Notes |                                    |                                  |                    |
| <b><u>Income from:</u></b>  |       |                                    |                                  |                    |
| Donations and legacies  | 3     | 103,795                            | 408,302                          | 512,097            |
| Charitable activities   | 4     | 15,124                             | -                                | 15,124             |
| Other trading activities  | 5     | 8,961                              | -                                | 8,961              |
| Investments   | 6     | 917                                | -                                | 917                |
| <b>Total income</b>   |       | <b>128,797</b>                     | <b>408,302</b>                   | <b>537,099</b>     |
| <b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>   |       |                                    |                                  |                    |
| Charitable activities   | 7     | 51,183                             | 382,463                          | 433,646            |
| <b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>               |       | <b>77,614</b>                      | <b>25,839</b>                    | <b>103,453</b>     |
| Gross transfers between funds   |       | (177)                              | 177                              | -                  |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year/<br/>Net movement in funds</b> |       | <b>77,437</b>                      | <b>26,016</b>                    | <b>103,453</b>     |
| Fund balances at 1 April 2022   |       | 60,178                             | 167,073                          | 227,251            |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023</b>                                   |       | <b>137,615</b>                     | <b>193,089</b>                   | <b>330,704</b>     |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

|   | Notes | 2024<br>£ | £       | 2023<br>£ | £       |
|---|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |       |           |         |           |         |
| Tangible assets                                       | 12    |           | 2,666   |           | 3,750   |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |           |         |           |         |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |       | 237,547   |         | 329,617   |         |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> | 14    | (1,519)   |         | (2,663)   |         |
| Net current assets                                    |       |           | 236,028 |           | 326,954 |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>          |       |           | 238,694 |           | 330,704 |
| <b>Income funds</b>                                   |       |           |         |           |         |
| Restricted funds                                      | 15    |           | 86,351  |           | 193,089 |
| Unrestricted funds                                    |       |           | 152,343 |           | 137,615 |
|   |       |           | 238,694 |           | 330,704 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 4/12/24



P Lynott  
Trustee

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

Refugee Women Connect is a registered charity incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Cotton Exchange, Suite 111H Bixteth Street, Liverpool, L3 9LQ.

##### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Constitution adopted on 9 September 2004 as amended on 24 July 2018, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

##### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

##### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

##### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exemption of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accruals basis except for grants this is when their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from investments relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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### 1 Accounting policies

(continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. It includes irrecoverable VAT.

Whenever possible each item of expenditure recognised is allocated to charitable activities or governance costs according to its purpose. If this is not possible the cost is apportioned on a reasonable and justifiable basis.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Office Furniture   | 10% straight line |
| Computer Equipment | 20% straight line |

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

#### 1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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### 1 Accounting policies

(continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### **1.10 Employee benefits**

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### **1.11 Retirement benefits**

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

#### **1.12 Taxation**

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is not able to recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Donations and legacies

|                     | Unrestricted<br>funds | Restricted<br>funds | Total          | Unrestricted<br>funds | Restricted<br>funds | Total          |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|                     | 2024                  | 2024                | 2024           | 2023                  | 2023                | 2023           |
|                     | £                     | £                   | £              | £                     | £                   | £              |
| Donations and gifts | 16,726                | 34,569              | 51,295         | 38,795                | -                   | 38,795         |
| Grant income        | 40,010                | 236,229             | 276,239        | 65,000                | 408,302             | 473,302        |
|                     | <u>56,736</u>         | <u>270,798</u>      | <u>327,534</u> | <u>103,795</u>        | <u>408,302</u>      | <u>512,097</u> |



# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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### 4 Charitable activities

|              | 2024<br>£    | 2023<br>£     |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Fee Income   | 4,868        | 12,918        |
| Other income | 46           | 2,206         |
|              | <u>4,914</u> | <u>15,124</u> |

### 5 Other trading activities

|                    | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Fundraising events | <u>6,595</u>                       | <u>8,961</u>                       |

### 6 Investments

|                     | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Interest receivable | <u>5,237</u>                       | <u>917</u>                         |

