

PENDLE WOMEN'S FORUM
ANNUAL REPORT 2021 —2022
CHARITY NO: 1125504

MISSION STATEMENT

Pendle Women's Forum aims to provide confidential advice and information to women from all communities, who either live or work in Pendle.

The Forum aims to empower women from socially disadvantaged backgrounds to build their capacity in order for them to become confident individuals.

To improve the advancement of education and training and the preservation and protection of good health.

Pendle Women's Forum seeks to build a community where mothers and children create a better future for themselves by working and living together.

PWF BACKGROUND, OBJECTIVES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

Pendle Women's Forum (PWF) was founded in 1998 by a group of dedicated and concerned individuals who came together in a bid to set up an organisation to tackle the increasing problems faced by women in our community. This included social exclusion, women's rights, social deprivation, high rates of unemployment, education, training and a lack of opportunity.

PWF functions have increasingly developed as the circumstances of the community have changed. The organisation is now heavily involved in the social, economic and cultural regeneration of the area. Dr. Raisa I. Malik, Chairperson of PWF, was one of the founder members and she has continued to play a pivotal role in the success and development of the charity over the last 22 years.

PWF achieved a registered charity status with the Charity Commission in August 2008.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of PWF are:

- To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of women and young girls, particularly but not exclusively, from the ethnic minority communities in Pendle.
- The advancement of education and training.
- The preservation and protection of good health and wellbeing.
- The promotion of equality of opportunity and good relations between persons of different racial groups and religions.
- The provision of facilities for culture, social and recreational activities in the interest of social welfare, with the object of improving the conditions of life.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Over the years, the organisation has developed its services to cater for the wide range of issues affecting the women in the local community.

The services include:

- Information, Advice and Guidance
- Advocacy
- Training for employability
- Sports and leisure activities
- Education
- Outreach work
- Practical support
- Social inclusion
- Creating volunteering opportunities
- Mental health and wellbeing support
- Empowerment
- Financial advice including budgeting, debt management and support

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Dr Raisa Ikram Malik —Chairperson

Mrs Sheila Wicks —Treasurer

Mrs Shazia Koser —Secretary

Mrs Kathleen Shore

Mrs Sultana Shafi

Mrs Sameera Khawa

Mrs Nazema Saghir

CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW

2022 has been a year of uncertainty and insecurity with many in the community facing economic shocks and the rising cost of living. The immediate humanitarian impact of the war in Ukraine and the ongoing health consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic have exacerbated pressures of inflation making poor in the society poorer.

We at Pendle Women's Forum Nelson have been trying to carry on our community services as normally as possible thanks to our dedicated staff and trustees. Three of our projects came to an end during the past 4-6 months making it difficult to continue to meet all the expectations of the women who come to us from the community with their various social, emotional and financial problems.

We are grateful for the three long time projects Stepping Stones project funded by Big Lottery Fund, Building Better Opportunities funded by European Fund and Big Lottery Fund and Overcome COVID Barriers project funded by Women Thrive Fund (ROSA) that we are able to carry on our services as best as we can.

We had a change of our manager earlier in the year. The new manager started her job in May this year and is busy sorting out problems of 19 Market Square building (next door to us), so that we can start using the rooms next door for further classes that we have been waiting for a long time.

On 8th September like the whole of UK and millions of people around the world we at PWF were shocked and saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She was a constant and steadfast presence in the lives of all the British people and will be missed for a long time.

We are continuously applying for the new grants from different sources in order to carry on our services unabated, but the general economic climate seems to affect all spheres of life. However, we remain optimistic and are constantly thinking of ways to keep afloat.

In the end I would like to again thank our trustees for their constant support to the organisation and the staff for their hard work and commitment.

Hoping to bring you much brighter picture next year.

Dr. Raisa I. Malik

Chairperson

Pendle Women's Forum

PENDLE WOMENS FORUM

TREASURER'S REEPORT YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

I have read the accounts and find them to be in order.

Comparing the accounts to the previous year, the bank balance is higher whilst fixed assets are down. As regards grants, we have managed to attract several small grants which have kept our staff busy; however, the ending of some of these has meant we have had to reduce our staff by two and it is to be hoped we can find more work for these ladies by attracting more funding bids in the future.