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 7 Charitable activities

To provide or assist in the provision of education, recreational and support facilities for pre and post-natal asylum seekers and refugees and their families

|  | 2024<br>£      | 2023<br>£      |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Staff costs                            | 248,821        | 255,979        |
| Building running costs                 | 8,604          | 8,319          |
| Activities expenses                    | 14,401         | 10,225         |
| Equipment                              | 6,020          | 1,015          |
| Food and refreshments                  | 4,292          | 1,553          |
| Volunteer expenses                     | 1,614          | 2,967          |
| Room Hire                              | 2,239          | 3,308          |
|  | <u>285,991</u> | <u>283,366</u> |
| Share of support costs (see note 8)    | 145,551        | 143,719        |
| Share of governance costs (see note 8) | 4,748          | 6,561          |
|  | <u>436,290</u> | <u>433,646</u> |
| <b>Analysis by fund</b>                |                |                |
| Unrestricted funds                     | 58,754         | 51,183         |
| Restricted funds                       | 377,536        | 382,463        |
|  | <u>436,290</u> | <u>433,646</u> |

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 8 Support costs

|                              | Support costs  | Governance costs | 2024 Support costs | Governance costs | 2023           |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                              | £              | £                | £                  | £                | £              |
| Staff costs                  | 98,411         | -                | 98,411             | 97,070           | 97,070         |
| Office costs                 | 26,228         | -                | 26,228             | 27,958           | 27,958         |
| Travel expenses              | 11,741         | -                | 11,741             | 9,035            | 9,035          |
| Training                     | 1,068          | -                | 1,068              | 3,966            | 3,966          |
| Sundry expenses              | 8,103          | -                | 8,103              | 5,690            | 5,690          |
| Independent examination fees | -              | 1,630            | 1,630              | -                | 2,562          |
| Payroll fees                 | -              | 1,760            | 1,760              | -                | 1,516          |
| Legal and professional       | -              | 162              | 162                | -                | 839            |
| Depreciation                 | -              | 1,196            | 1,196              | -                | 1,644          |
|                              | <u>145,551</u> | <u>4,748</u>     | <u>150,299</u>     | <u>143,719</u>   | <u>150,280</u> |
| Analysed between             |                |                  |                    |                  |                |
| Charitable activities        | <u>145,551</u> | <u>4,748</u>     | <u>150,299</u>     | <u>143,719</u>   | <u>150,280</u> |

Governance costs includes payments to the accountants of £1,630 (2023: £2,562) for independent examination fees and £1,760 for payroll fees and provision of QBO cloud accounting software (2023: 1,516).

### 9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2023: none). None of the trustees were reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: none).

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 10 Employees

#### Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

|                       | 2024<br>Number | 2023<br>Number |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Charitable activities | 14             | 14             |

#### Employment costs

|                       | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Wages and salaries    | 317,655   | 322,487   |
| Social security costs | 23,166    | 24,368    |
| Other pension costs   | 6,411     | 6,194     |
|                       | 347,232   | 353,049   |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: none).

### 11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

### 12 Tangible fixed assets

|                                    | Office<br>Furniture<br>£ | Computer<br>Equipment<br>£ | Total<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>Cost</b>                        |                          |                            |            |
| At 1 April 2023                    | 1,623                    | 9,703                      | 11,326     |
| Additions                          | 111                      | -                          | 111        |
| At 31 March 2024                   | 1,734                    | 9,703                      | 11,437     |
| <b>Depreciation and impairment</b> |                          |                            |            |
| At 1 April 2023                    | 770                      | 6,804                      | 7,575      |
| Depreciation charged in the year   | 173                      | 1,023                      | 1,196      |
| At 31 March 2024                   | 943                      | 7,828                      | 8,771      |
| <b>Carrying amount</b>             |                          |                            |            |
| At 31 March 2024                   | 791                      | 1,875                      | 2,666      |
| At 31 March 2023                   | 853                      | 2,897                      | 3,750      |

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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|           |   |                   |                   |
|-----------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>13</b> | <b>Financial instruments</b>                          | <b>2024</b>       | <b>2023</b>       |
|           |   | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
|           | <b>Carrying amount of financial assets</b>            |                   |                   |
|           | Debt instruments measured at amortised cost           | 237,547           | 329,617           |
|           |   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
|           | <b>Carrying amount of financial liabilities</b>       |                   |                   |
|           | Measured at amortised cost                            | 1,519             | 2,663             |
|           |   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
| <b>14</b> | <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> |                   |                   |
|           |   | <b>2024</b>       | <b>2023</b>       |
|           |   | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
|           | Other creditors                                       | (443)             | -                 |
|           | Accruals and deferred income                          | 1,962             | 2,663             |
|           |   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
|           |   | <u>1,519</u>      | <u>2,663</u>      |

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

|                                 | Movement in funds          |         |             |           | Movement in funds          |        |             |                             |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------|-------------|-----------------------------|
|                                 | Balance at<br>1 April 2022 | Income  | Expenditure | Transfers | Balance at<br>1 April 2023 | Income | Expenditure | Balance at<br>31 March 2024 |
|                                 | £                          | £       | £           | £         | £                          | £      | £           | £                           |
| Big Lottery Fund Grant          | 21,712                     | 109,750 | (88,700)    | -         | 42,760                     | 91,650 | (101,133)   | 33,277                      |
| Churches Together               | 701                        | 4,320   | (3,725)     | -         | 1,296                      | 3,296  | (4,592)     | -                           |
| Feeding Liverpool               | -                          | -       | -           | -         | -                          | 500    | -           | 500                         |
| Esmee Fairbairn Foundation      | 45,522                     | 57,750  | (27,266)    | -         | 76,006                     | 459    | (76,465)    | -                           |
| Lloyds Bank Foundation          | 24,892                     | -       | (25,000)    | 108       | -                          | -      | -           | -                           |
| Samuel Sabba Core Fund          | 25,178                     | 12,500  | (37,639)    | -         | 39                         | -      | (39)        | -                           |
| Samuel Sabba Mental Health Fund | 11,663                     | 12,500  | (24,163)    | -         | -                          | -      | -           | -                           |
| Samuel Sabba Trust              | -                          | 4,000   | (4,000)     | -         | -                          | -      | -           | -                           |
| Oxford Beams                    | -                          | -       | -           | -         | -                          | -      | (191)       | (191)                       |
| A B Charitable Trust            | 479                        | -       | (42)        | (437)     | -                          | -      | -           | -                           |
| NHS Peri                        | -                          | 5,000   | (4,461)     | -         | 539                        | -      | (539)       | -                           |
| John Moores Foundation          | -                          | 5,000   | (5,000)     | -         | -                          | 5,000  | (5,000)     | -                           |
| LCVS                            | -                          | 3,500   | (3,500)     | -         | -                          | 2,900  | -           | 2,900                       |
| Refugee Action                  | 22,250                     | 23,818  | (41,102)    | -         | 4,966                      | 47,902 | (47,648)    | 5,220                       |
| Comic Advocacy & Policy         | 1,070                      | 32,550  | (33,620)    | -         | -                          | -      | -           | -                           |
| Access to Justice               | -                          | 12,196  | -           | -         | 12,196                     | -      | -           | 12,196                      |
| Evan Cornish                    | -                          | 5,000   | -           | -         | 5,000                      | -      | (5,000)     | -                           |
| Garfield Weston                 | -                          | 20,000  | (10,000)    | -         | 10,000                     | -      | (10,000)    | -                           |
| Comic - Peri-natal Advocacy     | (506)                      | -       | -           | 506       | -                          | -      | -           | -                           |
| Liverpool Lighthouse            | -                          | 3,454   | (2,892)     | -         | 562                        | 2,915  | (3,477)     | -                           |
| People's Voice Media            | -                          | 2,000   | -           | -         | 2,000                      | 1,600  | (4,000)     | (400)                       |
| JJ Charitanle Trust             | -                          | -       | -           | -         | -                          | 5,000  | -           | 5,000                       |
| St. Jame's Place                | -                          | -       | -           | -         | -                          | 5,000  | -           | 5,000                       |
| Sports Merseyside               | -                          | 4,920   | -           | -         | 4,920                      | -      | (4,920)     | -                           |

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

### 15 Restricted funds

(continued)

|  |                |                |                  |            |                |                |                  |               |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Refugee Action (Training)                    | -              | -              | -                | -          | -              | 1,429          | -                | 1,429         |
| PH Holt Foundation                           | 9,875          | -              | (9,875)          | -          | -              | 10,000         | (6,925)          | 3,075         |
| Pilgrim Trust                                | -              | -              | -                | -          | -              | 28,462         | (24,068)         | 4,394         |
| Community Champion                           | 4,236          | 25,000         | (16,433)         | -          | 12,803         | 18,750         | (31,553)         | -             |
| Sainsbury's                                  | -              | 10,000         | (2,566)          | -          | 7,434          | -              | (7,434)          | -             |
| Tudor Trust                                  | -              | 40,000         | (36,934)         | -          | 3,066          | 40,435         | (33,553)         | 9,948         |
| UNHCR Digital Inclusion                      | -              | 5,544          | (5,544)          | -          | -              | -              | -                | -             |
| Esmee Fairbairn (Trauma Informed Activities) | -              | 2,500          | -                | -          | 2,500          | 5,500          | (4,000)          | 4,000         |
| ROSA   | -              | 7,000          | -                | -          | 7,000          | -              | (7,000)          | -             |
|  | <u>167,072</u> | <u>408,302</u> | <u>(382,462)</u> | <u>177</u> | <u>193,089</u> | <u>270,798</u> | <u>(377,536)</u> | <u>86,351</u> |