Looking at our expenditure, I note the following items have increased – activities, cleaning, petty cash and other fees/charges. This may be due to the return to normal following the pandemic. Costs which have reduced are: telephone, water, IT, payroll fees.

We have managed to negotiate a difficult period and have maintained a healthy bank balance thanks to our staff and the overseeing of the organisation by the trustees.

Sheila Wicks
Treasurer

Secretary Report 2021/2022

Pendle Womens Forum has had another productive year in terms of benefiting women and young persons in Pendle, especially the most disadvantaged and vulnerable sections of the community. Pendle Womens Forum have gone above and beyond to help women tackle issues around housing, domestic violence, joblessness and stress post Covid.

It has been fantastic to see so many different projects, providing intense, one to one help and support across many areas including, welfare, employment, training, volunteering, mental health and well-being. We've also seen some interesting capacity building activities as well as programmes around mindfulness, which were incredibly helpful to those suffering from anxiety, post Covid.

Pendle Womens Forum has witnessed a number of projects without further funding even though intense importance has been given to prioritising and networking further funding opportunities. So far despite best efforts from all the team at Pendle Womens Forum, there has been little evidence of successful funding bids. Other funding opportunities such as the council have been invoked but again the council is inundated with internal pressures and can only promote our good ethical works rather than fund projects.

Going forward, I would like to personally thank all the funders for making it possible to deliver some life changing and beneficial projects at Pendle Womens Forum. Outlined are the project activities and achievements for the year.

Shazia Koser

PWF Manager's Report

FY April 2021 to March 2022

It has been another successful year for Pendle Women's Forum, continuing to deliver a number of projects to improve life chances for local women and girls.

I joined as manager in May 2022 and have been impressed by the great work and dedication of the staff and trustees

We continue to see an increased demand for services and the Covid 19 pandemic hit the local BME community particularly hard. We have seen a large number of women reporting poor mental health and conditions such as depression and anxiety are common in the ladies we are supporting. Encouraging these women to take part in creative and well-being programmes is important; we see very real improvements in self-confidence and wellness from participants.

We continue to develop programmes and activities that help women to learn new skills, build confidence and engage with the wider community as well as one-to-one support for those with more complex needs.

With two major projects 'Building Better Opportunities' and 'Stepping Stones' entering their final year we have an increased focus on sourcing new funding so we can build on our success and continue to provide services for marginalised women in Pendle.

The Project Coordinators and team at PWF have shown great resilience in adapting to new and innovative ways of working to reach women affected by the global pandemic.

Going forward the additional challenges of the Cost of Living crisis and the war in Ukraine means we are seeing an increased need for services especially information, advice and guidance

We will continue to look at ways to fund a variety of projects so we can offer a personalised, holistic approach which will bring substantial and lasting improvements in to the lives of local women and children.

Clare Collinson

Manager

Pendle Women's Forum

Stepping Stones Project
(funded by The National Lottery Fund)
Apr 2021- Mar 2022

The Stepping Stones Project (SSP) is completing its final year of running. The project has had a positive impact on the lives of unemployed ladies. Over the last 12 months the Stepping Stones Project has increased the confidence, self-esteem and motivation in ladies by providing them with English language provision, ICT classes, accredited and non-accredited training, help and support at job clubs and advice surgeries.

Services

The Stepping Stones Project has been working with many partners over the course of this year. We have been successfully working in partnership Lancashire Adult Learning to set up ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) provision and accredited/non-accredited training. We have also been working closely with other projects in Pendle Womens Forum, thus providing a holistic approach in providing all-round support to our ladies from welfare advice and support to help in employment and training.

Partnerships

The Jobcentre Plus office in Nelson also continue to refer ladies to our services. We have worked in partnership with Lancashire Adult Learning to provide ESOL provision. We have also been working with Community Arts by ZK and Inner Reflections Therapy supporting our ladies with their mental health and wellbeing through creative arts and counselling sessions. This has been extremely beneficial for the ladies.

Statistics

In the last twelve months the Stepping Stones Project has helped 78 ladies move into training, 8 ladies into voluntary work and 6 ladies went into employment.