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 15 Restricted funds

(continued)

These are monies given to the Charity to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes, as follows:

**Big Lottery 2022** - Funded early action project

**Big Lottery Fund Grant** - Contribution towards 'Reaching Out' project

**Churches Together** - To give financial support to women who are destitute

**Feeding Liverpool** - Contribution to cover food expenses for projects

**Esmee Fairbairn Foundation** - Contributions towards core cost in supporting women refugees and asylum seekers

**Lloyds Bank Foundation** - Supports manager's salaries and running costs

**Samuel Sabba Core Fund** - Contributions towards running costs and salaries

**Samuel Sabba Mental Health Fund** - Funding towards the Mental Health Project

**Samuel Sabba Trust** - Core funding for running costs

**Sam & Bella Sibba Charitable Trust** - Contribution towards outreach projects

**Oxford Beams** - Contribution towards joint research project with Oxford University about maternal red flags

**A B Charitable Trust** - Contributions towards core cost in supporting women refugees and asylum seekers

**NHS Peri** – Mental health and peri-natal project fund

**John Moores Foundation** - Contributes towards running costs

**LCVS** - Contributions towards core cost in supporting women refugees and asylum seekers

**Refugee Action** - Funded an integration project

**Comic Advocacy & Policy** - Funding to develop the capacity of refugee women in the UK to advocate on gender based violence and the need for a fairer asylum process.

**Access to Justice** – Core funding for running costs and operational staff salaries

**Evan Cornish** – Funding for salary of caseworker for service users

**Garfield Weston** – Core funding for running costs

**Comic - Peri-natal Advocacy** - Income for peri-natal support in the community

**Liverpool Lighthouse** – Project funding for mental health

**People's Voice Media** – Project funding for reporting and telling stories within the community

**JJ Charitable Trust** - Contributions towards core costs

**St. Jame's Place** - Contributions for mend and reuse project

**Sports Merseyside** – Early action integration project for helping service users be more active

**Refugee Action (Training)** - Contribution towards staff training

**P H Holt** - Contribution towards salary costs for A Moore



# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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### 15 Restricted funds

(continued)

**Pilgrim Trust** - Contributions towards a young women's mental health and wellbeing project.

**Community Champion** -Engage and support women disproportionately impacted by COVID.

**Sainsbury's** – Funding for director with lived experience

**Tudor Trust** - Core funding for running costs

**UNHCR Digital Inclusion** - For the provision of blocks of IT workshops for service users to help improve their confidence using technology to reduce digital isolation

**Esmee Fairbairn (Trauma Informed Activities)** – Funding for trauma informed consultants to become a trauma informed workplace

**ROSA** – Project funding for expenditure relating to Advocacy Campaigning

# REFUGEE WOMEN CONNECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 16 Analysis of net assets between funds

|   | Unrestricted<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Fund balances at<br>31 March 2024<br>are represented<br>by: |                           |                         |                    |                           |                         |                    |
| Tangible assets   | 2,666                     | -                       | 2,666              | 3,750                     | -                       | 3,750              |
| Current assets/(liabilities)                                | 149,677                   | 86,351                  | 236,028            | 133,865                   | 193,089                 | 326,954            |
|   | <u>152,343</u>            | <u>86,351</u>           | <u>238,694</u>     | <u>137,615</u>            | <u>193,089</u>          | <u>330,704</u>     |

### 17 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

|                            | 2024<br>£    | 2023<br>£    |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Within one year            | 5,208        | 5,208        |
| Between two and five years | 182          | 912          |
|                            | <u>5,390</u> | <u>6,120</u> |

### 18 Related party transactions

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

|                        | 2024<br>£     | 2023<br>£     |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Aggregate compensation | <u>89,076</u> | <u>94,546</u> |

There are no other related party transactions.