Diversity

The Stepping Stones Project has worked with a diverse group of people from different faiths and backgrounds. We have successfully delivered and will continue to deliver an inclusive service for unemployed women in Pendle.

AGM Apr 21 - Mar 22

BBO Changing Futures Project

Funded by European Social Fund and the National Lottery

The Project is in the final phase (Phase 3) of delivery and on target for meeting the specified outcomes.

The majority of women on the Project are socially excluded in many aspects of their lives mainly due to language and cultural barriers. Many have no support networks, language difficulties and are suffering from loneliness and depression. PWF gives them a safe haven and through the Project they manage to make new friends, seek support, advice and guidance. They are encouraged and supported to engage in activities that will equip them with skills and attributes that they need in order to enhance their employment prospects and which will help them ultimately to manage their lives more independently.

Clients benefited from one-to-one sessions to tackle barriers which hinder or prevent them from focusing on their goals with regards to their education, training and employment. Advice and guidance is centred around the client's development plan covering numerous areas within the clients 'life cycle' from motivation, health wellbeing, to benefits and housing needs. Once progress towards removing these barriers is evident and clients feel ready, then we target other areas of their development plan such as job search, completing application forms and interview preparation.

Partnership work is ongoing not only within the wider BBO partnership but other local community organisations. Lancashire Adult Learning is a key partner that run accredited ESOL classes at the Centre. Assessments took place throughout the year and new classes negotiated so new clients can join at a number of intervals in the year. Hardest to reach women are those who are at pre-entry level with very low education or no education at all - we were able to cater for these pre-entry clients through the Pathways to Employment project. This ran successfully and students who made good progress were progressed to ESOL E1 classes. Alongside the pre-entry class we have been running ESOL E1, E2 x 2 classes, E3 and a Level 1/11 classes.

In order to support the clients in their physical and mental health wellbeing, the clients had access to exercise classes including yoga and aqua aerobics. Clients also attended creative arts classes through Z K Arts and group counselling sessions via Inner Reflections.

The Project will come to an end March 2023.

CRF(Community Renewal fund) - Equaliser Project Report

Lancashire BAME Network

The CRF project is aimed to build on the learning from previous/existing employability programmes, deliver high intensity and sustained information, advice and guidance (CV building, interview preparation, understanding of UK work etiquette) for individuals coming from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background.

The beneficiaries must be unemployed, economically inactive and low skilled workers who want to upskill so that they can move into a sector or role that better suits their professional aspirations. Beneficiaries should be having one or more complex needs for example poor mental/physical health, cultural and language barriers etc.

We started this project at the end of January and we submit our monthly reports at the start of every month. Our target is to sign 10 ladies onto our project and we already have signed 18 ladies so far. We have to upload all our learner's data and their progress on a database called VIEWS and we add updates regularly. We also provide one-one support to learners with their online courses as well.

We have reached all our targets and have accomplished all the outcomes while tracking their progress (Job search, learn life skills, Employment, Training/Learning, Volunteering and Work Placement) before the finishing date that is 30th June, 2022.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

Pendle Women's Forum

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

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

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me 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.

I 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.

Kashif Insari (MAAT)
Adamson Accountants
138 Every Street, Nelson
BB9 7EX
31st October 2022

PendleWomen's Forum
Statement of Financial Activities to 31st March 2022
Including Income and Expenditure Account


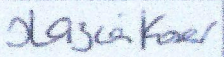
	Big Lottery Fund	BBC Cin	BBO Selnet	TNL	Community Foundation Lancashire Mental health CCG/CVS	ESF/ WEA	AWARD 4 ALL	ROSA	POSTCODE LOTTERY FUND PCLF	CRF	Nelson & Colne College	Unrestricted Funds	Total Receipts	2020/2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources														
Grants- Big Lottery Fund	49,423												49,423	48,257
Grant- BBC Cin		2,800											2,800	10,298
Grant- Selnet BBO			12,880										12,880	12,069
TNL				-									-	-
Community Foundation Lancs / CCG/CVS					-								-	-
Church Urban (Near Neighbour)													-	3,657
ESFWEA						7,824							7,824	-
Award 4 All							10,092						10,092	61
ROSA								9,349					9,349	16,442
Post Code Lottery									19,998				19,998	-
CRF Fund										14,115			14,115	3,413
Nelson & Colne College											4,460		4,460	-
Others												300	300	-
Total Income	49,423	2,800	12,880	-	-	7,824	10,092	9,349	19,998	14,115	4,460	300	131,240	94,796

	Big Lottery Fund £	BBC Cin £	BBO Selnets £	TNL £	Community Foundation Lancashire CCG/ CVS £	ESF/ WEA £	AWARD 4 ALL £	ROSA £	POSTCODE LOTTERY FUND PCLF £	CRF £	Nelson & Colne College £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total £	2020/2021 £
Expenditure														
Staffing:														
Project Coordinators	23,223	2,479	11,060										48,530	47,401
Seasonal Worker/Tutor	140	-	-	430	2,352	-	744	376	2,223	5,644	-	-	7,816	4,976
Overheads:				540	-	-	2,614	2,912	1,206	404	-	-	-	-
Rent	2,521	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	229	-	-	2,750	3,014
Room hire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	549	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	549	738
Maintenance & Repairs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200
Gas & Electricity	1,400	-	-	-	-	-	240	-	-	417	-	-	2,058	1,975
Telephone/Internet	916	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	231	-	-	1,147	2,897
Water	235	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	235	446
Activity costs:													-	-
Activities(Includes building capabilities)	1,027	860	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,887	349
Stationery/Equipment	60	727	-	-	191	-	-	172	33	9	-	-	1,252	2,542
IT	285	-	-	-	-	-	-	144	-	-	-	-	429	1,394
Cleaning	3,801	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	3,812	151
Petty Cash	1,250	300	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	100	-	-	1,750	600
Publicity/Adverts	380	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	380	50
Project													-	-
Management/Consultants	4,701	33	82	-	-	12	1,856	1,270	2,232	1,412	-	-	11,619	12,392
Payroll Fees	425	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	425	1,883
Audit Fee	460	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	460	450
Other Fees & Charges	3,705	252	757	61	-	-	457	92	236	603	-	-	6,164	3,258
Total Expenditure	45,077	4,651	11,889	1,032	2,543	12	6,011	4,966	6,010	9,061	-	-	91,262	84,714
Net Income														
	4,346	- 1,851	981	- 1,032	2,543	7,812	4,081	4,383	13,988	5,054	4,460	300	39,978	10,082
Funds Brought Forward														
	21,226	4,341	2,879	6,868	2,889	3,066	-	-	-	-	6,350	47,443	88,929	80,390
Funds Carried Forward														
	25,572	2,489	3,860	5,836	345	4,746	4,081	4,383	13,988	5,054	10,810	47,743	128,908	90,472

Pendle Women's Forum
Balance Sheet as At 31st March 2022

	2021/2022 £	2020/2021 £
Assets		
Bank	124,021	80,529
Fixed Assets	4,887	6,049
Debtors - OCMC	-	4,224
Debtors - Big Lottery Fund	-	3,894
Debtors - ESF/ WEA	-	3,066
	<u>128,908</u>	<u>97,762</u>
Liabilities		
Revenue Funds:		
Restricted Funds		
- Big Lottery - Stepping Stones	25,572	25,120
- BBC - CIN/Aiming Higher BBC	2,489	4,341
- Selnat BBO	3,860	2,879
- Award 4 All	4,081	-
- Mental Health Project	345	2,889
- Church Urban (Near Neighbour)	-	544
- CCG Fit & Happy Project	-	-
- ESF/WEA	4,746	-
- TNL	5,836	6,868
- ROSA	4,383	-
- Post Code Lottery Fund	13,988	-
- CRF	5,054	-
- Lanc County Council	-	1,328
- Nelson & Colne College	10,810	6,350
Unrestricted Funds	47,743	47,443
	<u>128,908</u>	<u>97,762</u>

Accounts Reviewed and approved by:

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Mrs.Raisa Malik	Chairperson		24/10/22
Mrs.Sheila Wicks	Treasurer		
Mrs. Shazia Koser	Secretary		24/10/22